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Level 4

Japan town beats world snowman record

21st February, 2015

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1502/150221-snowman-4.html>

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

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1502/150221-snowman-4.html>

A town in Japan has broken the world record for building snowmen. Around 630 people at the Iiyama Snow Festival made 1,585 snowmen in one hour. The old record was 1,279 snowmen. The event was for the opening of a new bullet train station. A judge from Guinness World Records said the event was a wonderful occasion. He said although the town was being buried in snow, the residents tackled the challenge together, "in a positive light".

Guinness made strict rules. One was that each snowman had to be over 80 cm tall. They also had to be made of three snowballs, with eyes, a nose and arms. People made them with their hands. A committee member said the event suited the opening of the bullet train station. He said the record was broken because the town's people cooperated. An eight-year old said that it was a tough thing to do because the snow didn't stick together.

Sources: http://www.upi.com/Odd_News/2015/02/16/1585-snowmen-break-Guinness-record-in-Japan/9931424121049/
<http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2015/02/15/national/record-set-nagano-prefecture-1585-snowmen-built-hour/#.VORIQSzsQxI>
<http://www.bangkokpost.com/news/asia/476500/do-you-wanna-build-a-snowman-japanese-city-makes-1585>

MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1502/150221-snowman-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. A town in Japan has | a. together |
| 2. Around 630 people at the I | b. wonderful occasion |
| 3. 1,585 snowmen | c. light |
| 4. the opening of a new bullet | d. in one hour |
| 5. the event was a | e. broken the world record |
| 6. the town was being | f. Iiyama Snow Festiva |
| 7. tackled the challenge | g. buried in snow |
| 8. in a positive | h. train station |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. Guinness made | a. the bullet train station |
| 2. each snowman had to | b. with their hands |
| 3. They also had to be made | c. thing to do |
| 4. People made them | d. people cooperated |
| 5. A committee | e. strict rules |
| 6. the event suited the opening of | f. of three snowballs |
| 7. the record was broken because the town's | g. member |
| 8. it was a tough | h. be over 80 cm tall |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1502/150221-snowman-4.html>

A town in Japan (1) _____ world record for building snowmen. Around 630 people at the Iiyama Snow Festival made 1,585 snowmen (2) _____. The old record was 1,279 snowmen. The event (3) _____ of a new bullet train station. A judge from Guinness World Records said (4) _____ wonderful occasion. He said although the town (5) _____ snow, the residents tackled the challenge together, "(6) _____".

Guinness (7) _____. One was that each snowman had to be over 80 cm tall. They (8) _____ made of three snowballs, with eyes, (9) _____. People made them with their hands. A committee member said (10) _____ the opening of the bullet train station. He said the record (11) _____ the town's people cooperated. An eight-year old said that it (12) _____ to do because the snow didn't stick together.

SNOWMEN SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1502/150221-snowman-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about snowmen 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)

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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)

g)

h)

FREE WRITING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1502/150221-snowman-4.html>

Write about **snowmen** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.
