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U.S. to encourage use of face masks - 5th April, 2020

### Level 0

The USA is advising people to wear face masks. This could slow down the spread of COVID-19. The WHO said people who are not sick do not need masks. Other organisations say people in countries like Singapore and South Korea wear masks. In these countries, infection rates are lower.

Many experts say nurses and doctors need the masks. They say masks could make people feel safe so they mix with other people. Other experts worry that homemade masks will not stop the virus. The White House said: "The most important thing is the social distancing, washing your hands and not touching your face."

#### Level 1

The USA is encouraging the wearing of face masks. It said face masks could slow down the spread of COVID-19. It wants Americans to make face masks and use scarves. The WHO said people who are not sick do not need masks. Other organisations say face masks can help to slow the virus. They say people in countries like Singapore and South Korea wear masks. In these countries, reported infection rates are lower.

Some experts say masks could cut the risk of spreading the virus and protect those who have not got it. Other officials say we need masks for nurses and doctors. They say masks could make people feel safe and mix with other people. Health experts also worry that homemade masks will not stop people from getting the virus. The White House said: "The most important thing is the social distancing, washing your hands and not touching your face."

#### Level 2

The USA is encouraging Americans to wear face masks. There is talk about whether or not face masks are effective to slow down the spread of COVID-19. The government is encouraging Americans to use homemade things like face masks and scarves. The WHO has recommended that people who are not sick do not need to wear masks or cover their face. However, other organisations say face masks can help to slow the virus. They say people in countries like Singapore and South Korea wear masks and reported infection rates are lower.

Some health experts believe that masks could cut the risk of people spreading the virus and protect those who have not contracted it. Other health officials worry that if everyone buys masks, there may not be enough for nurses and doctors. They say masks could make people feel safe and mix more with other people. Health experts also worry that homemade masks are insufficient to prevent people from catching the virus. The White House said: "The most important thing is the social distancing, washing your hands and not touching your face."

## Level 3

The USA could soon be encouraging Americans to wear face masks or scarves. There has been a lot of talk about whether or not face masks are effective in helping slow down the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus. The government is set to encourage Americans to use homemade face coverings like cloth masks, bandanas and scarves. The WHO and other health organisations have recommended that people who are not sick do not need to wear masks or cover their face. However, other organisations say face masks can slow the spread of the virus. They point to countries like Singapore and South Korea, where people wear masks and reported infection rates are lower.

Health experts in the USA believe that wearing a mask could reduce the risk of people spreading the virus and give a little protection to those who have not contracted it. Health officials are worried that if everyone rushes out to buy masks, there may not be enough for nurses, doctors and other key workers. They also say that a mask could make the problem worse because people might feel safe wearing one and mix more with other people. Another thing health experts are worried about is that homemade masks are insufficient to prevent people from catching the virus. The White House said: "The most important thing is the social distancing, washing your hands and not touching your face."