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## Level 4

### Nearly 600 volunteer to be absent father

10th January, 2018

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1801/180110-absent-fathers-4.html>

## Contents

The Reading	2
Phrase Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
No Spaces	5
Survey	6
Writing and Speaking	7
Writing	8

Please try Levels 5 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1801/180110-absent-fathers-4.html>

A school in the USA was surprised after getting many volunteers to be absent fathers. The school asked for 50 male volunteers to be substitute fathers its "Breakfast with Dads" event. It was flooded with replies. Nearly 600 men turned up at the event. The school's very first "Breakfast with Dads" event was to help community spirit. Most of the children come from poorer families. Many of them did not have a father who could go to the breakfast.

The school said the breakfast event was part of plans to improve education. Community leaders and organizations worked on projects to increase test scores. Their efforts worked. A local pastor said: "When a young person sees someone other than their teacher take interest in them, it inspires them." A school liaison officer said: "The look of awe, even disbelief, in students' eyes as they made their way through the crowd of "Dads" was astonishing."

Sources: <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/billy-earl-dade-middle-school-dallas-breakfast-with-dads-asks-50-volunteers-600-a8146291.html>  
<http://www.sltrib.com/news/nation-world/2018/01/07/a-school-sought-50-men-to-stand-in-for-absent-fathers-at-breakfast-with-dads-nearly-600-showed-up/>  
<https://www.dallasnews.com/news/dallas-isd/2017/12/07/male-mentors-needed-eat-breakfast-south-dallas-middle-schooler-dads-event>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1801/180110-absent-fathers-4.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                   |                           |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. A school in the USA was        | a. for 50 male volunteers |
| 2. getting many volunteers to be  | b. poorer families        |
| 3. The school asked               | c. at the event           |
| 4. It was flooded                 | d. breakfast              |
| 5. Nearly 600 men turned up       | e. with replies           |
| 6. help community                 | f. surprised              |
| 7. Most of the children come from | g. spirit                 |
| 8. go to the                      | h. absent fathers         |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                |                       |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. part of plans to            | a. scores             |
| 2. Community                   | b. awe                |
| 3. projects to increase test   | c. the crowd          |
| 4. someone other               | d. eyes               |
| 5. take interest               | e. leaders            |
| 6. The look of                 | f. than their teacher |
| 7. disbelief in students'      | g. in them            |
| 8. they made their way through | h. improve education  |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1801/180110-absent-fathers-4.html>

A school in the USA (1) \_\_\_\_\_ getting many volunteers to be absent fathers. The school asked for 50 (2) \_\_\_\_\_ be substitute fathers its "Breakfast with Dads" event. It (3) \_\_\_\_\_ replies. Nearly 600 men turned (4) \_\_\_\_\_. The school's very first "Breakfast with Dads" event was (5) \_\_\_\_\_. Most of the children come from poorer families. Many of them did not have a father (6) \_\_\_\_\_ to the breakfast.

The school said the breakfast event was (7) \_\_\_\_\_ to improve education. Community (8) \_\_\_\_\_ worked on projects to (9) \_\_\_\_\_. Their efforts worked. A local pastor said: "When a young person sees someone other than their teacher take interest in them, (10) \_\_\_\_\_." A school liaison officer said: "The look of awe, (11) \_\_\_\_\_ students' eyes as they made their way through the crowd of "Dads" (12) \_\_\_\_\_."

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1801/180110-absent-fathers-4.html>

AschoolintheUSAwassurprisedaftergettingmanyvolunteerstobeabsentfathers.Theschoolaskedfor50malevolunteerstobesubstitutefathersatits"BreakfastwithDads"event.Itwasfloodedwithreplies.Nearly600menturnedupattheevent.Theschool'sveryfirst"BreakfastwithDads"eventwastohelpcommunityspirit.Mostofthechildrencomefrompoorerfamilies.Manyofthemdidnothaveafatherwhocouldgotothebreakfast.Theschoolsaidthebreakfasteventwaspartofplanstoimproveeducation.Communityleadersandorganizationsworkedonprojectstoincrease test scores.Theireffortsworked.Alocalpastorsaid:"Whenayoungpersonseessomeoneotherthantheirteachertakeinterestinthem,itinspires them."Aschoolliaisonofficersaid:"Thelookofawe, evendisbelief, in students'eyesastheymadetheirwaythroughthecrowdof"Dads"wasastonishing."

# FATHERS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1801/180110-absent-fathers-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about fathers 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) \_\_\_\_\_

*Nearly 600 volunteer to be absent father – 10th January, 2018*  
More free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](http://breakingnewsenglish.com)

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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) \_\_\_\_\_

