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Level 5 – 15th January 2024

Love is a drug called dopamine, say scientists

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240115-dopamine-and-love-5.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 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240115-dopamine-and-love-5.html>

Songwriters and novelists have long-claimed that love is a drug. Scientists have gone a step further to prove this. They conducted tests on the romantic relationships of prairie voles. Different pairs of the mouse-like animals were tested for levels of dopamine. This plays a role in our seeking pleasure and addictive things. The researchers said the voles released a lot of dopamine when they were with their "established partner". Dr Zoe Donaldson said parts of the voles' brains lit up "like a glow stick" when they were reunited with their mates.

The study helps to explain more about how complex human relationships are. It says dopamine plays a key part when falling in love, and in the sadness when breaking up with a partner. Dr Donaldson said: "Our entire social world is basically defined by different degrees of selective desire to interact with different people, whether it's your romantic partner or your close friends." She added: "Certain people leave a unique chemical imprint on our brain that drives us to maintain these bonds over time." Research also suggests that women get over breakups faster than men.

Sources: <https://www.theguardian.com/science/2024/jan/12/biological-changes-in-brain-may-help-in-getting-over-an-ex-study-finds>
<https://nypost.com/2024/01/12/lifestyle/yes-you-will-get-over-being-dumped-were-wired-to-bounce-back/>
<https://medicalxpress.com/news/2024-01-neuroscientists-chemical-imprint-desire.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240115-dopamine-and-love-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. novelists have long-claimed | a. addictive things |
| 2. Scientists have gone | b. of prairie voles |
| 3. the romantic relationships | c. dopamine |
| 4. Different pairs of the mouse- | d. lit up |
| 5. tested for levels of | e. that love is a drug |
| 6. seeking pleasure and | f. with their mates |
| 7. parts of the voles' brains | g. a step further |
| 8. when they were reunited | h. like animals |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. how complex human | a. bonds over time |
| 2. It says dopamine plays a | b. with a partner |
| 3. falling | c. breakups faster |
| 4. breaking up | d. key part |
| 5. interact with | e. brain that drives us |
| 6. a unique chemical imprint on our | f. in love |
| 7. maintain these | g. different people |
| 8. women get over | h. relationships are |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240115-dopamine-and-love-5.html>

Songwriters and novelists have (1) _____ love is a drug. Scientists have gone a step (2) _____ this. They conducted tests on the romantic relationships of prairie voles. Different pairs of the (3) _____ were tested for levels of dopamine. This plays a role in our seeking pleasure (4) _____. The researchers said the voles released a lot of dopamine when they were with (5) _____. Dr Zoe Donaldson said parts of the voles' brains lit up "like a glow stick" when they (6) _____ their mates.

The study helps to explain more about (7) _____ relationships are. It says dopamine plays (8) _____ when falling in love, and in the sadness when breaking up with a partner. Dr Donaldson said: "Our (9) _____ is basically defined by different degrees of selective desire to interact with different people, whether it's (10) _____ or your close friends." She added: "Certain people leave a (11) _____ on our brain that drives us to maintain these bonds over time." Research also suggests that women (12) _____ faster than men.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240115-dopamine-and-love-5.html>

Songwriters and novelists have long claimed that love is a drug. Scientists have gone a step further to prove this. They conducted tests on the romantic relationships of prairie voles. Different pairs of the mouse-like animals were tested for levels of dopamine. This plays a role in our seeking pleasure and addictive things. The researchers said the voles released a lot of dopamine when they were with their "established partner". Dr Zoe Donaldson said parts of the voles' brains lit up "like a glow stick" when they were reunited with their mates. The study helps to explain more about how complex human relationships are. It says dopamine plays a key part when falling in love, and in the sadness when breaking up with a partner. Dr Donaldson said: "Our entire social world is basically defined by different degrees of selective desire to interact with different people, whether it's your romantic partner or your close friends." She added: "Certain people leave a unique chemical imprint on our brain that drives us to maintain these bonds over time." Research also suggests that women get over breakups faster than men.

LOVE SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240115-dopamine-and-love-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about love 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) _____

WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240115-dopamine-and-love-5.html>

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