

# www.**Breaking News English**.com

Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

**"1,000 IDEAS & ACTIVITIES  
FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS"**

[www.breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html](http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html)

**Thousands more free lessons  
from Sean's other websites**

[www.freematerials.com/sean\\_banville\\_lessons.html](http://www.freematerials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html)

## **Level 4**

### **Woman wins \$23 bn from tobacco company**

**22nd July, 2014**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1407/140722-tobacco-company-4.html>

## **Contents**

The Reading	2
Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
Survey	5
Discussion	6
Writing	7

**Please try the harder Level 5 and the 26-page Level 6 (harder).**

**Twitter**



[twitter.com/SeanBanville](https://twitter.com/SeanBanville)

**Facebook**



[www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176](https://www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176)

**Google +**



<https://plus.google.com/+SeanBanville>

# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1407/140722-tobacco-company-4.html>

A USA court has told a tobacco company to pay a woman \$23.6 billion in damages. Cynthia Robinson started fighting the company in 2008. Her husband died of lung cancer in 1996. He started smoking when he was 13 and died in 1996. Mrs Robinson said the company should have told her husband that smoking is addictive can kill. Tobacco companies knew in the 1950s that smoking could kill. Her husband could not quit and was smoking the day he died.

The tobacco company's lawyer said the amount was crazily high. He added that it would not be allowed by the law. He said: "This verdict goes far beyond the realm of reasonableness and fairness." The woman's lawyer said jurors looked at the company's aggressive marketing aimed at young people. He said the company lied to the U.S. Congress, the public, and smokers. He said the company tried to blame the smoker. He called the jury's decision "courageous".

Sources: <http://edition.cnn.com/2014/07/19/us/florida-tobacco-verdict/>  
<http://in.reuters.com/article/2014/07/20/usa-tobacco-award-idINL2N0PV00D20140720>  
[http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/fla-jury-slams-rj-reynolds-with-236b-in-damages/2014/07/19/c3b1d54e-0fa3-11e4-b0dd-edc009ac1f9d\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/fla-jury-slams-rj-reynolds-with-236b-in-damages/2014/07/19/c3b1d54e-0fa3-11e4-b0dd-edc009ac1f9d_story.html)

# MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1407/140722-tobacco-company-4.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                     |                       |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. pay a woman \$23.6 billion       | a. smoking could kill |
| 2. Her husband died of lung         | b. quit               |
| 3. smoking is                       | c. day he died        |
| 4. companies knew in the 1950s that | d. addictive          |
| 5. Her husband could not            | e. in damages         |
| 6. smoking the                      | f. cancer             |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                       |                          |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. the amount was                     | a. by the law            |
| 2. it would not be allowed            | b. marketing             |
| 3. beyond the realm of reasonableness | c. to the U.S. Congress  |
| 4. the company's aggressive           | d. decision "courageous" |
| 5. He said the company lied           | e. crazily high          |
| 6. He called the jury's               | f. and fairness          |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1407/140722-tobacco-company-4.html>

A USA (1) \_\_\_\_\_ tobacco company to pay a woman \$23.6 billion in damages. Cynthia Robinson (2) \_\_\_\_\_ company in 2008. Her husband died (3) \_\_\_\_\_ 1996. He started smoking when he was 13 and died in 1996. Mrs Robinson said the company should have told her husband that (4) \_\_\_\_\_ can kill. Tobacco companies (5) \_\_\_\_\_ that smoking could kill. Her husband (6) \_\_\_\_\_ was smoking the day he died.

The tobacco company's lawyer said the (7) \_\_\_\_\_ high. He added that it would not be (8) \_\_\_\_\_. He said: "This verdict goes far (9) \_\_\_\_\_ of reasonableness and fairness."

The woman's (10) \_\_\_\_\_ looked at the company's aggressive marketing aimed at young people. He said the company lied to the U.S. Congress, the (11) \_\_\_\_\_. He said the company tried to blame the smoker. He called the (12) \_\_\_\_\_ .

# SMOKING SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1407/140722-tobacco-company-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about smoking 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) \_\_\_\_\_
- g) \_\_\_\_\_
- h) \_\_\_\_\_

*Woman wins \$23 bn from tobacco company - 22nd July, 2014*  
More free lessons at [www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com)

---

# WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

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

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_
- d) \_\_\_\_\_
- e) \_\_\_\_\_
- f) \_\_\_\_\_
- g) \_\_\_\_\_
- h) \_\_\_\_\_

