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Level 5

Brown shoes could mean failed job interview

6th September, 2016

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160906-job-interview-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160906-job-interview-5.html>

Graduates who want to be investment bankers in London could be disappointed if they wear brown shoes at a job interview. A report highlights how the investment banking industry follows old, unwritten rules about how bankers should behave. The study was undertaken by Britain's Social Mobility Commission. It looked at how people in job interviews were selected. Researchers found that the industry followed "relatively opaque" codes of conduct. They wrote: "For men, the wearing of brown shoes with a business suit is generally considered unacceptable...within investment banking."

The report suggested that working class people had to change their behaviour to fit in with bankers from middle and upper classes. One new banker said: "I felt like my accent was a bit out of place, so I changed it." The study said the industry discriminated against those who did not go to elite universities. It said: "Bright, working-class kids are being systematically locked out of top jobs in investment banking because they did not attend a small handful of elite universities....It is shocking...that some...still judge candidates on whether they wear brown shoes...rather than on their skills."

Sources: <http://www.cnbc.com/2016/09/01/wearing-brown-shoes-could-lose-you-a-banking-job-in-uk.html>
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/09/01/candidates-miss-out-on-financial-jobs-because-they-wear-brown-sh/>
<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-37244180>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160906-job-interview-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Graduates who want to | a. industry |
| 2. could be | b. at a job interview |
| 3. wear brown shoes | c. were selected |
| 4. the investment banking | d. considered unacceptable |
| 5. follows old, unwritten | e. be investment bankers |
| 6. how people in job interviews | f. conduct |
| 7. codes of | g. disappointed |
| 8. a business suit is generally | h. rules |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. working class | a. against those |
| 2. change their behaviour | b. of place |
| 3. bankers from middle and | c. jobs |
| 4. my accent was a bit out | d. to fit in |
| 5. the industry discriminated | e. universities |
| 6. go to elite | f. people |
| 7. locked out of top | g. on their skills |
| 8. rather than | h. upper classes |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160906-job-interview-5.html>

Graduates (1) _____ investment bankers in London could be disappointed (2) _____ brown shoes at a job interview. A report highlights how the investment banking (3) _____, unwritten rules about how bankers should behave. The study was undertaken by Britain's Social Mobility Commission. It looked at how people in job interviews (4) _____. Researchers found that the industry followed "relatively opaque" (5) _____. They wrote: "For men, the wearing of brown shoes with a business suit is generally (6) _____ ...within investment banking."

The report suggested that working class people (7) _____ their behaviour to fit in with bankers from (8) _____ classes. One new banker said: "I felt like (9) _____ a bit out of place, so I changed it." The study said the industry discriminated against those who did (10) _____ universities. It said: "Bright, working-class kids are being systematically (11) _____ top jobs in investment banking because they did not attend a small handful of elite universities....It is shocking...that (12) _____ candidates on whether they wear brown shoes...rather than on their skills."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160906-job-interview-5.html>

Graduates who want to be investment bankers in London could be disappointed if they wear brown shoes at a job interview. A report highlights how the investment banking industry follows solid, unwritten rules about how bankers should behave. The study was undertaken by Britain's Social Mobility Commission. It looked at how people in job interviews were selected. Researchers found that the industry followed "relatively opaque" codes of conduct. They wrote: "For men, the wearing of brown shoes with a business suit is generally considered unacceptable... within investment banking." The report suggested that working class people had to change their behaviour to fit in with bankers from middle and upper classes. One new banker said: "I felt like my accent was a bit out of place, so I changed it." The study said the industry discriminated against those who did not go to elite universities. It said: "Bright, working-class kids are being systematically locked out of top jobs in investment banking because they did not attend a small handful of elite universities.... It is shocking... that some... still judge candidates on whether they wear brown shoes... rather than on their skills."

JOB INTERVIEWS SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160906-job-interview-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about job interviews 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) _____

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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) _____

