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Level 3

Britons most afraid of heights and snakes

28th March, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1403/140328-phobias.html>



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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1403/140328-phobias.html>

A new survey from an internet-based market research company shows the things British people are most afraid of. Top of the list is heights. Over half of the people who took the survey said they had acrophobia – the medical name for the fear of heights. In second place was a fear of snakes, with 21 per cent of people saying they were "very afraid" of the slippery creatures. The third biggest fear was public speaking, with 20 per cent being "very afraid" and 36 per cent being "a little afraid" of speaking in public. Other things that frighten people most include spiders, mice, needles and injections, the sight of blood, flying, and being in small spaces. Number 10 on the list was *coulrophobia* – the fear of clowns.

The market research company asked over 2,000 people what they were afraid of. They had to rate 13 common phobias from "not at all afraid" to "very afraid". The researchers found that there were big differences between what men and women were afraid of, and what frightened old and young people. The researchers said: "All are not created equal when it comes to fears." The survey showed that more women than men were afraid of things, especially spiders. These scare a third of men and about half of women. Age differences showed young people were more likely to be afraid of public speaking. Those in the older age groups were more likely than younger people to be afraid of heights.

Sources: <http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/musophobia-coulrophobia-pteromerhanophobia-what-are-britons-most-afraid-1441650>
<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/mar/25/what-top-five-fears-phobias-yougov>
<http://yougov.co.uk/news/2014/03/20/afraid-heights-not-alone/>

WARM-UPS

1. FEAR: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about fear. Change partners often 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.

survey / research / afraid / heights / snakes / public speaking / the sight of blood / list / phobias / differences / young people / equal / a third / age differences / older

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

3. PHOBIAS: How can we help people overcome these phobias? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

Phobia	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
Public speaking			
Heights			
Flying			
Spiders			
The sight of blood			
Injections			

4. SNAKES: Students A **strongly** believe snakes are scary; Students B **strongly** believe they aren't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. SCARY THINGS: Rank these with your partner. Put the scariest at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- horror movies
- the dark
- cyber-stalkers
- ghosts
- rollercoasters
- exams
- public speaking in English
- health checks

6. BLOOD: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "blood". 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/1403/140328-phobias.html>

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

- | | |
|---|-------|
| a. The British government conducted a survey on people's fears. | T / F |
| b. British people are most afraid of heights. | T / F |
| c. The medical name for the fear of heights is acrophobia. | T / F |
| d. The tenth biggest fear was crowns. | T / F |
| e. More than 20,000 people answered questions about their fears. | T / F |
| f. There were big differences between the fears of women and men. | T / F |
| g. Women are less afraid of spiders than men are. | T / F |
| h. Older people are less afraid of public speaking than young people are. | T / F |

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

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. survey | a. the same |
| 2. afraid | b. position |
| 3. place | c. areas |
| 4. creatures | d. assess |
| 5. spaces | e. scared |
| 6. rate | f. probable |
| 7. big | g. particularly |
| 8. equal | h. animals |
| 9. especially | i. large |
| 10. likely | j. study |

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

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. market | a. rate 13 common phobias |
| 2. the things British people are | b. all afraid |
| 3. Over half of the people who | c. on the list |
| 4. slippery | d. took the survey |
| 5. Number 10 | e. equal |
| 6. They had to | f. research |
| 7. not at | g. speaking |
| 8. created | h. of men |
| 9. These scare a third | i. most afraid of |
| 10. afraid of public | j. creatures |

GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1403/140328-phobias.html>

A new (1) _____ from an internet-based market research company shows the things British people are most (2) _____ of. Top of the list is heights. Over half of the people who took the survey said they had acrophobia – the (3) _____ name for the fear of heights. In second place was a fear of snakes, with 21 per cent of people saying they were "very afraid" of the slippery (4) _____. The third biggest (5) _____ was public speaking, with 20 per cent being "very afraid" and 36 per cent being "a little afraid" of (6) _____ in public. Other things that frighten people most include spiders, mice, needles and (7) _____, the sight of blood, flying, and being in small (8) _____. Number 10 on the list was *coulrophobia* – the fear of clowns.

speaking
creatures
afraid
injections
survey
spaces
fear
medical

The (9) _____ research company asked over 2,000 people what they were afraid of. They had to rate 13 common (10) _____ from "not at all afraid" to "very afraid". The researchers found that there were big (11) _____ between what men and women were afraid of, and what frightened old and young people. The researchers said: "All are not created (12) _____ when it comes to fears." The survey (13) _____ that more women than men were afraid of things, especially spiders. These scare a (14) _____ of men and about half of women. Age differences showed young people were more (15) _____ to be afraid of public speaking. Those in the older age groups were more likely than younger people to be afraid of (16) _____.

differences
likely
heights
phobias
showed
market
third
equal

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1403/140328-phobias.html>

- 1) A new survey from an internet-based _____
 - a. market researchers company
 - b. marketing research company
 - c. market research company
 - d. market research companies
- 2) 21 per cent of people saying they were "very afraid" of _____
 - a. the slipper eel creatures
 - b. the slippery creatures
 - c. the slippery creature
 - d. the slipper eel creature
- 3) 36 per cent being "a little afraid" of _____
 - a. speaking in public
 - b. speaking on public
 - c. speak in inn public
 - d. speak king in public
- 4) Other things that frighten people most include spiders, mice, _____
 - a. needless and injections
 - b. need less and injections
 - c. needles and injections
 - d. need dolls and injections
- 5) Number 10 on the list was *coulrophobia* – the _____
 - a. fear of crowns
 - b. fear of clouds
 - c. fear of clams
 - d. fear of clowns
- 6) They had to rate 13 common phobias from "not at all afraid" _____
 - a. too "very afraid"
 - b. to "very afraid"
 - c. two "very afraid"
 - d. toe "very afraid"
- 7) The researchers found that there _____
 - a. were big difference is
 - b. were bigger differences
 - c. were big differences
 - d. were big different sis
- 8) All are not created equal when it _____
 - a. comes to fears
 - b. goes to fears
 - c. takes to fears
 - d. cones to fears
- 9) more women than men were afraid of things, _____
 - a. especially spider
 - b. a specially spider
 - c. especially spiders
 - d. a specially spiders
- 10) Those in the older age groups were more likely _____
 - a. than youngish people
 - b. than young are people
 - c. than young all people
 - d. than younger people

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1403/140328-phobias.html>

(1) _____ an internet-based market research company shows the things British (2) _____ afraid of. Top of the list is heights. Over half of the people who took the survey said they had acrophobia – the (3) _____ the fear of heights. In second place was a fear of snakes, with 21 per cent of people saying they were "very (4) _____ creatures. The third biggest fear was public speaking, with 20 per cent being "very afraid" and 36 per cent being "a little afraid" of (5) _____. Other things that frighten people most include spiders, mice, needles and injections, (6) _____, flying, and being in small spaces. Number 10 on the list was *coulrophobia* – the fear of clowns.

The market research company asked over 2,000 people what they were afraid of. They (7) _____ common phobias from "not at all afraid" to "very afraid". The researchers (8) _____ were big differences between what men and women were afraid of, and what frightened old and young people. The researchers said: "All are not created equal (9) _____." The survey showed that more women than men were afraid of (10) _____. These scare a third of men and about half of women. Age differences showed young people were more (11) _____ of public speaking. Those in the older age groups were more likely than younger people (12) _____.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1403/140328-phobias.html>

1. What kind of company made this survey?

2. What are people afraid of if they have acrophobia?

3. What was number three on the list of fears?

4. What are people afraid of the sight of?

5. Where on the list was the fear of clowns?

6. How many people took the survey?

7. How many phobias did people have to rate?

8. What groups of people were frightened of different things?

9. How many men were afraid of spiders?

10. Who was more likely to be afraid of heights?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1403/140328-phobias.html>

1. What kind of company made this survey?
 - a) a medicine company
 - b) a horror movie company
 - c) a newspaper company
 - d) a market research company
2. What are people afraid of if they have acrophobia?
 - a) spiders
 - b) heights
 - c) public speaking
 - d) blood
3. What was number three on the list of fears?
 - a) injections
 - b) snakes
 - c) spiders
 - d) public speaking
4. What are people afraid of the sight of?
 - a) themselves
 - b) their own shadow
 - c) blood
 - d) speaking
5. Where on the list was the fear of clowns?
 - a) 7
 - b) 8
 - c) 9
 - d) 10
6. How many people took the survey?
 - a) 12,000
 - b) 20,000
 - c) more than 2,000
 - d) just less than 2,000
7. How many phobias did people have to rate?
 - a) 13
 - b) 12
 - c) 11
 - d) 10
8. What groups of people were frightened of different things?
 - a) rich / poor; healthy / unhealthy
 - b) strong / weak; fat / thin
 - c) men / women; old / young
 - d) big / small; fit / unfit
9. How many men were afraid of spiders?
 - a) four-fifths
 - b) a third
 - c) three-quarters
 - d) half
10. Who was more likely to be afraid of heights?
 - a) older people
 - b) pilots
 - c) miners
 - d) sick people

ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1403/140328-phobias.html>

Role A – Horror movies

You think horror movies are the scariest things. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that aren't so scary about their things. Also, tell the others which is the least scary of these (and why): rollercoasters, public speaking or ghosts.

Role B – Rollercoasters

You think rollercoasters is the scariest thing. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that aren't so scary about their things. Also, tell the others which is the least scary of these (and why): horror movies, public speaking or ghosts.

Role C – Public speaking

You think public speaking is the scariest thing. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that aren't so scary about their things. Also, tell the others which is the least scary of these (and why): rollercoasters, horror movies or ghosts.

Role D – Ghosts

You think ghosts the scariest things. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that aren't so scary about their things. Also, tell the others which is the least scary of these (and why): rollercoasters, public speaking or horror movies.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1403/140328-phobias.html>

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

afraid	fear
---------------	-------------

- 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">• research• took• second• third• sight• 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 13• big• equal• especially• showed• groups
---	---

FEAR SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1403/140328-phobias.html>

Write five GOOD questions about fear 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.

FEAR 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 'fear'?
- c) What are you most afraid of and why?
- d) Why are we afraid of things that are not dangerous?
- e) What was your biggest fear when you were a child?
- f) Have you ever overcome a fear?
- g) Are people in different countries afraid of different things?
- h) What do you do when you are really scared?
- i) How could you get over one of your fears?
- j) Is fear healthy?

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FEAR DISCUSSION

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

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) Do you know anyone who is afraid of many things?
- c) What different things are men and women afraid of?
- d) How could someone get over his or her fear of spiders?
- e) Some people are afraid of cheese. Why?
- f) What do people do who are afraid of technology?
- g) Are you afraid of public speaking?
- h) Are you afraid of making mistakes in English?
- i) Do you know anyone who is not scared of anything?
- j) What questions would you like to ask a phobia expert?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1403/140328-phobias.html>

A new survey from an internet-based market research company (1) _____ the things British people are most afraid of. Top of the (2) _____ is heights. Over half of the people who took the survey said they had acrophobia – the (3) _____ name for the fear of heights. In second place was a fear of snakes, with 21 per cent of people saying they were "very afraid" of the (4) _____ creatures. The third biggest fear was public speaking, with 20 per cent being "very afraid" and 36 per cent being "a little afraid" of speaking in public. Other things that (5) _____ people most include spiders, mice, needles and injections, the (6) _____ of blood, flying, and being in small spaces. Number 10 on the list was *coulrophobia* – the fear of clowns.

The market research company asked over 2,000 people what they were afraid of. They had to (7) _____ 13 common phobias from "not at all afraid" to "very afraid". The researchers found that there were big (8) _____ between what men and women were afraid of, and what frightened old and young people. The researchers said: "All are not created equal when it (9) _____ to fears." The survey showed that more women than men were afraid of things, especially spiders. These scare a (10) _____ of men and about half of women. Age differences showed young people were more (11) _____ to be afraid of public speaking. Those in the older age (12) _____ were more likely than younger people to be afraid of heights.

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. | (a) showing | (b) shower | (c) shows | (d) show |
| 2. | (a) list | (b) league | (c) table | (d) items |
| 3. | (a) medical | (b) medicine | (c) medic | (d) medically |
| 4. | (a) slippery | (b) slipped | (c) slip-on | (d) slips |
| 5. | (a) afraid | (b) frighten | (c) scary | (d) terror |
| 6. | (a) view | (b) appearance | (c) look | (d) sight |
| 7. | (a) bate | (b) gate | (c) rate | (d) late |
| 8. | (a) similarity | (b) sameness | (c) equals | (d) differences |
| 9. | (a) comes | (b) goes | (c) needs | (d) has |
| 10. | (a) three-quarters | (b) third | (c) whole | (d) two-thirds |
| 11. | (a) liked | (b) likely | (c) likeliness | (d) liking |
| 12. | (a) sections | (b) departments | (c) groups | (d) gangs |

SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1403/140328-phobias.html>

Paragraph 1

1. A new vsryue
2. the emdacli name for the fear of heights
3. afraid of the slippery urstacree
4. Other things that ngerithf people
5. needles and tcniiojens
6. the sight of lodob

Paragraph 2

7. The market ahrsrcee company
8. rate 13 common phsabio
9. there were big fcinesdeerf
10. men were afraid of things, ceelpasily spiders
11. more lkilye to be afraid of public speaking
12. the older age rupogs

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1403/140328-phobias.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- (**1**) A new survey from an internet-based market research company shows the things British people are most
- () people. The researchers said: "All are not created equal when it comes to fears." The survey showed
- () speaking. Those in the older age groups were more likely than younger people to be afraid of heights.
- () differences between what men and women were afraid of, and what frightened old and young
- () being "very afraid" and 36 per cent being "a little afraid" of speaking in public. Other things that frighten
- () people most include spiders, mice, needles and injections, the sight of blood, flying, and being
- () name for the fear of heights. In second place was a fear of snakes, with 21 per cent of people saying they were "very
- () afraid" of the slippery creatures. The third biggest fear was public speaking, with 20 per cent
- () phobias from "not at all afraid" to "very afraid". The researchers found that there were big
- () in small spaces. Number 10 on the list was coulrophobia – the fear of clowns.
- () of women. Age differences showed young people were more likely to be afraid of public
- () afraid of. Top of the list is heights. Over half of the people who took the survey said they had acrophobia – the medical
- () that more women than men were afraid of things, especially spiders. These scare a third of men and about half
- () The market research company asked over 2,000 people what they were afraid of. They had to rate 13 common

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1403/140328-phobias.html>

1. From an internet-based market research company.

2. The things British people are most afraid of.

3. Half of the people who took the survey.

4. The third biggest fear was public speaking.

5. Other things that frighten people most include spiders.

6. They had to rate 13 common phobias.

7. Differences between what men and women were afraid of.

8. All are not created equal when it comes to fears.

9. These scare a third of men and about half of women.

10. More likely than younger people to be afraid of heights.

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1403/140328-phobias.html>

A new *survey / question* from an internet-based market research company shows the things British people are most *fear / afraid* of. Top of the list is heights. Over half *for / of* the people who *took / taken* the survey said they had acrophobia – the *medicine / medical* name for the fear of heights. In second *place / location* was a fear of snakes, with 21 per cent of people saying they were "very afraid" of the *slippery / slipping* creatures. The third biggest fear was public speaking, with 20 per cent *being / was* "very afraid" and 36 per cent being "a little afraid" of speaking in public. Other things that frighten people most *exclude / include* spiders, mice, needles and injections, the sight of blood, flying, and being in small *spaces / space*. Number 10 on the list was *coulrophobia* – the fear of clowns.

The market research company asked *over / more* 2,000 people what they were afraid of. They had to *rate / grade* 13 common phobias from "not at *every / all* afraid" to "very afraid". The researchers found that there were big *differences / different* between what men and women were afraid of, and *what frightened / afraid* old and young people. The researchers said: "All are not created *equals / equal* when it comes to fears." The survey showed that more women than men were afraid of things, *special / especially* spiders. These scare a *third / thirdly* of men and about half of women. Age differences showed young people were more *likely / liked* to be afraid of public speaking. Those in the older age groups were more likely than younger people to be afraid of *heights / hates*.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1403/140328-phobias.html>

_ n _ w _ s _ r _ v _ y _ f _ r _ m _ n _ n _ t _ r _ n _ t _ b _ s _ d _ m _ r _ k _ t _ r _ s _ r _ c _ h _ c _ m _ p _ n _ y _ s _ h _ w _ s _ t _ h _ t _ h _ n _ g _ s _ B _ r _ t _ s _ h _ p _ p _ l _ r _ m _ s _ t _ f _ r _ d _ f . T _ p _ f _ t _ h _ l _ s _ t _ s _ h _ g _ h _ t _ s . _ v _ r _ h _ l _ f _ f _ t _ h _ p _ p _ l _ w _ h _ t _ k _ t _ h _ s _ r _ v _ y _ s _ d _ t _ h _ y _ h _ d _ c _ r _ p _ h _ b _ - t _ h _ m _ d _ c _ l _ n _ m _ f _ r _ t _ h _ f _ r _ f _ h _ g _ h _ t _ s . _ n _ s _ c _ n _ d _ p _ l _ c _ w _ s _ f _ r _ f _ s _ n _ k _ s , w _ t _ h _ 21 _ p _ r _ c _ n _ t _ f _ p _ p _ l _ s _ y _ n _ g _ t _ h _ y _ w _ r _ " v _ r _ y _ f _ r _ d " _ f _ t _ h _ s _ l _ p _ p _ r _ y _ c _ r _ t _ r _ s . T _ h _ t _ h _ r _ d _ b _ g _ g _ s _ t _ f _ r _ w _ s _ p _ b _ l _ c _ s _ p _ k _ n _ g , w _ t _ h _ 20 _ p _ r _ c _ n _ t _ b _ n _ g _ " v _ r _ y _ f _ r _ d " _ n _ d _ 36 _ p _ r _ c _ n _ t _ b _ n _ g _ " l _ t _ t _ l _ f _ r _ d " _ f _ s _ p _ k _ n _ g _ _ n _ p _ b _ l _ c . _ t _ h _ r _ t _ h _ n _ g _ s _ t _ h _ t _ f _ r _ g _ h _ t _ n _ p _ p _ l _ m _ s _ t _ n _ c _ l _ d _ s _ p _ d _ r _ s , m _ c _ , n _ d _ l _ s _ n _ d _ n _ j _ c _ t _ n _ s , t _ h _ s _ g _ h _ t _ f _ b _ l _ d , f _ l _ y _ n _ g , _ n _ d _ b _ n _ g _ _ n _ s _ m _ l _ l _ s _ p _ c _ s . N _ m _ b _ r _ 10 _ n _ t _ h _ l _ s _ t _ w _ s _ c _ l _ r _ p _ h _ b _ - t _ h _ f _ r _ f _ c _ l _ w _ n _ s .

T _ h _ m _ r _ k _ t _ r _ s _ r _ c _ h _ c _ m _ p _ n _ y _ s _ k _ d _ v _ r _ 2 , 0 0 0 _ p _ p _ l _ w _ h _ t _ t _ h _ y _ w _ r _ f _ r _ d _ f . T _ h _ y _ h _ d _ t _ r _ t _ 13 _ c _ m _ m _ n _ p _ h _ b _ s _ f _ r _ m _ " n _ t _ t _ l _ f _ r _ d " _ t _ " v _ r _ y _ f _ r _ d " . T _ h _ r _ s _ r _ c _ h _ r _ s _ f _ n _ d _ t _ h _ t _ t _ h _ r _ w _ r _ b _ g _ d _ f _ f _ r _ n _ c _ s _ b _ t _ w _ n _ w _ h _ t _ m _ n _ n _ d _ w _ m _ n _ w _ r _ f _ r _ d _ f , _ n _ d _ w _ h _ t _ f _ r _ g _ h _ t _ n _ d _ l _ d _ n _ d _ y _ n _ g _ p _ p _ l _ . T _ h _ r _ s _ r _ c _ h _ r _ s _ s _ d : " l _ l _ r _ n _ t _ c _ r _ t _ d _ q _ l _ w _ h _ n _ t _ c _ m _ s _ t _ f _ r _ s . " T _ h _ s _ r _ v _ y _ s _ h _ w _ d _ t _ h _ t _ m _ r _ w _ m _ n _ t _ h _ n _ m _ n _ w _ r _ f _ r _ d _ f _ t _ h _ n _ g _ s , _ s _ p _ c _ l _ l _ y _ s _ p _ d _ r _ s . T _ h _ s _ s _ c _ r _ t _ h _ r _ d _ f _ m _ n _ n _ d _ b _ t _ h _ l _ f _ f _ w _ m _ n . _ g _ d _ f _ f _ r _ n _ c _ s _ s _ h _ w _ d _ y _ n _ g _ p _ p _ l _ w _ r _ m _ r _ l _ k _ l _ y _ t _ b _ f _ r _ d _ f _ p _ b _ l _ c _ s _ p _ k _ n _ g . T _ h _ s _ _ n _ t _ h _ l _ d _ r _ g _ g _ r _ p _ s _ w _ r _ m _ r _ l _ k _ l _ y _ t _ h _ n _ y _ n _ g _ r _ p _ p _ l _ t _ b _ f _ r _ d _ f _ h _ g _ h _ t _ s .

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1403/140328-phobias.html>

a new survey from an internet-based market research company shows the things british people are most afraid of top of the list is heights over half of the people who took the survey said they had acrophobia – the medical name for the fear of heights in second place was a fear of snakes with 21 per cent of people saying they were "very afraid" of the slippery creatures the third biggest fear was public speaking with 20 per cent being "very afraid" and 36 per cent being "a little afraid" of speaking in public other things that frighten people most include spiders mice needles and injections the sight of blood flying and being in small spaces number 10 on the list was *coulrophobia* – the fear of clowns

the market research company asked over 2000 people what they were afraid of they had to rate 13 common phobias from "not at all afraid" to "very afraid" the researchers found that there were big differences between what men and women were afraid of and what frightened old and young people the researchers said "all are not created equal when it comes to fears" the survey showed that more women than men were afraid of things especially spiders these scare a third of men and about half of women age differences showed young people were more likely to be afraid of public speaking those in the older age groups were more likely than younger people to be afraid of heights

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1403/140328-phobias.html>

A news survey from an internet-based market research company shows the things British people are most afraid of. Top of the list is heights. Over half of the people who took the survey said they had a *crophobia* – the medical name for the fear of heights. In second place was a fear of snakes, with 21 percent of people saying they were "very afraid" of the slippery creatures. The third biggest fear was public speaking, with 20 percent being "very afraid" and 36 percent being "a little afraid" of speaking in public. Other things that frighten people most include spiders, mice, needles and injections, the sight of blood, flying, and being in small spaces. Number 10 on the list was *coulrophobia* – the fear of clowns. The market research company asked over 2,000 people what they were afraid of. They had to rate 13 common phobias from "not at all afraid" to "very afraid". The researchers found that there were big differences between what men and women were afraid of, and what frightened old and young people. The researchers said: "All are not created equal when it comes to fears." The survey showed that more women than men were afraid of things, especially spiders. These scare a third of men and about half of women. Age differences showed young people were more likely to be afraid of public speaking. Those in the older age groups were more likely than younger people to be afraid of heights.

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 fear and phobias. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. FEAR: Make a poster about fear. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. PHOBIAS: Write a magazine article about phobias. Include imaginary interviews with someone who is afraid of spiders and a doctor who can help.

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. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on fear. Ask him/her three questions about fear. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to overcome fear. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

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

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. survey | a. study |
| 2. afraid | b. scared |
| 3. place | c. position |
| 4. creatures | d. animals |
| 5. spaces | e. areas |
| 6. rate | f. assess |
| 7. big | g. large |
| 8. equal | h. the same |
| 9. especially | i. particularly |
| 10. likely | j. probable |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. A market research company
2. Heights
3. Public speaking
4. Blood
5. Number 10
6. Over 2,000
7. 13
8. Men and women, and young and old
9. A third
10. Older people

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. d 2. b 3. d 4. c 5. d 6. c 7. a 8. c 9. b 10. a

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)