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Level 3 – 29th April, 2020

Google Meet video conferencing platform improved

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200429-google-meet.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200429-google-meet.html>

Google has improved its video conferencing platform Meet to be able to compete with other platforms such as Zoom and Microsoft Teams. A new feature of Meet is that users can now see the faces of 16 people on their screen. Previously, people could only see four people on their screen at one time, but with Meet's new tiled layout, people can now see 16 participants at once. Meet's new gallery view comes at a time when more and more people are using video conferencing services across the world. Many people are contacting family and friends during lockdown; companies are holding online meetings; and schools and universities have changed their operations to be able to teach online.

Google said the improved Meet platform would help millions around the world in times of lockdown. It wrote: "Remote work has become increasingly necessary for public safety and wellbeing - which makes staying connected, even while we're apart, more important than ever." It added: "Each day, a rapidly growing number of people connect on Google Meet, and we want to make sure they have the features they need to share and be productive." Google said it would introduce more new features such as the ability to block out background noise. This will end the noise of keystrokes as other people type while online. Users will also be able to improve video quality if the lighting in their room is not sufficient.

Sources: <https://www.techradar.com/uk/news/google-meet-update-takes-the-fight-to-zoom>
<https://www.theverge.com/2020/4/22/21231294/google-meet-gallery-tiled-view-roll-out-globally-zoom>
<https://cloud.google.com/blog/products/productivity-collaboration/introducing-tiled-view-and-other-top-requested-features-in-google-meet>

WARM-UPS

1. VIDEO CONFERENCING: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about video conferencing. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

Google / video conferencing / platforms / faces / screen / participants / connecting / lockdown / remote / necessary / features / productive / background noise / quality

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. REMOTE WORKING: Students A **strongly** believe remote working should happen more in the future; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. ONLINE COMPANIES: What do you think of these companies? What are the best things about them? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What You Think	The Best Things
Google		
Facebook		
Apple		
Amazon		
Wikipedia		
YouTube		

5. SCREEN: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "screen". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. KEEPING IN TOUCH: Rank these with your partner. Put the best ways of keeping in touch at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Video conferencing
- E-mail
- Letter
- Phone call
- Text
- Social media
- Face-to-face
- Other _____

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 1. improved | a. A person who joins in with something. |
| 2. compete | b. At an earlier time; before. |
| 3. previously | c. Try to win something or be better than others by beating those who are trying to do the same thing. |
| 4. layout | d. Organized activity by many people (usually in a company, school, army, etc.). |
| 5. participant | e. Made or became better. |
| 6. contacting | f. The way in which text or pictures are put on a page or computer screen. |
| 7. operations | g. Communicating with or meeting people. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 8. remote | h. Someone's health, happiness, stress levels, etc. |
| 9. wellbeing | i. Making a lot of things or getting a lot of results. |
| 10. connected | j. Enough. |
| 11. feature | k. Linked or joined. |
| 12. productive | l. Stop something or someone from getting in something. |
| 13. block out | m. A special part of something. |
| 14. sufficient | n. Being far away. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200429-google-meet.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. You can see up to 16 faces on a Google Meet screen. **T / F**
- b. The old version of Google Meet only allowed four faces on a screen. **T / F**
- c. The article said more and more people are video conferencing. **T / F**
- d. Universities are yet to change to online teaching. **T / F**
- e. Google said its Meet platform would help millions of people. **T / F**
- f. Google said Google Meet is finished and will not change. **T / F**
- g. There will be no way to block out the sound of typing computer keys. **T / F**
- h. The article said users would soon be able to chat in total darkness. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. improved | a. design |
| 2. feature | b. finish |
| 3. layout | c. communicating with |
| 4. contacting | d. more and more |
| 5. operations | e. enough |
| 6. increasingly | f. creative |
| 7. connected | g. aspect |
| 8. productive | h. running |
| 9. end | i. in touch |
| 10. sufficient | j. advanced |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. be able to compete | a. number of people |
| 2. users can now see the | b. more people |
| 3. Previously, people could only | c. operations |
| 4. more and | d. and wellbeing |
| 5. universities have changed their | e. see four people |
| 6. in times of | f. than ever |
| 7. necessary for public safety | g. with other platforms |
| 8. more important | h. noise |
| 9. a rapidly growing | i. lockdown |
| 10. block out background | j. faces of 16 people |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200429-google-meet.html>

Google has improved its video conferencing (1) _____
Meet to be able to compete with other platforms such as Zoom
and Microsoft Teams. A new (2) _____ of Meet is that
users can now see the faces of 16 people on their
(3) _____. Previously, people could only see four people
on their screen at one time, but with Meet's new tiled
(4) _____, people can now see 16 participants at once.
Meet's new gallery view comes at a (5) _____ when more
and more people are using video conferencing (6) _____
across the world. Many people are contacting family and friends
(7) _____ lockdown; companies are holding online
meetings; and schools and universities have changed their
(8) _____ to be able to teach online.

screen
time
feature
operations
platform
during
layout
services

Google said the improved Meet platform would help millions
around the world in (9) _____ of lockdown. It wrote:
"Remote work has become increasingly necessary for public
(10) _____ and wellbeing - which makes staying
connected, even while we're (11) _____, more important
than ever." It added: "Each day, a rapidly growing number of
people (12) _____ on Google Meet, and we want to make
sure they have the features they need to share and be
(13) _____." Google said it would introduce more new
features such as the ability to (14) _____ out background
noise. This will end the noise of keystrokes as other people
(15) _____ while online. Users will also be able to improve
video quality if the lighting in their room is not (16) _____.

apart
productive
times
sufficient
connect
type
safety
block

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200429-google-meet.html>

- 1) Google has improved its video conferencing _____
 - a. platforms Meet
 - b. preform Meet
 - c. platform Meet
 - d. plait frame Meet
- 2) A new feature of Meet is that users can now see the _____ people
 - a. faces of 16
 - b. face is of 16
 - c. face seas of 16
 - d. face sis of 16
- 3) Previously, people could only see four people on their _____ time
 - a. screen at once
 - b. screen at only
 - c. screen at one
 - d. screen at won
- 4) Many people are contacting family and friends _____
 - a. dour ring lockdown
 - b. enduring lockdown
 - c. daunting lockdown
 - d. during lockdown
- 5) schools and universities have changed their operations to be _____ online
 - a. able for teach
 - b. able to teach
 - c. able on teach
 - d. able up teach
- 6) the improved Meet platform would help millions around the world _____ lockdown
 - a. in times of
 - b. end times of
 - c. on times of
 - d. two times of
- 7) Remote work has become increasingly necessary for public _____
 - a. safe tea and wellbeing
 - b. safely and wellbeing
 - c. safe tee and wellbeing
 - d. safety and wellbeing
- 8) Each day, a rapidly growing number of people _____ Meet
 - a. connects on Google
 - b. connect ton Google
 - c. connect on Google
 - d. connection Google
- 9) it would introduce more new features such as the ability to block _____
 - a. clout background noise
 - b. out background noise
 - c. at background noise
 - d. outs background noise
- 10) improve video quality if the lighting in their room _____
 - a. is not sufficiently
 - b. is not sufficient
 - c. is not sufficiency
 - d. is not insufficient

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200429-google-meet.html>

Google has improved its video conferencing platform Meet to be able to compete with (1) _____ as Zoom and Microsoft Teams. A new feature of Meet is that users can now see (2) _____ 16 people on their screen. Previously, people could only see four people on their (3) _____ time, but with Meet's new tiled layout, people can now see 16 participants at once. Meet's (4) _____ comes at a time when more and more people are using video conferencing services across the world. Many (5) _____ family and friends during lockdown; companies are holding online meetings; and schools and universities have changed (6) _____ be able to teach online.

Google said the improved Meet platform would help millions around the world in (7) _____. It wrote: "Remote work has become increasingly necessary for public (8) _____ - which makes staying connected, even while we're apart, more important than ever." It added: "Each day, (9) _____ number of people connect on Google Meet, and we want to make sure they have the features they need to share (10) _____." Google said it would introduce more new features such as the ability to block (11) _____. This will end the noise of keystrokes as other people type while online. Users will also be able to improve video quality if the lighting in their room (12) _____.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200429-google-meet.html>

1. Which two platforms will Meet compete with?
2. How many participants can fit on one screen with Google Meet?
3. How many faces could be seen on the older version of Meet?
4. What services did the article say people were using more of worldwide?
5. Who did the article say was holding online meetings?
6. What did Google say was increasingly necessary?
7. What did Google say it wants to make sure people have?
8. What did Google say it would introduce more of?
9. What kind of background noise will be blocked out in the future?
10. What will users see improvements in despite insufficient lighting?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200429-google-meet.html>

- 1) Which two platforms will Meet compete with?
 - a) Houseparty and Skype
 - b) Zoom and Houseparty
 - c) Zoom and Microsoft Teams
 - d) Skype and Zoom
- 2) How many participants can fit on one screen with Google Meet?
 - a) 16
 - b) 14
 - c) 12
 - d) 10
- 3) How many faces could be seen on the older version of Meet?
 - a) 4
 - b) 6
 - c) 8
 - d) 12
- 4) What services did the article say people were using more of worldwide?
 - a) health services
 - b) video conferencing services
 - c) moving services
 - d) cooking services
- 5) Who did the article say was holding online meetings?
 - a) ordinary people
 - b) tech people
 - c) teachers
 - d) companies
- 6) What did Google say was increasingly necessary?
 - a) bandwidth
 - b) remote work
 - c) cheaper Internet
 - d) masks
- 7) What did Google say it wants to make sure people have?
 - a) features they need
 - b) masks
 - c) hand sanitiser
 - d) movies
- 8) What did Google say it would introduce more of?
 - a) new websites
 - b) a new mail service
 - c) new features
 - d) a text service
- 9) What kind of background noise will be blocked out in the future?
 - a) music
 - b) computer fans
 - c) barking dogs
 - d) keystrokes
- 10) What will users see improvements in despite insufficient lighting?
 - a) video quality
 - b) sound
 - c) darkness
 - d) connection speeds

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200429-google-meet.html>

Role A – Video Conferencing

You think video conferencing is the best way to keep in touch. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): social media, phone call or text.

Role B – Social Media

You think social media is the best way to keep in touch. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): video conferencing, phone call or text.

Role C – Phone Call

You think phone call is the best way to keep in touch. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): social media, video conferencing or text.

Role D – Text

You think text is the best way to keep in touch. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): social media, phone call or video conferencing.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200429-google-meet.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'video' and 'conference'.

video	conference
--------------	-------------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• compete• previously• layout• gallery• across• teach	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• help• necessary• important• share• noise• lighting
--	---

VIDEO CONFERENCING SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200429-google-meet.html>

Write five GOOD questions about video conferencing 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.

VIDEO CONFERENCING DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'video'?
3. What are your experiences of video conferencing?
4. What is the best video conferencing platform?
5. What do you think of video conferencing?
6. Is video conferencing better than using telephones?
7. How many faces should we be able to see on the screen?
8. What are the advantages of video conferencing?
9. What advice do you have for Google Zoom bosses?
10. Is it better to learn online or in classrooms?

Google Meet video conferencing platform improved – 29th April, 2020
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VIDEO CONFERENCING DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'conference'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. How is video conferencing helping people?
15. What do you think of working remotely?
16. What features does a video conferencing platform need?
17. How was your last video chat?
18. What do you think of background noise?
19. What are the disadvantages of video conferencing?
20. What questions would you like to ask Google bosses?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200429-google-meet.html>

Google has (1) _____ its video conferencing platform Meet to be able to compete with other platforms such (2) _____ Zoom and Microsoft Teams. A new feature of Meet is that users can now see the faces of 16 people on their screen. Previously, people could only see four people (3) _____ their screen at one time, but with Meet's new tiled layout, people can now see 16 participants at (4) _____. Meet's new gallery view comes at a time when more and more people are using video conferencing services across the world. Many people are (5) _____ family and friends during lockdown; companies are holding online meetings; and schools and universities have changed their operations to be (6) _____ to teach online.

Google said the improved Meet platform would help millions around the world in (7) _____ of lockdown. It wrote: "Remote work has become increasingly necessary for public safety and (8) _____ - which makes staying connected, even while we're apart, more important than ever." It added: "Each day, a (9) _____ growing number of people connect on Google Meet, and we want to make sure they have the features they need to share and (10) _____ productive." Google said it would introduce more new features such as the ability to block out background noise. This will end the noise of keystrokes as other people type (11) _____ online. Users will also be able to improve video quality if the lighting in their room is not (12) _____.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) proof | (b) proved | (c) approved | (d) improved |
| 2. | (a) has | (b) was | (c) is | (d) as |
| 3. | (a) at | (b) on | (c) of | (d) to |
| 4. | (a) only | (b) one | (c) once | (d) won |
| 5. | (a) contacting | (b) conducting | (c) contracting | (d) construing |
| 6. | (a) able | (b) ability | (c) arable | (d) abled |
| 7. | (a) era | (b) watches | (c) clocks | (d) times |
| 8. | (a) wellbeing | (b) being | (c) well-off | (d) well done |
| 9. | (a) rapid | (b) rapidly | (c) rapids | (d) rapidity |
| 10. | (a) been | (b) was | (c) be | (d) being |
| 11. | (a) what | (b) which | (c) while | (d) how |
| 12. | (a) actively | (b) sufficient | (c) breathing | (d) dependent |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200429-google-meet.html>

Paragraph 1

1. be able to ocmepet with other platforms
2. the faces of 16 people on their enersc
3. people can now see 16 ntcpitpsarai
4. Meet's new eryallg view
5. people are ottcacnig family and friends
6. universities have changed their satnriopoe

Paragraph 2

7. eermot work has become increasingly necessary
8. a idlaryp growing number of people
9. they need to share and be ivcdetrupo
10. introduce more new taesfuer
11. the noise of eyseskkotr as other people type
12. the lighting in their room is not iifsnuetf

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200429-google-meet.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () time, but with Meet's new tiled layout, people can now see 16 participants at
- () of 16 people on their screen. Previously, people could only see four people on their screen at one
- () share and be productive." Google said it would introduce more new features such as the ability
- () meetings; and schools and universities have changed their operations to be able to teach online.
- () once. Meet's new gallery view comes at a time when more and more people are using video conferencing services across
- () to block out background noise. This will end the noise of keystrokes as other people type
- () the world. Many people are contacting family and friends during lockdown; companies are holding online
- () connected, even while we're apart, more important than ever." It added: "Each day, a rapidly growing
- () of lockdown. It wrote: "Remote work has become increasingly necessary for public safety and wellbeing - which makes staying
- (**1**) Google has improved its video conferencing platform Meet to be able to compete with other platforms such
- () while online. Users will also be able to improve video quality if the lighting in their room is not sufficient.
- () number of people connect on Google Meet, and we want to make sure they have the features they need to
- () as Zoom and Microsoft Teams. A new feature of Meet is that users can now see the faces
- () Google said the improved Meet platform would help millions around the world in times

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200429-google-meet.html>

1. platform . has improved video conferencing its Google
2. can the 16 people . of see faces Users
3. conferencing video More using services . are people
4. family people contacting and friends . Many are
5. be to operations able to teach . Changed their
6. help would The world . platform millions around the
7. for become safety . Remote necessary has work public
8. people rapidly of A connect . number growing
9. need . have features they Make they the sure
10. able quality . be will Users video improve to

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200429-google-meet.html>

Google has *improved / improvement* its video conferencing platform Meet to be able to *complete / compete* with other platforms such as *as / was* Zoom and Microsoft Teams. A new feature of Meet is that users can now see the faces of 16 people on *its / their* screen. Previously, people could only see four people on their screen at *once / one* time, but with Meet's new tiled layout, people can now see 16 participants at once. Meet's new gallery *view / viewpoint* comes at a time when more and more people are *using / used* video conferencing services across the world. Many people are *contracting / contacting* family and friends during lockdown; companies are holding online *meetings / meeting*; and schools and universities have changed their operations to be able to *reach / teach* online.

Google said the improved Meet platform would help millions around the world in times *of / off* lockdown. It wrote: "Remote work has become increasingly *needy / necessary* for public safety and wellbeing - which makes staying *connected / connection*, even while we're *apart / partying*, more important than ever." It added: "Each day, a rapidly growing number of people *correct / connect* on Google Meet, and we want to make sure they have the features they need to share and *have / be* productive." Google said it would introduce more new features such as the ability *to / for* block out background noise. This will end the noise *off / of* keystrokes as other people type while online. Users will also be able to *improve / prove* video quality if the lighting in their room is not *sufficiently / sufficient*.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200429-google-meet.html>

G__ g l_ h_s _m p r_v_d _t s v_d__ c_n f_r_n c_n g p
l_t f_r m M__ t t_ b_ _b l_ t_ c_m p_t_ w_t h _t h_r
p l_t f_r m s s_c h _s Z__ m _n d M_c r_s_f t T__ m
s. A n_w f__ t_r_ _f M__ t _s t h_t _s _r s c_n
n_w s__ t h_ f_c_s _f 16 p__ p l_ _n t h__ r s c
r__ n. P r_v__s l_y, p__ p l_ c__ l d _n l_y s__ f__
r p__ p l_ _n t h__ r s c r__ n _t _n_ t_m_, b_t
w_t h M__ t 's n_w t_l_d l_y__ t, p__ p l_ c_n
n_w s__ 16 p_r t_c_p_n t s _t _n c_. M__ t 's n_w
g_l l_r y v__ w c_m_s _t _ t_m_ w h_n m_r_ _n d
m_r_ p__ p l_ _r_ _s_n g v_d__ c_n f_r_n c_n g s_r
v_c_s _c r_s s t h_ w_r l_d. M_n y p__ p l_ _r_ c_n
t_c t_n g f_m_l y _n d f_r__ n d s d_r_n g l_c k d_w n
; c_m p_n__ s _r_ h_l_d_n g _n l_n_ m__ t_n g s; _n d
s c h__ l s _n d _n_v_r s_t__ s h_v_ c h_n g_d t h__ r
_p_r_t__ n s t_ b_ _b l_ t_ t__ c h _n l_n_.

G__ g l_ s__ d t h_ _m p r_v_d M__ t p l_t f_r m w__
l d h_l p m_l l__ n s _r__ n d t h_ w_r l_d _n t_m_s
_f l_c k d_w n. I t w_r t_: " R_m_t_ w_r k h_s
b_c_m_ _n c r__ s_n g l_y n_c_s s_r y f_r p_b l_c s_f t
y _n d w_l l b__ n g - w h_c h m_k_s s_t_y_n g c_n
n_c t_d, _v_n w h_l_ w_'r_ _p_r t, m_r_ _m p_r t_n t
t h_n _v_r." I t _d d_d: " E_c h d_y, _r_p_d l_y
g_r_w_n g n_m b_r _f p__ p l_ c_n n_c t _n G__ g l_
M__ t, _n d w_ w_n t t_ m_k_ s_r_ t h_y h_v_ t h_
f__ t_r_s t h_y n__ d t_ s h_r_ _n d b_ p_r_d_c t_v_.
" G__ g l_ s__ d _t w__ l d _n t_r_d_c_ m_r_ n_w
f__ t_r_s s_c h _s t h_ _b_l_t y t_ b_l_c k __ t b_c k
g_r__ n d n__ s_. T h_s w_l l _n d t h_ n__ s _f
k_y s_t_r_k_s _s _t h_r p__ p l_ t_y p_ w h_l_ _n l_n_.
U s_r s w_l l _l s_ b_ _b l_ t_ _m p r_v_ v_d__ q__ l_t
y _f t h_ l_g h_t_n g _n t h__ r r__ m _s n_t s_f
f_c__ n t.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200429-google-meet.html>

google has improved its video conferencing platform meet to be able to compete with other platforms such as zoom and microsoft teams a new feature of meet is that users can now see the faces of 16 people on their screen previously people could only see four people on their screen at one time but with meets new tiled layout people can now see 16 participants at once meets new gallery view comes at a time when more and more people are using video conferencing services across the world many people are contacting family and friends during lockdown companies are holding online meetings and schools and universities have changed their operations to be able to teach online

google said the improved meet platform would help millions around the world in times of lockdown it wrote remote work has become increasingly necessary for public safety and wellbeing which makes staying connected even while were apart more important than ever it added each day a rapidly growing number of people connect on google meet and we want to make sure they have the features they need to share and be productive google said it would introduce more new features such as the ability to block out background noise this will end the noise of keystrokes as other people type while online users will also be able to improve video quality if the lighting in their room is not sufficient

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200429-google-meet.html>

Google has improved its video conferencing platform Meet to be able to compete with other platforms such as Zoom and Microsoft Teams. A new feature of Meet is that users can now see the faces of 16 people on their screen. Previously, users could only see four people on their screen at one time, but with Meet's new tiled layout, people can now see 16 participants at once. Meet's new gallery view comes at a time when more and more people are using video conferencing services across the world. Many people are contacting family and friends during lockdown; companies are holding online meetings; and schools and universities have changed their operations to be able to teach online. Google said the improved Meet platform would help millions around the world in times of lockdown. It wrote: "Remote work has become increasingly necessary for public safety and wellbeing - which makes staying connected, even while we're apart, more important than ever." It added: "Each day, a rapidly growing number of people connect on Google Meet, and we want to make sure they have the features they need to share and be productive." Google said it would introduce more new features such as the ability to block out background noise. This will end the noise of keystrokes as other people type while online. Users will also be able to improve video quality if the lighting in their room is not sufficient.

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. VIDEO CONFERENCING: Make a poster about video conferencing. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. ONLINE LIFE: Write a magazine article about using video conferencing in more and more areas of our life. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on video conferencing. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your ideas on how video conferencing can make our life better. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. e 2. c 3. b 4. f 5. a 6. g 7. d
8. n 9. h 10. k 11. m 12. i 13. l 14. j

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- a T b T c T d F e T f F g F h F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. j	2. g	3. a	4. c	5. h
6. d	7. i	8. f	9. b	10. e

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- Zoom and Microsoft Teams
- Sixteen
- Four
- Video conferencing services
- Companies
- Remote work
- The features they need
- New features
- Keystrokes
- Video quality

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

- Google has improved its video conferencing platform.
- Users can see the faces of 16 people.
- More people are using video conferencing services.
- Many people are contacting family and friends.
- Changed their operations to be able to teach.
- The platform would help millions around the world.
- Remote work has become necessary for public safety.
- A rapidly growing number of people connect.
- Make sure they have the features they need.
- Users will be able to improve video quality.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. c 2. a 3. a 4. b 5. d 6. b 7. a 8. c 9. d 10. a

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)