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Level 5 – 31st October, 2022

World record gathering of people with same name

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221031-same-first-and-last-name-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221031-same-first-and-last-name-5.html>

A group of 178 men called Tanaka Hirokazu met in Tokyo on Saturday to break the Guinness World Record for the largest gathering of people with the same name. The successful attempt was organized by the Tanaka Hirokazu association. This group was started by Tanaka Hirokazu (surprise, surprise) in 1994. He was inspired by seeing his namesake drafted into a Japanese baseball team. Ex-baseball player Tanaka Hirokazu was also part of Saturday's record. The 178 new record holders span the generations. The youngest is three, the eldest is 80.

Tanaka Hirokazu, 53, was very happy with breaking the world record. His two previous attempts (in 2011 and 2017) failed because the association wanted participants to have the same Chinese characters in their name. Saturday's meeting had a more relaxed rule. Anyone with the name Hirokazu Tanaka was eligible, regardless of the Chinese characters used to spell the name. Mr Tanaka told reporters: "I never expected we would achieve such a ridiculous record." He added that the 178 Tanakas had "set an example of silliness".

Sources: <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2022/10/29/national/guinness-record-hirokazu-tanaka/>
<https://mainichi.jp/english/articles/20221029/p2g/00m/0na/037000c>
<https://www.straitstimes.com/asia/east-asia/hirokazu-tanaka-namesake-gathering-in-tokyo-smashes-world-record>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221031-same-first-and-last-name-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. A group | a. is three |
| 2. the largest gathering of people | b. attempt |
| 3. The successful | c. Japanese baseball team |
| 4. He was inspired by seeing | d. generations |
| 5. drafted into a | e. of 178 men |
| 6. The 178 new | f. with the same name |
| 7. span the | g. record holders |
| 8. The youngest | h. his namesake |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Hirokazu, 53, was | a. characters in their name |
| 2. His two previous | b. ridiculous record |
| 3. the same Chinese | c. very happy |
| 4. a more relaxed | d. example of silliness |
| 5. characters used to | e. attempts |
| 6. I never expected | f. spell the name |
| 7. achieve such a | g. rule |
| 8. set an | h. we would |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221031-same-first-and-last-name-5.html>

A group of 178 men called Tanaka Hirokazu met in Tokyo on Saturday (1) _____ Guinness World Record for the largest (2) _____ with the same name. The successful attempt (3) _____ the Tanaka Hirokazu association. This group was started by Tanaka Hirokazu (surprise, surprise) in 1994. He (4) _____ seeing his namesake (5) _____ Japanese baseball team. Ex-baseball player Tanaka Hirokazu was also part of Saturday's record. The 178 new record (6) _____ generations. The youngest is three, the eldest is 80.

Tanaka Hirokazu, 53, was very (7) _____ the world record. His (8) _____ (in 2011 and 2017) failed because the association wanted participants to have the same Chinese (9) _____ name. Saturday's meeting had a (10) _____. Anyone with the name Hirokazu Tanaka was eligible, regardless of the Chinese characters (11) _____ the name. Mr Tanaka told reporters: "I never expected we would achieve such a ridiculous record." He added that the 178 Tanakas had "set an (12) _____".

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221031-same-first-and-last-name-5.html>

A group of 178 men called Tanaka Hirokazu met in Tokyo on Saturday to break the Guinness World Record for the largest gathering of people with the same name. The successful attempt was organized by the Tanaka Hirokazu association. This group was started by Tanaka Hirokazu (surprise, surprise) in 1994. He was inspired by seeing his namesake drafted into a Japanese baseball team. Ex-baseball player Tanaka Hirokazu was also part of Saturday's record. The 178 new record holders span the generations. The youngest is three, the eldest is 80. Tanaka Hirokazu, 53, was very happy with breaking the world record. His two previous attempts (in 2011 and 2017) failed because the association wanted participants to have the same Chinese characters in their name. Saturday's meeting had a more relaxed rule. Anyone with the name Hirokazu Tanaka was eligible, regardless of the Chinese characters used to spell the name. Mr Tanaka told reporters: "I never expected we would achieve such a ridiculous record." He added that the 178 Tanakas had "set an example of silliness".

SURNAMES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221031-same-first-and-last-name-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about surnames in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

| | STUDENT 1 _____ | STUDENT 2 _____ | STUDENT 3 _____ |
|------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Q.1. | | | |
| Q.2. | | | |
| Q.3. | | | |
| Q.4. | | | |
| Q.5. | | | |

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

