

# Breaking News English.com

Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

**"1,000 IDEAS & ACTIVITIES  
FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS"**

[breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html](http://breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html)

**Thousands more free lessons  
from Sean's other websites**

[www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean\\_banville\\_lessons.html](http://www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html)

**Level 2 – 22nd September, 2020**

**Afghan mothers' names allowed on birth certificates**

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200922-birth-certificates-2.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 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

**Twitter**



[twitter.com/SeanBanville](https://twitter.com/SeanBanville)

**Facebook**



[www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176](https://www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176)

# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200922-birth-certificates-2.html>

Women's rights in Afghanistan got a rare victory. For the first time, the names of mothers will be on children's birth certificates, next to the father's name. For hundreds of years, only the father's name was allowed on birth certificates. The Afghan government has just announced a new law for the mother's name to be written on certificates. Campaigners started a social media campaign in 2017 to fight for women's rights to have their names on official documents. In Afghanistan, a woman's name is often not included on wedding invitations.

Afghanistan's Vice-President called the new law "a big step forward for women's rights". The founder of the campaign group said the law was good. She said: "By printing her name, we give the mother power. The law now gives her certain powers to be a mother who can, without the presence of a man...enroll her children in school and travel." Another campaigner said: "My feeling of happiness may seem ridiculous for women in other countries, but when we live in a society where women are...excluded, achieving such basic rights is a big and difficult task."

Sources: <https://womensagenda.com.au/latest/mothers-in-afghanistan-can-now-have-their-names-included-on-their-childrens-birth-certificates/>  
<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-09-18/afghan-government-passes-law-mother-name-birth-certificate/12634162>  
<https://gandhara.rferl.org/a/afghan-president-approves-inclusion-of-mother-s-name-on-id-cards/30845572.html>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200922-birth-certificates-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                |                |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. a rare                      | a. included    |
| 2. For the first               | b. was allowed |
| 3. For hundreds                | c. invitations |
| 4. only the father's name      | d. law         |
| 5. announced a new             | e. documents   |
| 6. official                    | f. time        |
| 7. a woman's name is often not | g. victory     |
| 8. wedding                     | h. of years    |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                     |               |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. a big step                       | a. of a man   |
| 2. The founder of the campaign      | b. task       |
| 3. without the presence             | c. countries  |
| 4. My feeling of happiness may seem | d. rights     |
| 5. for women in other               | e. forward    |
| 6. a society where women are        | f. ridiculous |
| 7. achieving such basic             | g. group      |
| 8. a big and difficult              | h. excluded   |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200922-birth-certificates-2.html>

Women's rights in Afghanistan (1) \_\_\_\_\_ victory. For the first time, the names of mothers will be on children's birth certificates, next to the father's name. For (2) \_\_\_\_\_, only the father's name was allowed on birth certificates. The Afghan government (3) \_\_\_\_\_ a new law for the mother's name to be (4) \_\_\_\_\_. Campaigners started a social media campaign in 2017 to fight for women's (5) \_\_\_\_\_ their names on official documents. In Afghanistan, a woman's name is often (6) \_\_\_\_\_ wedding invitations.

Afghanistan's Vice-President called the new law "a (7) \_\_\_\_\_ for women's rights". The founder of (8) \_\_\_\_\_ said the law was good. She said: "By printing her name, we give the mother power. The law now gives her (9) \_\_\_\_\_ be a mother who can, without the presence of a man... (10) \_\_\_\_\_ in school and travel." Another campaigner said: "My feeling of happiness may (11) \_\_\_\_\_ women in other countries, but when we live in a society where women are...excluded, achieving such basic rights is a (12) \_\_\_\_\_ task."

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200922-birth-certificates-2.html>

Women's rights in Afghanistan got a rare victory. For the first time, the names of mothers will be on children's birth certificates, next to the father's name. For hundreds of years, only the father's name was allowed on birth certificates. The Afghan government has just announced a new law for the mother's name to be written on certificates. Campaigners started a social media campaign in 2017 to fight for women's rights to have their names on official documents. In Afghanistan, a woman's name is often not included on wedding invitations. Afghanistan's Vice-President called the new law "a big step forward for women's rights". The founder of the campaign group said the law was good. She said: "By printing her name, we give the mother power. The law now gives her certain power to be a mother who can, without the presence of a man... enroll her children in school and travel." Another campaigner said: "My feeling of happiness may seem ridiculous for women in other countries, but when we live in a society where women are... excluded, achieving such basic rights is a big and difficult task."

# BIRTH CERTIFICATES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200922-birth-certificates-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about birth certificates 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) \_\_\_\_\_

*Afghan mothers' names allowed on birth certificates – 22nd September, 2020*  
More free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](http://breakingnewsenglish.com)

---

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

# WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200922-birth-certificates-2.html>

Write about **birth certificates** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---