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**Level 2 – 12th July, 2019**

## **Amazon Alexa to answer questions on health**

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:**

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190712-alexa-2.html>

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**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.**

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190712-alexa-2.html>

Technology is giving us more help with our healthcare. We can now ask the digital device Alexa for advice about our health. Alexa is a virtual assistant created by Amazon.com. It can listen to people and answer their questions. It can talk to people, make to-do lists, play music when asked to, and tell us the latest news. Now Alexa can answer our health questions. Amazon has teamed up with the National Health Service (NHS) in the UK to add health advice to Alexa. Alexa will search the NHS website for information and find an answer that is agreed on by health experts.

Alexa's new health advice function has had a mixed response. The UK Health Secretary said it is, "a great example of how people can access reliable, world-leading advice" from their home. He said it will reduce the pressure on hardworking doctors and pharmacists. He wants to let patients take more control of their healthcare. Other people say we must be careful about trusting software for health advice. They say we must see a doctor for serious health problems. Other people are worried about privacy and hacking. A privacy group said Alexa is, "a data protection disaster waiting to happen".

Sources: <https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/9473561/amazon-alexa-health-queries-nhs/>  
<https://www.bbc.com/news/health-48925345>  
<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2019/jul/10/nhs-teams-up-with-amazon-to-bring-alexa-to-patients>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190712-alexa-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                |                    |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Technology is giving us     | a. their questions |
| 2. We can now ask the digital  | b. news            |
| 3. Alexa is a virtual          | c. for information |
| 4. listen to people and answer | d. do lists        |
| 5. make to-                    | e. experts         |
| 6. tell us the latest          | f. device Alexa    |
| 7. search the NHS website      | g. more help       |
| 8. agreed on by health         | h. assistant       |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                              |                        |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. had a mixed               | a. happen              |
| 2. reduce the pressure on    | b. software            |
| 3. take more control         | c. disaster            |
| 4. be careful about trusting | d. hardworking doctors |
| 5. see a doctor for serious  | e. privacy and hacking |
| 6. people are worried about  | f. response            |
| 7. a data protection         | g. of their healthcare |
| 8. waiting to                | h. health problems     |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190712-alexa-2.html>

Technology is giving (1) \_\_\_\_\_ with our healthcare. We can now ask the digital device Alexa (2) \_\_\_\_\_ our health. Alexa is a virtual assistant created by Amazon.com. It can listen to (3) \_\_\_\_\_ their questions. It can talk to people, make to-do lists, play music when asked to, and tell us (4) \_\_\_\_\_. Now Alexa can answer our health questions. Amazon has teamed up with the National Health Service (NHS) in the UK (5) \_\_\_\_\_ advice to Alexa. Alexa will search the NHS website for information and find an answer that is agreed on (6) \_\_\_\_\_ parts.

Alexa's new health advice function has had (1) \_\_\_\_\_. The UK Health Secretary said it is, "a great example of how people (2) \_\_\_\_\_, world-leading advice" from their home. He said it will (3) \_\_\_\_\_ on hardworking doctors and pharmacists. He wants to let patients take (4) \_\_\_\_\_ their healthcare. Other people say we (5) \_\_\_\_\_ about trusting software for health advice. They say we must see a doctor for serious health problems. Other people (6) \_\_\_\_\_ privacy and hacking. A privacy group said Alexa is, "a data protection (7) \_\_\_\_\_ happen".

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190712-alexa-2.html>

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# HEALTHCARE SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190712-alexa-4.html>

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

*Amazon Alexa to answer questions on health – 12th July, 2019*  
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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) \_\_\_\_\_

