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Level 3

Noisy neighbours* biggest problem

18th September, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1409/140918-neighbours.html>

Contents

The Article	2	Discussion (Student-Created Qs)	14
Warm-Ups	3	Language Work (Cloze)	15
Before Reading / Listening	4	Spelling	16
While Reading / Listening	5	Put The Text Back Together	17
Match The Sentences And Listen	6	Put The Words In The Right Order	18
Listening Gap Fill	7	Circle The Correct Word	19
Comprehension Questions	8	Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u)	20
Multiple Choice - Quiz	9	Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals	21
Role Play	10	Put A Slash (/) Where The Spaces Are	22
After Reading / Listening	11	Free Writing	23
Student Survey	12	Academic Writing	24
Discussion (20 Questions)	13	Homework	25
		Answers	26

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

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* Spelling: neighbours (UK) / neighbors (USA)

THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140918-neighbours.html>

Do you get on well with your neighbours, or are the people living next door stressful? A new report says that a quarter of people in Britain have had problems with their neighbours in the past year. The survey was carried out by an organization called "Which?" It tries to help and protect consumers. The researchers asked 2,062 adults about their relations with neighbours. They found that 27 per cent had experienced problems. "Which?" said on its website that: "Half [of the people] were left feeling angry and half felt irritable, with 42 per cent saying they felt stressed, and one in ten admitted to feeling afraid." It added: "The survey also found that 64 per cent didn't know where to go to seek help and advice."

The biggest complaints about neighbours were loud voices and the sound of arguing. Loud music and televisions, and doors slamming were also a problem. People also described drug use and police arriving at their neighbour's house. Only one-third of people spoke to the noisy neighbour about the problem. However, people said the problem became worse if the neighbour did not apologise or continued with their annoying behaviour. "Which?" said 86 per cent of young people (those aged 18-24) did not know where to go to get advice. A "Which?" spokesperson said: "Our research has found that young people especially are suffering in silence." "Which?" said people needed to keep a diary of unneighbourly behaviour.

Sources: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/29211402>
http://www.which.co.uk/news/2014/09/one-in-four-people-have-nuisance-neighbours--376963/?cmp=RSS-GNS_376963
<http://money.aol.co.uk/2014/09/15/1-in-4-have-nuisance-neighbours/>

WARM-UPS

1. NEIGHBOURS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about neighbours. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

next door / stressful / problems / the past year / consumers / angry / afraid / advice / complaints / loud voices / arguing / apologise / research / suffering in silence / diary

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

3. COMPLAINTS: What's the best way to complain about these things? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	How to complain?	Problems	Chances of success
Noisy neighbours			
Too much homework			
Expensive food prices			
Your country's leader			
Traffic			
Spam mail			

4. RELATIONS: Students A **strongly** believe it is very important to have good relations with neighbours; Students B **strongly** believe neighbours aren't so important. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. ANNOYING: Rank these with your partner. Put the most annoying things about neighbours at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- loud voices
- arguing
- loud music
- slamming doors
- parties
- don't say hello
- untidy garden
- gossip

6. ADVICE: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "advice". 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/1409/140918-neighbours.html>

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

- | | |
|---|-------|
| a. A quarter of people in the UK have problems with their neighbours. | T / F |
| b. Researchers interviewed over 20,000 people about their neighbours. | T / F |
| c. Over half of people in the UK feel stressed about their neighbours. | T / F |
| d. Most people do not know how to get advice about neighbours. | T / F |
| e. The biggest complaint about neighbours was noise. | T / F |
| f. Less than a quarter of people spoke to neighbours about problems. | T / F |
| g. The article said the problem went away after talking to a neighbour. | T / F |
| h. A consumer organization recommended people keep a diary. | T / F |

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

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. get on well with | a. quarreling |
| 2. quarter | b. look for |
| 3. carried out | c. say sorry |
| 4. relations | d. conducted |
| 5. seek | e. 25% |
| 6. arguing | f. journal |
| 7. apologise (UK) / apologize (USA) | g. dealings |
| 8. behaviour (UK) / behavior (USA) | h. hurting |
| 9. suffering | i. actions |
| 10. diary | j. get along well with |

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

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. get on | a. past year |
| 2. a quarter | b. of arguing |
| 3. in the | c. use |
| 4. one in | d. help and advice |
| 5. where to go to seek | e. became worse |
| 6. loud voices and the sound | f. well with |
| 7. doors | g. of people in Britain |
| 8. drug | h. unneighbourly behaviour |
| 9. people said the problem | i. ten |
| 10. keep a diary of | j. slamming |

GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140918-neighbours.html>

Do you get on well with your neighbours, or are the people living next (1) _____ stressful? A new report says that a quarter of people in Britain have had problems with their neighbours in the (2) _____ year. The survey was carried (3) _____ by an organization called "Which?" It tries to help and protect (4) _____. The researchers asked 2,062 adults about their (5) _____ with neighbours. They found that 27 per cent had experienced problems. "Which?" said on its website that: "Half [of the people] were left feeling angry and half felt (6) _____, with 42 per cent saying they felt stressed, and one in ten (7) _____ to feeling afraid." It added: "The survey also found that 64 per cent didn't know where to go to (8) _____ help and advice."

out
relations
door
admitted
past
seek
irritable
consumers

The biggest (9) _____ about neighbours were loud voices and the sound of arguing. Loud music and televisions, and doors (10) _____ were also a problem. People also described drug (11) _____ and police arriving at their neighbour's house. Only one-third of people spoke to the (12) _____ neighbour about the problem. However, people said the problem became worse if the neighbour did not (13) _____ or continued with their annoying behaviour. "Which?" said 86 per cent of young people ((14) _____ aged 18-24) did not know where to go to get advice. A "Which?" spokesperson said: "Our research has found that young people especially are (15) _____ in silence." "Which?" said people needed to keep a (16) _____ of unneighbourly behaviour.

noisy
complaints
those
slamming
diary
use
suffering
apologise

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140918-neighbours.html>

- 1) are the people living next _____?
 - a. door stressed full
 - b. doors stressful
 - c. door stressful
 - d. doors stressed full
- 2) It tries to help and _____
 - a. protects consumers
 - b. protect consumers
 - c. protect consumer is
 - d. protected consumers
- 3) Half of the people were left feeling angry and half _____
 - a. felt irritability
 - b. felt irritable
 - c. felt irritation
 - d. felt irritate
- 4) they felt stressed, and one in ten _____ afraid
 - a. admitted to feeling
 - b. admitted to feelings
 - c. admitted to feel in
 - d. admitted to fee line
- 5) 64 per cent didn't know where to go to seek _____
 - a. help and advise
 - b. help and add vice
 - c. help and add vase
 - d. help and advice
- 6) The biggest complaints about neighbours _____
 - a. were loudly voices
 - b. were loud voice
 - c. were loud voices
 - d. were loud voice is
- 7) Loud music and televisions, and _____
 - a. doors slimming
 - b. doors slumming
 - c. doors slam in
 - d. doors slamming
- 8) the problem became worse if the neighbour _____
 - a. did not apologise
 - b. did not apologies
 - c. did not apology
 - d. did not apologises
- 9) continued with their _____
 - a. annoy in behaviour
 - b. a gnawing behaviour
 - c. a knowing behaviour
 - d. annoying behaviour
- 10) Our research has found that young people especially are _____
 - a. suffering on silence
 - b. suffering in silence
 - c. suffering and silence
 - d. suffer ringing silence

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140918-neighbours.html>

Do (1) _____ your neighbours, or are the people living next door stressful? A new report says (2) _____ people in Britain have had problems with their neighbours in the past year. The survey was (3) _____ organization called "Which?" It tries to help and protect consumers. The researchers asked 2,062 adults about their (4) _____. They found that 27 per cent had experienced problems. "Which?" said on its website that: "Half [of the people] were left feeling angry and (5) _____, with 42 per cent saying they felt stressed, and one in ten admitted to feeling afraid." It added: "The survey also found that 64 per cent didn't know where (6) _____ help and advice."

The biggest complaints about neighbours were (7) _____ the sound of arguing. Loud music and televisions, and (8) _____ were also a problem. People also described drug use and police arriving at their neighbour's house. (9) _____ people spoke to the noisy neighbour about the problem. However, people said the problem (10) _____ the neighbour did not apologise or continued with their annoying behaviour. "Which?" said 86 per cent of young people ((11) _____) did not know where to go to get advice. A "Which?" spokesperson said: "Our research has found that young people especially are suffering in silence." "Which?" said people needed to (12) _____ unneighbourly behaviour.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140918-neighbours.html>

1. How many British people have problems with their neighbours?

2. What is the name of the organization that carried out the research?

3. How many adults took part in the survey?

4. How many people felt irritable?

5. What percentage of people did not know where to get advice?

6. What was the sound that was the biggest complaint?

7. Who did people not like arriving at their neighbour's house?

8. What happened to the problem if the neighbour did not say sorry?

9. What were the ages of young people?

10. What did the organization suggest people keep?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140918-neighbours.html>

1. How many British people have problems with their neighbours?
 - a) a third
 - b) 29,324,001
 - c) a quarter
 - d) 32.58%
2. What is the name of the organization that carried out the research?
 - a) Which?
 - b) What?
 - c) How?
 - d) Who?
3. How many adults took part in the survey?
 - a) 589
 - b) 2,062
 - c) 6,026
 - d) 2,026
4. How many people felt irritable?
 - a) three-quarters
 - b) four-fifths
 - c) two-thirds
 - d) half
5. What percentage of people did not know where to get advice?
 - a) 62%
 - b) 63%
 - c) 64%
 - d) 65%
6. What was the sound that was the biggest complaint?
 - a) the sound of a hammer
 - b) the sound of arguing
 - c) the sound of silence
 - d) the sound of computer games
7. Who did people not like arriving at their neighbour's house?
 - a) other neighbours
 - b) decorators
 - c) gardeners
 - d) the police
8. What happened to the problem if the neighbour did not say sorry?
 - a) it went away
 - b) it got worse
 - c) the police came
 - d) nothing
9. What were the ages of young people?
 - a) 18-26
 - b) 18-24
 - c) 19-26
 - d) 20-24
10. What did the organization suggest people keep?
 - a) a diary
 - b) calm
 - c) a baseball bat
 - d) their curtains shut

ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140918-neighbours.html>

Role A – Being noisy

You think being noisy is the worst thing neighbours can do. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are not so bad about their things. Also, tell the others which is the least stressful of these (and why): using drugs, keeping rubbish (garbage) in the garden or never saying hello.

Role B – Using drugs

You think using drugs is the worst thing neighbours can do. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are not so bad about their things. Also, tell the others which is the least stressful of these (and why): being noisy, keeping rubbish (garbage) in the garden or never saying hello.

Role C – Rubbish (garbage) in the garden

You think keeping rubbish (garbage) in the garden is the worst thing neighbours can do. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are not so bad about their things. Also, tell the others which is the least stressful of these (and why): using drugs, being noisy or never saying hello.

Role D – Never saying hello

You think never saying hello is the worst thing neighbours can do. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are not so bad about their things. Also, tell the others which is the least stressful of these (and why): using drugs, keeping rubbish (garbage) in the garden or being noisy.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140918-neighbours.html>

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

loud	voice
-------------	--------------

- 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">• well• past• carried• protect• website• added	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• loud• doors• noisy• worse• 86• diary
---	---

NEIGHBOURS SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140918-neighbours.html>

Write five GOOD questions about neighbours 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.

NEIGHBOURS 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 'neighbour'?
- c) Are you a good neighbour? Why do you think so?
- d) How important are good neighbours?
- e) Do you get on well with your neighbours?
- f) What's the worst experience you've had with a neighbour?
- g) What kind of neighbours do you have?
- h) What would you do if you were afraid of a neighbour?
- i) What do you do if someone new moves in next door?
- j) What do you think about what you read?

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NEIGHBOURS DISCUSSION

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

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) What is your biggest complaint about your neighbours?
- c) What is the best thing your neighbours do?
- d) What do you do if your neighbours are noisy?
- e) Who is your most interesting neighbour?
- f) Have you ever apologised to a neighbour? Why?
- g) Would you speak to a neighbour if she/she annoyed you?
- h) What would you say to people who "suffer in silence"?
- i) What's the best way to be a good neighbour?
- j) What questions would you like to ask the researchers?

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/1409/140918-neighbours.html>

Do you get on (1) _____ with your neighbours, or are the people living next door stressful? A new report says that a quarter of people in Britain have had problems with their neighbours in the (2) _____ year. The survey was carried (3) _____ by an organization called "Which?" It tries to help and protect consumers. The researchers asked 2,062 adults about their (4) _____ with neighbours. They found that 27 per cent had experienced problems. "Which?" said on its website that: "Half [of the people] were left (5) _____ angry and half felt irritable, with 42 per cent saying they felt stressed, and one in ten admitted to feeling afraid." It added: "The survey also found that 64 per cent didn't know where to go to (6) _____ help and advice."

The biggest (7) _____ about neighbours were loud voices and the sound of arguing. Loud music and televisions, and doors (8) _____ were also a problem. People also described drug use and police arriving at their neighbour's house. Only one-third of people spoke to the (9) _____ neighbour about the problem. However, people said the problem became worse if the neighbour did not (10) _____ or continued with their annoying behaviour. "Which?" said 86 per cent of young people (those aged 18-24) did not know where to go to get (11) _____. A "Which?" spokesperson said: "Our research has found that young people especially are suffering in silence." "Which?" said people needed to (12) _____ a diary of unneighbourly behaviour.

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) good | (b) well | (c) nice | (d) bad |
| 2. | (a) parsed | (b) past | (c) passed | (d) paste |
| 3. | (a) up | (b) on | (c) in | (d) out |
| 4. | (a) contributions | (b) relations | (c) generations | (d) stations |
| 5. | (a) feel | (b) felt | (c) feels | (d) feeling |
| 6. | (a) peek | (b) meek | (c) seek | (d) geek |
| 7. | (a) complaints | (b) angers | (c) idiots | (d) selfish |
| 8. | (a) slimming | (b) slumming | (c) slamming | (d) summing |
| 9. | (a) sound | (b) volume | (c) loudly | (d) noisy |
| 10. | (a) apologise | (b) apology | (c) apologies | (d) apologises |
| 11. | (a) advice | (b) advise | (c) advises | (d) advisors |
| 12. | (a) keep | (b) carry | (c) hold | (d) safe |

SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140918-neighbours.html>

Paragraph 1

1. are the people living next door luerstsf?
2. a rteurqa of people in Britain
3. help and protect nsceormsu
4. atlseorin with neighbours
5. half felt ltraiber
6. one in ten eitdatmd to feeling afraid

Paragraph 2

7. The biggest tcoaipnslm about neighbours
8. the neighbour did not oiglaspeo
9. where to go to get cdaeiv
10. young people tselplayie
11. suffering in celsnei
12. unneighbourly viueobarh

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140918-neighbours.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () at their neighbour's house. Only one-third of people spoke to the noisy neighbour about
- () 2,062 adults about their relations with neighbours. They found that 27 per cent had experienced
- () apologise or continued with their annoying behaviour. "Which?" said 86 per cent of young
- () of people in Britain have had problems with their neighbours in the past year. The survey was carried
- () The biggest complaints about neighbours were loud voices and the sound of arguing. Loud music
- () out by an organization called "Which?" It tries to help and protect consumers. The researchers asked
- () felt irritable, with 42 per cent saying they felt stressed, and one in ten admitted to feeling
- () found that young people especially are suffering in silence." "Which?" said people needed to keep a diary of unneighbourly behaviour.
- () the problem. However, people said the problem became worse if the neighbour did not
- () afraid." It added: "The survey also found that 64 per cent didn't know where to go to seek help and advice."
- (**1**) Do you get on well with your neighbours, or are the people living next door stressful? A new report says that a quarter
- () problems. "Which?" said on its website that: "Half [of the people] were left feeling angry and half
- () and televisions, and doors slamming were also a problem. People also described drug use and police arriving
- () people (those aged 18-24) did not know where to go to get advice. A "Which?" spokesperson said: "Our research has

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140918-neighbours.html>

1. living people the Are stressful door next ?

2. have of Britain problems quarter in had A people .

3. consumers protect and help to tries It .

4. admitted ten in One afraid feeling to .

5. help to seek advice where to and Know go .

6. and voices Loud arguing of sound the .

7. - one Only neighbour noisy the to spoke people of third.

8. neighbour became didn't worse apologise if the Problems .

9. are especially people Young silence in suffering .

10. to diary behaviour needed a unneighbourly People keep of.

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140918-neighbours.html>

Do you get *in / on* well with your neighbours, or are the people living *near / next* door stressful? A new report says that *the / a* quarter of people in Britain have had problems with their neighbours in the *passed / past* year. The survey was carried *out / in* by an organization called "Which?" It tries to help and protect consumers. The researchers *asked / told* 2,062 adults about their relations *with / without* neighbours. They found that 27 per cent had experienced problems. "Which?" said on its website that: "Half [of the people] were *left / felt* feeling angry and half felt irritable, with 42 per cent saying they felt stressed, and one *on / in* ten admitted to feeling afraid." It added: "The survey also found that 64 per cent didn't know where to go to *peek / seek* help and advice."

The biggest *complaints / complains* about neighbours were loud voices and the sound *of / for* arguing. Loud music and televisions, and doors *slimming / slamming* were also a problem. People also described drug *use / used* and police arriving at their neighbour's house. Only one-third of people spoke to the *noisy / noises* neighbour about the problem. However, people said the problem became worse if the neighbour did not *apologies / apologise* or continued with their annoying behaviour. "Which?" said 86 per cent of young people (*those / them* aged 18-24) did not know where to go to get *advise / advice*. A "Which?" spokesperson said: "Our research has found that young people especially are *suffering / surfing* in silence." "Which?" said people needed to *hold / keep* a diary of unneighbourly behaviour.

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/1409/140918-neighbours.html>

D_y__ g_t__ n_w__ll w_th y__r n__ghb__rs, _r__r__ th__
p__pl__ l_v__ng n_xt d__r str__ssf_l? _n_w_r_p_r_t s_ys
th_t__ q__rt_r__f p__pl__ _n Br_t__ n_h_v__ h_d pr_bl_ms
w_th th__r n__ghb__rs _n th__ p__st y__r. Th__ s_rv_y
w_s c_rr__d __t by _n _rg_n_z_t__n c_ll_d "Wh_ch?"
_t tr__s__t__ h_lp __nd pr_t_ct c_n_s_m_rs. Th__
r_s__rch_rs _sk_d 2,062 _d_lts _b__t th__r r_l_t__ns
w_th n__ghb__rs. Th_y f__nd th_t 27 p_r c_nt h_d
_xp_r__nc_d pr_bl_ms. "Wh_ch?" s__d _n _ts w_bs_t__
th_t: "H_lf [_f th__ p__pl_] w_r__l_ft f__l_ng _ngry _nd
h_lf f_lt __rr_t__bl_, w_th 42 p_r c_nt s_y_ng th_y f_lt
str_ss_d, _nd _n__n_t_n _dm_tt_d t__f__l_ng _fr__d."
_t __dd_d: "Th__ s_rv_y __ls__ f__nd th_t 64 p_r c_nt
d__dn't kn_w wh_r__t__ g__t__ s__k h_lp __nd __dv_c__."

Th__ b_gg__st c_mpl__nts _b__t n__ghb__rs w_r__l__d
v__c_s __nd th__ s__nd __f__rg__ng. L__d m_s_c __nd
t_l_v_s__ns, __nd d__rs sl__mm__ng w_r__ls __pr_bl_m.
P__pl__ __ls__ d_scr_b_d dr_g__s __nd p_l_c__rr_v__ng __t
th__r n__ghb__r's h__s__. _nly _n__-th__rd __f p__pl__
sp_k__t__ th__ n__sy n__ghb__r _b__t th__ pr_bl_m.
H_w_v_r, p__pl__ s__d th__ pr_bl_m b_c_m__w_rs__ __f
th__ n__ghb__r d__d_n_t __p_l_g_s__ __r c_nt_n__d w_th
th__r __nn_y__ng b_h_v__r. "Wh_ch?" s__d 86 p_r c_nt
__f y__ng p__pl__ (th_s__ __g_d 18-24) d__d_n_t kn_w
wh_r__t__ g__t__ g__t__ __dv_c__. __ "Wh_ch?" sp_k__sp_rs_n
s__d: "__r r_s__rch h__s f__nd th_t y__ng p__pl__
__sp_c__lly __r__s__ff_r__ng __n s_l_nc__." "Wh_ch?" s__d
p__pl__ n__d_d_t__ k__p __d__ry __f __nn__ghb__rly
b_h_v__r.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140918-neighbours.html>

do you get on well with your neighbours or are the people living next door stressful a new report says that a quarter of people in Britain have had problems with their neighbours in the past year the survey was carried out by an organization called "Which" it tries to help and protect consumers the researchers asked 2062 adults about their relations with neighbours they found that 27 per cent had experienced problems "Which" said on its website that "half [of the people] were left feeling angry and half felt irritable with 42 per cent saying they felt stressed and one in ten admitted to feeling afraid" it added "the survey also found that 64 per cent didn't know where to go to seek help and advice"

the biggest complaints about neighbours were loud voices and the sound of arguing loud music and televisions and doors slamming were also a problem people also described drug use and police arriving at their neighbour's house only one-third of people spoke to the noisy neighbour about the problem however people said the problem became worse if the neighbour did not apologise or continued with their annoying behaviour "Which" said 86 per cent of young people (those aged 18-24) did not know where to go to get advice a "Which" spokesperson said "our research has found that young people especially are suffering in silence" "Which" said people needed to keep a diary of unneighbourly behaviour

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140918-neighbours.html>

Do you get on well with your neighbours, or are the people living next door stressful? A new report says that a quarter of people in Britain have had problems with their neighbours in the past year. The survey was carried out by an organization called "Which?" It tries to help and protect consumers. The researcher asked 2,062 adults about their relations with neighbours. They found that 27 percent had experienced problems. "Which?" said on its website that: "Half [of the people] were left feeling angry and half felt irritable, with 42 percent saying they felt stressed, and one in ten admitted to feeling afraid." It added: "The survey also found that 64 percent didn't know where to go to seek help and advice." The biggest complaints about neighbours were loud voices and the sound of arguing. Loud music and televisions, and doors slamming were also a problem. People also described drug use and police arriving at their neighbour's house. Only one-third of people spoke to the noisy neighbour about the problem. However, people said the problem became worse if the neighbour did not apologise or continued with their annoying behaviour. "Which?" said 86 percent of young people (those aged 18-24) did not know where to go to get advice. A "Which?" spokesperson said: "Our research has found that young people especially are suffering in silence." "Which?" said people needed to keep a diary of fun neighbourly behaviour.

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 problems with neighbours. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

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

4. GET ON WELL: Write a magazine article about how to get on well with neighbours. Include imaginary interviews with people who think neighbours are very important and with people who think neighbours are not important.

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 neighbours. Ask him/her three questions about neighbours. Give him/her three of your ideas. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

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

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. get on well with | a. get along well with |
| 2. quarter | b. 25% |
| 3. carried out | c. conducted |
| 4. relations | d. dealings |
| 5. seek | e. look for |
| 6. arguing | f. quarreling |
| 7. apologise (UK) / apologize (USA) | g. say sorry |
| 8. behaviour (UK) / behavior (USA) | h. actions |
| 9. suffering | i. hurting |
| 10. diary | j. journal |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. A quarter (27% to be exact)
2. Which?
3. 2,062
4. Half
5. 64%
6. The sound of arguing
7. The police
8. It got worse
9. 18-24
10. A diary

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. c 2. a 3. b 4. d 5. c 6. b 7. d 8. b 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 ;-)