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**Level 2** – 20th October, 2022

## **K-pop stars BTS to do military service**

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221020-bts-military-service-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/2210/221020-bts-military-service-2.html>

The world's most popular boy band will soon be in the army. The South Korean pop group BTS are taking a break from music to do two years' of military service. South Korea is one of the few countries to require men to do this. All able-bodied men aged between 18 and 28 must serve about two years. This is because technically, South Korea is still at war with North Korea. The two nations didn't sign a peace treaty after the Korean War ended in 1953. A BTS spokesperson said the seven band members wanted to do their duty, and "are honoured to serve".

Many people in Korea do not want BTS to do military service. Many Koreans think the band is a national treasure. In 2020, Korea's government said BTS could delay their military service until they are 30 years old. The oldest member is currently 29. BTS have brought a lot of global attention to Korea. They have also received praise for speaking about mental health issues. South Korea's defence minister said it could be possible for BTS to get together in the army. He said: "There could be a way to give them a chance to practice and perform together."

Sources: <https://www.theguardian.com/music/2022/oct/17/bts-k-pop-members-military-service-south-korea>  
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-63282589>  
<https://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20221017000727>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221020-bts-military-service-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| 1. BTS are taking a                     | a. ended in 1953        |
| 2. one of the few countries to require  | b. break from music     |
| 3. All able-bodied                      | c. their duty           |
| 4. technically, South Korea is still at | d. men to do this       |
| 5. The two nations didn't sign          | e. serve                |
| 6. the Korean War                       | f. war with North Korea |
| 7. band members wanted to do            | g. men                  |
| 8. honoured to                          | h. a peace treaty       |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                     |                         |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. the band is a national           | a. issues               |
| 2. BTS could delay their            | b. them a chance        |
| 3. BTS have brought a lot of global | c. military service     |
| 4. They have also received          | d. perform together     |
| 5. speaking about mental health     | e. attention to Korea   |
| 6. possible for BTS to get          | f. praise               |
| 7. There could be a way to give     | g. treasure             |
| 8. practice and                     | h. together in the army |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221020-bts-military-service-2.html>

The world's most popular (1) \_\_\_\_\_ soon be in the army. The South Korean pop group BTS are (2) \_\_\_\_\_ from music to do two years' of military service. South Korea is one of the few countries (3) \_\_\_\_\_ to do this. All able-bodied men aged between 18 and 28 must serve about two years. This is because technically, South Korea is (4) \_\_\_\_\_ with North Korea. The two nations didn't sign a peace treaty after the Korean War (5) \_\_\_\_\_. A BTS spokesperson said the seven band members wanted to (6) \_\_\_\_\_, and "are honoured to serve".

Many people in Korea do not want BTS to do military service. Many Koreans think the band is (7) \_\_\_\_\_. In 2020, Korea's government said BTS (8) \_\_\_\_\_ military service until they are 30 years old. The oldest member is currently 29. BTS have (9) \_\_\_\_\_ of global attention to Korea. They have also (10) \_\_\_\_\_ speaking about mental health issues. South Korea's defence minister said it could (11) \_\_\_\_\_ BTS to get together in the army. He said: "There could be a way to give them (12) \_\_\_\_\_ practice and perform together."

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221020-bts-military-service-2.html>

The world's most popular boy band will soon be in the army. The South Korean pop group BTS are taking a break from music to do two years' of military service. South Korea is one of the few countries to require men to do this. All able-bodied men aged between 18 and 28 must serve about two years. This is because technically, South Korea is still at war with North Korea. The two nations didn't sign a peace treaty after the Korean War ended in 1953. A BTS spokesperson said these seven band members wanted to do their duty, and "are honoured to serve". Many people in Korea do not want BTS to do military service. Many Koreans think the band is a national treasure. In 2020, Korea's government said BTS could delay their military service until they are 30 years old. The oldest member is currently 29. BTS have brought a lot of global attention to Korea. They have also received praise for speaking about mental health issues. South Korea's defence minister said it could be possible for BTS to get together in the army. He said: "There could be a way to give them a chance to practice and perform together."

# MILITARY SERVICE SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221020-bts-military-service-2.html>

Write five GOOD questions about military service 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) \_\_\_\_\_

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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) \_\_\_\_\_

