

www.**Breaking News English**.com

Ready-to-use ESL/EFL Lessons by Sean Banville

"1,000 IDEAS & ACTIVITIES FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS"

The Breaking News English.com Resource Book

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html>

Smacking kids lowers their IQ

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/0909/090928-iq.html>

Contents

The Article	2
Warm-ups	3
Before Reading / Listening	4
While Reading / Listening	5
Listening Gap Fill	6
After Reading / Listening	7
Student Survey	8
Discussion	9
Language Work	10
Writing	11
Homework	12
Answers	13

THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/0909/090928-iq.html>

New research shows that smacking, or spanking, children can affect their intelligence. Researchers from the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation in Maryland, USA, say spanking can lower a child's IQ. The research team studied hundreds of American children as they grew up. They found the more a child was spanked, the lower their IQ was compared with other kids. Lead researcher Murray Straus advised parents not to hit their children as a form of punishment. He warned parents to look for other ways of disciplining children if they want their child to be bright: "All parents want smart children...This research shows that avoiding spanking and correcting misbehaviour in other ways can help that happen," he said.

Spanking children has been a hot issue over the years. It was the traditional way for a parent to punish a child. However, it has fallen out of favour with modern parents. Child behaviour experts warn smacking a child does a lot more harm than good. They say it can leave emotional as well as physical scars. Mr. Straus explains why a child could suffer emotionally: "Contrary to what everyone believes, being hit by parents is a traumatic experience...We know from lots of research that traumatic stresses [negatively] affects the brain." Straus says trying to explain to a child why their behaviour is wrong could provide learning opportunities. The child has to think and use his or her own logic to decide for themselves what's right and what's wrong.

WARM-UPS

1. INTELLIGENCE: Walk around the class and talk to other students about Intelligence. Change partners often. Sit with your first partner(s) and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

research / spanking / a child's IQ / punishment / disciplining / being smart / bright / hot issues / traditional ways / modern parents / emotional scars / learning / logic

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. DISCIPLINE: What is your opinion on discipline for kids? Complete this table. Show your partner. Change partners and share what you heard. Change and share again.

Discipline	Good / Bad?	Why?
Smacking		
No pocket money		
Sent to room		
Grounded		
100 household chores		
Silent treatment		

4. SPANKING: Students A **strongly** believe spanking makes children behave well; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. MODERN PARENTS: Are modern parents better than traditional parents? Talk about these things with your partner(s). Change partners and share what you heard.

- Discipline
- Education
- Morals
- Family relations
- Playing with kids
- Making kids responsible
- Teaching kids manners
- Being a role model

6. LOGIC: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word 'logic'. Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/0909/090928-ig.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- | | |
|--|-------|
| a. Hitting children can make them less intelligent. | T / F |
| b. A research team studied different kids from all over the world. | T / F |
| c. The lead researcher advised the occasional spank is OK. | T / F |
| d. The researcher was surprised that not all parents want smart kids. | T / F |
| e. Spanking was quite common many years ago. | T / F |
| f. An expert on children says spanking is more damaging than beneficial. | T / F |
| g. Spanking creates trauma, which creates stress, which raises the IQ. | T / F |
| h. Explaining why things are wrong can actually help his or her IQ. | T / F |

2. SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article.

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. spanking | a. recommended |
| 2. lower | b. distressing |
| 3. studied | c. topic |
| 4. advised | d. hitting |
| 5. bright | e. become unpopular |
| 6. issue | f. reduce |
| 7. fallen out of favour | g. mental |
| 8. emotional | h. reasoning |
| 9. traumatic | i. clever |
| 10. logic | j. looked at |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. spanking children can affect their | a. of punishment |
| 2. spanking can lower | b. issue |
| 3. the lower their IQ was compared | c. physical scars |
| 4. hit their children as a form | d. intelligence |
| 5. correcting | e. right and what's wrong |
| 6. a hot | f. a child's IQ |
| 7. fallen out of favour | g. emotionally |
| 8. emotional as well as | h. with other kids |
| 9. a child could suffer | i. with modern parents |
| 10. decide for themselves what's | j. misbehaviour |

WHILE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/0909/090928-iq.html>

GAP FILL: Put the words into the gaps in the text.

New research shows that smacking, or spanking, children can _____ their intelligence. Researchers from the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation in Maryland, USA, say spanking can _____ a child's IQ. The research team studied hundreds of American children as they _____ up. They found the more a child was spanked, the lower their IQ was _____ with other kids. Lead researcher Murray Straus _____ parents not to hit their children as a form of punishment. He warned parents to look for other _____ of disciplining children if they want their child to be bright: "All parents want _____ children...This research shows that _____ spanking and correcting misbehaviour in other ways can help that happen," he said.

compared
avoiding
lower
ways
affect
smart
grew
advised

Spanking children has been a hot _____ over the years. It was the traditional way for a parent to _____ a child. However, it has fallen out of favour with modern parents. Child behaviour _____ warn smacking a child does a lot more harm than good. They say it can leave emotional as well as physical _____. Mr. Straus explains why a child could _____ emotionally: "Contrary to what everyone believes, being hit by parents is a traumatic experience...We know from lots of research that traumatic _____ [negatively] affects the brain." Straus says trying to explain to a child why their behaviour is wrong could _____ learning opportunities. The child has to think and use his or her own _____ to decide for themselves what's right and what's wrong.

experts
provide
punish
logic
suffer
issue
stresses
scars

Smacking kids lowers their IQ – 28th September, 2009

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/0909/090928-iq.html>

New research shows that smacking, or spanking, children _____ intelligence. Researchers from the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation in Maryland, USA, say spanking can _____. The research team studied hundreds of American children as they grew up. They found _____ was spanked, the lower their IQ was compared _____. Lead researcher Murray Straus advised parents not to hit their children _____ punishment. He warned parents to look for other ways of disciplining children if they want their child _____: "All parents want smart children...This research shows that avoiding spanking and correcting misbehaviour _____ can help that happen," he said.

Spanking children has been _____ over the years. It was the traditional way for a parent to punish a child. However, it _____ favour with modern parents. Child behaviour experts warn smacking a child _____ harm than good. They say it can leave emotional as well as physical scars. Mr. Straus explains why a _____ emotionally: "Contrary to what everyone believes, _____ parents is a traumatic experience...We know from lots of research that traumatic stresses [negatively] affects the brain." Straus says trying to explain to a child why their behaviour is wrong could provide learning opportunities. The child has to think and use his _____ to decide for themselves what's right _____.

Smacking kids lowers their IQ – 28th September, 2009

More free lessons at www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com - Copyright Sean Banville 2009

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/0909/090928-iq.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'bright' and 'child'.

bright	child
---------------	--------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• shows• grew• compared• form• bright• ways	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• issue• punish• warn• contrary• brain• logic
--	--

STUDENT INTELLIGENCE SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/0909/090928-iq.html>

Write five GOOD questions about intelligence 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.

INTELLIGENCE DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'spanking'?
- c) Did your parents ever hit you when you were a child?
- d) What do you think of spanking as a form of punishment?
- e) Do you believe what the article says, that spanking lowers a child's IQ?
- f) What do you think is the best way to discipline a child?
- g) What's the difference between discipline and punishment?
- h) What other ways could parents discipline their children?
- i) Did your parents talk about how bright you were?
- j) Do you think you are (would be) a good parent?

Smacking kids lowers their IQ – 28th September, 2009
More free lessons at www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com

INTELLIGENCE DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a) Did you like reading this article?
- b) Do you ever think about your intelligence?
- c) Have you ever taken an I.Q. or other intelligence test?
- d) New Zealand has recently brought back spanking. What do you think about this?
- e) Are modern parents better than traditional parents?
- f) Is there ever a time when a smack can do more good than harm?
- g) Do you know anyone with emotional scars because their parents spanked them?
- h) Are children logical?
- i) Do you think most kids will decide what's right and wrong and then change their behaviour?
- j) What questions would you like to ask Murray Straus?

LANGUAGE – MULTIPLE CHOICE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/0909/090928-iq.html>

New research shows that smacking, or spanking, children can (1) ____ their intelligence. Researchers from the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation in Maryland, USA, say spanking can (2) ____ a child's IQ. The research team studied hundreds of American children as they grew up. They found the (3) ____ a child was spanked, the lower their IQ was compared (4) ____ other kids. Lead researcher Murray Straus advised parents not to hit their children as a form of punishment. He warned parents to look for other ways of disciplining children if they want their child to be (5) ____: "All parents want smart children...This research shows that (6) ____ spanking and correcting misbehaviour in other ways can help that happen," he said.

Spanking children has been a hot issue (7) ____ the years. It was the traditional way for a parent to punish a child. However, it has fallen (8) ____ of favour with modern parents. Child behaviour experts warn smacking a child does a lot more harm than good. They say it can leave emotional as well as physical (9) _____. Mr. Straus explains why a child could suffer emotionally: "(10) ____ to what everyone believes, being hit by parents is a traumatic experience...We know from lots of research that traumatic stresses [negatively] affects the brain." Straus says trying to explain to a child why their behaviour is wrong could (11) ____ learning opportunities. The child has to think and use his or her own (12) ____ to decide for themselves what's right and what's wrong.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. | (a) effect | (b) infect | (c) affect | (d) defect |
| 2. | (a) low | (b) lower | (c) lowly | (d) lows |
| 3. | (a) more | (b) many | (c) most | (d) much |
| 4. | (a) for | (b) to | (c) at | (d) with |
| 5. | (a) shiny | (b) light | (c) bright | (d) sparkle |
| 6. | (a) avoided | (b) avoids | (c) avoidance | (d) avoiding |
| 7. | (a) around | (b) under | (c) over | (d) topping |
| 8. | (a) out | (b) up | (c) on | (d) with |
| 9. | (a) scares | (b) scars | (c) scar | (d) scare |
| 10. | (a) Contrary | (b) Counting | (c) Counts | (d) Control |
| 11. | (a) providing | (b) provision | (c) provides | (d) provide |
| 12. | (a) logically | (b) logics | (c) logical | (d) logic |

Smacking kids lowers their IQ – 28th September, 2009

WRITING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/0909/090928-iq.html>

Write about **intelligence** for 10 minutes. Correct your partner's paper.

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about intelligence. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. INTELLIGENCE: Make a poster about intelligence. What different kinds are there? Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. SPANKED: Write a magazine article about a child who was spanked. Include imaginary interviews with that child and the parents.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. LETTER: Write a letter to a child behaviour expert. Ask him/her three questions about intelligence and spanking. Give him/her three opinions on the best way to discipline children. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE:

- a. T b. F c. F d. F e. T f. T g. F h. T

SYNONYM MATCH:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. spanking | a. hitting |
| 2. lower | b. reduce |
| 3. studied | c. looked at |
| 4. advised | d. recommended |
| 5. bright | e. clever |
| 6. issue | f. topic |
| 7. fallen out of favour | g. become unpopular |
| 8. emotional | h. mental |
| 9. traumatic | i. distressing |
| 10. logic | j. reasoning |

PHRASE MATCH:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. spanking children can affect their | a. intelligence |
| 2. spanking can lower | b. a child's IQ |
| 3. the lower their IQ was compared | c. with other kids |
| 4. hit their children as a form | d. of punishment |
| 5. correcting | e. misbehaviour |
| 6. a hot | f. issue |
| 7. fallen out of favour | g. with modern parents |
| 8. emotional as well as | h. physical scars |
| 9. a child could suffer | i. emotionally |
| 10. decide for themselves what's | j. right and what's wrong |

GAP FILL:

Smacking kids lowers their IQ

New research shows that smacking, or spanking, children can **affect** their intelligence. Researchers from the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation in Maryland, USA, say spanking can **lower** a child's IQ. The research team studied hundreds of American children as they **grew** up. They found the more a child was spanked, the lower their IQ was **compared** with other kids. Lead researcher Murray Straus **advised** parents not to hit their children as a form of punishment. He warned parents to look for other **ways** of disciplining children if they want their child to be bright: "All parents want **smart** children...This research shows that **avoiding** spanking and correcting misbehaviour in other ways can help that happen," he said.

Spanking children has been a hot **issue** over the years. It was the traditional way for a parent to **punish** a child. However, it has fallen out of favour with modern parents. Child behaviour **experts** warn smacking a child does a lot more harm than good. They say it can leave emotional as well as physical **scars**. Mr. Straus explains why a child could **suffer** emotionally: "Contrary to what everyone believes, being hit by parents is a traumatic experience...We know from lots of research that traumatic **stresses** [negatively] affects the brain." Straus says trying to explain to a child why their behaviour is wrong could **provide** learning opportunities. The child has to think and use his or her own **logic** to decide for themselves what's right and what's wrong.

LANGUAGE WORK

- 1 - d 2 - a 3 - b 4 - c 5 - c 6 - b 7 - d 8 - a 9 - b 10 - d 11 - c 12 - a