

Breaking News English.com

Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

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

breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html

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

www.freematerials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html

Level 3 – 30th May 2024

UK leader wants national service for 18-year-olds

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2405/240530-national-service.html>

Contents

The Article	2	Discussion (Student-Created Qs)	15
Warm-Ups	3	Language Work (Cloze)	16
Vocabulary	4	Spelling	17
Before Reading / Listening	5	Put The Text Back Together	18
Gap Fill	6	Put The Words In The Right Order	19
Match The Sentences And Listen	7	Circle The Correct Word	20
Listening Gap Fill	8	Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u)	21
Comprehension Questions	9	Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals	22
Multiple Choice - Quiz	10	Put A Slash (/) Where The Spaces Are	23
Role Play	11	Free Writing	24
After Reading / Listening	12	Academic Writing	25
Student Survey	13	Homework	26
Discussion (20 Questions)	14	Answers	27

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

Twitter



twitter.com/SeanBanville

Facebook



www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176

THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2405/240530-national-service.html>

The UK leader has a plan to introduce national service for 18-year-olds. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak says he will introduce compulsory national service if his party wins the UK election on July the 4th. Under his plan, young people will have two choices when they become 18. The first choice is to spend one year in the army, navy or air force. The government thinks about 30,000 people will choose to do this. The second option is to do voluntary work for one weekend a month. This means volunteering to work with Britain's National Health Service, ambulance service, fire service, or in local communities. Mr Sunak said young people will gain valuable skills, and help to "build a stronger national culture".

Rishi Sunak's plan has been attacked by many people. Various experts say it is too expensive, and that the UK does not have enough staff to train 30,000 army volunteers. Many defence experts say the idea is unworkable. Admiral Alan West, a former navy head, said: "I'm delighted if more young people become aware of defence...but this idea is...bonkers." He believes the government needs to spend more money on defence. He says national service will "suck" money out of defence. Many young people disagree with the plan. They believe it takes away their freedom. However, one 17-year-old said it will give many young people a purpose. She said national service works well in dozens of countries.

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c9xx1w48wjdo>
<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/article/2024/may/26/rishi-sunaks-national-service-pledge-is-bonkers-says-ex-military-chief>
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2024/05/27/national-service-rishi-sunak-memes-election/>

WARM-UPS

1. NATIONAL SERVICE: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about national service. 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?

leader / national service / election / choice / army / navy / air force / health service / experts / volunteers / defence / delighted / government / freedom / purpose / plan

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

3. VOLUNTARY WORK: Students A **strongly** believe all people should do voluntary work for one year; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. MILITARY CAREER: What do you think of these jobs in the military? What are the good and bad things about them? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What I Think	Good Things	Bad Things
Soldier			
Sailor			
Helicopter pilot			
Jet pilot			
Tank driver			
Submariner			

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

6. VOLUNTEER: Rank these with your partner. Put the best things to volunteer for at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- In hospitals
- In schools
- With old people
- Picking up litter
- Care worker
- Helping animals
- Counselling
- Teaching English

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| 1. introduce | a. Something you do because you want to, not because you have to. |
| 2. national service | b. Something you must do because it is a rule or it is the law. |
| 3. compulsory | c. Work for the country (often in the army) that young people have to do. |
| 4. choice | d. Worth a lot of money, or very useful. |
| 5. voluntary | e. Start a new plan, law or action. |
| 6. local | f. The act of picking between two or more things. |
| 7. valuable | g. About the area around you or your house. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 8. various | h. People who know a lot about a special subject. |
| 9. experts | i. The part of a country's military that fights at sea. |
| 10. train | j. The reason for doing something. |
| 11. former | k. Teach someone how to do something well. |
| 12. navy | l. Crazy or very silly. |
| 13. bonkers | m. Having had a position, job or role in the past. |
| 14. purpose | n. Different kinds or types of something. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2405/240530-national-service.html>

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

1. The U.K. will introduce national service on the 4th of July. **T / F**
2. Young people can choose one of two options for national service. **T / F**
3. The government thinks 30,000 people will join the air force. **T / F**
4. Rishi Sunak said young people will learn about national cultures. **T / F**
5. Experts say there is a shortage of staff to train 30,000 army volunteers. **T / F**
6. A defence expert suggested the national service plan would not work. **T / F**
7. The expert said the plan would take money away from defence. **T / F**
8. A 17-year-old said national service was a failure in many countries. **T / F**

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

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| 1. introduce | a. specialists |
| 2. compulsory | b. get |
| 3. choices | c. nations |
| 4. gain | d. motivation |
| 5. valuable | e. required |
| 6. experts | f. precious |
| 7. bonkers | g. start |
| 8. freedom | h. crazy |
| 9. purpose | i. liberty |
| 10. countries | j. options |

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

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. a plan to introduce | a. expensive |
| 2. if his party wins | b. do voluntary work |
| 3. The first choice is to spend | c. dozens of countries |
| 4. The second option is to | d. one year in the army |
| 5. young people will gain | e. away their freedom |
| 6. Various experts say it is too | f. is unworkable |
| 7. the UK does not have enough | g. national service |
| 8. defence experts say the idea | h. valuable skills |
| 9. it takes | i. staff |
| 10. works well in | j. the UK election |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2405/240530-national-service.html>

The UK leader has a plan to (1) _____ national service for 18-year-olds. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak says he will introduce compulsory national service if his (2) _____ wins the UK election on July the 4th. Under his plan, young people will have two (3) _____ when they become 18. The first choice is to (4) _____ one year in the army, navy or air force. The government thinks about 30,000 people will choose to do this. The second (5) _____ is to do voluntary work for one weekend a month. This means (6) _____ to work with Britain's National Health Service, ambulance service, fire service, or in (7) _____ communities. Mr Sunak said young people will gain (8) _____ skills, and help to "build a stronger national culture".

choices
local
option
valuable
party
introduce
spend
volunteering

Rishi Sunak's plan has been attacked by many people. Various (9) _____ say it is too expensive, and that the UK does not have enough staff to (10) _____ 30,000 army volunteers. Many defence experts say the idea is (11) _____. Admiral Alan West, a former navy head, said: "I'm delighted if more young people become aware of defence...but this (12) _____ is...bonkers." He believes the government needs to spend more money on defence. He says national service will "(13) _____" money out of defence. Many young people (14) _____ with the plan. They believe it takes away their (15) _____. However, one 17-year-old said it will give many young people a purpose. She said national service works well in (16) _____ of countries.

idea
train
disagree
experts
suck
dozens
unworkable
freedom

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2405/240530-national-service.html>

- 1) he will introduce compulsory national service if his party wins _____
 - a. the UK ejection
 - b. the UK elation
 - c. the UK election
 - d. the UK relation
- 2) The first choice is to spend one year in the army, navy _____
 - a. or hair force
 - b. or ear force
 - c. or air force
 - d. aura force
- 3) The second option is to do voluntary work _____
 - a. for once weekend
 - b. for one weekend
 - c. for only weekend
 - d. for won weekend
- 4) Britain's National Health Service, ambulance service, fire service, or _____
 - a. in local communities
 - b. in locals communities
 - c. in locally communities
 - d. in locale communities
- 5) young people will gain valuable skills, and help to build a _____
 - a. stronger national couture
 - b. stronger national vulture
 - c. stronger national cult your
 - d. stronger national culture
- 6) Various experts say it is too expensive, and that the UK does not _____
 - a. have enough stuff
 - b. have enough staff
 - c. have enough stiff
 - d. have enough stove
- 7) Many defence experts say the _____
 - a. ideal is unworkable
 - b. idea is unworkable
 - c. ideas is unworkable
 - d. i-deer is unworkable
- 8) I'm delighted if more young people become aware of defence...but this _____
 - a. idea is...bonkers
 - b. idea is...conkers
 - c. idea is...stinkers
 - d. idea is...bankers
- 9) money on defence. He says national service will _____
 - a. stuck money out
 - b. suck money out
 - c. sack money out
 - d. sick money out
- 10) She said national service works well in _____
 - a. dozen of countries
 - b. dozens of countries
 - c. dozens of country
 - d. doze ends of countries

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2405/240530-national-service.html>

The UK leader has a (1) _____ national service for 18-year-olds. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak says (2) _____ compulsory national service if his party wins the UK election on July the 4th. Under his plan, young people will have (3) _____ they become 18. The first choice is to spend one year in the army, navy or air force. The government thinks about 30,000 people will (4) _____ this. The second option is to do voluntary work for one weekend a month. This means (5) _____ with Britain's National Health Service, ambulance service, fire service, or in local communities. Mr Sunak said young people will (6) _____, and help to "build a stronger national culture".

Rishi Sunak's plan has (7) _____ many people. Various experts say it is too expensive, and that the UK does not have enough staff to train 30,000 army volunteers. Many defence experts say the (8) _____. Admiral Alan West, a former navy head, said: "I'm delighted if more young people (9) _____ defence...but this idea is...bonkers." He believes the government needs to spend more money on defence. He says national service (10) _____ out of defence. Many young people disagree with the plan. They believe it takes (11) _____. However, one 17-year-old said it will give many young people a purpose. She said national service works (12) _____ of countries.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2405/240530-national-service.html>

1. What must Rishi Sunak win to start the national service plan?
2. How many choices will 18-year-olds have?
3. How many people does the government think will do military service?
4. What kind of communities can people do voluntary work in?
5. What did Rishi Sunak say young people can gain?
6. What does the UK not have enough of?
7. What job did Admiral Alan West used to do?
8. What does Alan West say the government needed to spend money on?
9. What do many people say will be taken away from them?
10. In how many countries did a 17-year-old say national service worked?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2405/240530-national-service.html>

- 1) What must Rishi Sunak win to start the national service plan?
 - a) money
 - b) the UK election
 - c) the lottery
 - d) in love
- 2) How many choices will 18-year-olds have?
 - a) five
 - b) three
 - c) two
 - d) many
- 3) How many people does the government think will do military service?
 - a) 60,000
 - b) 50,000
 - c) 40,000
 - d) 30,000
- 4) What kind of communities can people do voluntary work in?
 - a) big communities
 - b) local communities
 - c) friendly communities
 - d) gated communities
- 5) What did Rishi Sunak say young people can gain?
 - a) valuable skills
 - b) weight
 - c) an advantage
 - d) money
- 6) What does the UK not have enough of?
 - a) staff
 - b) money
 - c) people
 - d) houses
- 7) What job did Admiral Alan West used to do?
 - a) He was a fighter pilot.
 - b) He was a journalist.
 - c) Army head
 - d) Navy head
- 8) What does Alan West say the government needed to spend money on?
 - a) young people
 - b) roads
 - c) defence
 - d) education
- 9) What do many people say will be taken away from them?
 - a) their youth
 - b) their smartphones
 - c) their dreams
 - d) their freedom
- 10) In how many countries did a 17-year-old say national service worked?
 - a) scores
 - b) dozens
 - c) 37
 - d) hundreds

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2405/240530-national-service.html>

Role A – Hospitals

You think hospitals are the best places to do voluntary work. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their places. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): schools, care homes or farms.

Role B – Schools

You think schools are the best places to do voluntary work. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their places. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): hospitals, care homes or farms.

Role C – Care Homes

You think care homes are the best places to do voluntary work. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their places. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): schools, hospitals or farms.

Role D – Farms

You think farms are the best places to do voluntary work. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their places. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): schools, care homes or hospitals.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2405/240530-national-service.html>

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

national	service
-----------------	----------------

- 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">• introduce• party• two• second• fire• gain	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• attacked• various• former• spend• believe• dozens
--	--

NATIONAL SERVICE SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2405/240530-national-service.html>

Write five GOOD questions about national 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.

NATIONAL SERVICE 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 'national'?
3. What do you think of national service?
4. How can 18-year-olds help their country?
5. Is 18 the best age to be?
6. Would you choose to join the army, navy or air force?
7. Would you prefer to do military service or community work?
8. Is voluntary work for one weekend a month enough?
9. How can you help your local community?
10. What can you do to build your country's culture?

UK leader wants national service for 18-year-olds – 30th May 2024
Thousands more free lessons at breakingnewsenglish.com

NATIONAL SERVICE 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 'service'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. How much should a country spend on its army?
15. Is it more important to spend money on defence or education?
16. How would you feel about doing a year in the army?
17. Do you have enough freedom?
18. Does national service take away someone's freedom?
19. Should all young people spend time in the military?
20. What questions would you like to ask the UK leader?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

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

Copyright © breakingnewsenglish.com 2024

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/2405/240530-national-service.html>

The UK leader has a plan (1) _____ introduce national service for 18-year-olds. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak says he will introduce compulsory national service if his party (2) _____ the UK election on July the 4th. (3) _____ his plan, young people will have two choices when they become 18. The first (4) _____ is to spend one year in the army, navy or air force. The government thinks about 30,000 people will choose to do this. The second option is to (5) _____ voluntary work for one weekend a month. This means volunteering to work with Britain's National Health Service, ambulance service, fire service, or in local communities. Mr Sunak said young people will (6) _____ valuable skills, and help to "build a stronger national culture".

Rishi Sunak's plan has been attacked (7) _____ many people. Various experts say it is too expensive, and that the UK does not have enough staff to (8) _____ 30,000 army volunteers. Many defence experts say the idea is unworkable. Admiral Alan West, a former navy head, said: "I'm (9) _____ if more young people become aware of defence...but this idea is...bonkers." He believes the government needs to spend more money on defence. He says national service will "(10) _____" money out of defence. Many young people disagree with the plan. They believe it takes (11) _____ their freedom. However, one 17-year-old said it will give many young people a purpose. She said national service works well in (12) _____ of countries.

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) as | (b) for | (c) to | (d) at |
| 2. | (a) wins | (b) win | (c) winning | (d) winnings |
| 3. | (a) Under | (b) Below | (c) Beneath | (d) Less |
| 4. | (a) choice | (b) chose | (c) chosen | (d) choosing |
| 5. | (a) be | (b) do | (c) take | (d) volunteer |
| 6. | (a) be | (b) seal | (c) fail | (d) gain |
| 7. | (a) of | (b) at | (c) by | (d) as |
| 8. | (a) rail | (b) car | (c) shunt | (d) train |
| 9. | (a) delighted | (b) delights | (c) delighting | (d) delightful |
| 10. | (a) suck | (b) ice | (c) cover | (d) row |
| 11. | (a) on | (b) away | (c) up | (d) to |
| 12. | (a) denizens | (b) dozen | (c) dozens | (d) dozes |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2405/240530-national-service.html>

Paragraph 1

1. introduce oupscrylmo national service
2. young people will have two oeicshc
3. The second pnioto
4. in local ietmcnmuios
5. people will gain auallvbe skills
6. build a stronger national clruute

Paragraph 2

7. aktecatd by many people
8. it is too xensepiev
9. 30,000 army euoelsntvr
10. Many young people earedsgi with the plan
11. give many young people a suopepr
12. in sezdon of countries

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2405/240530-national-service.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () people will have two choices when they become 18. The first choice is to spend one year in the army,
- () said young people will gain valuable skills, and help to "build a stronger national culture".
- () year-old said it will give many young people a purpose. She said national service works well in dozens of countries.
- () navy or air force. The government thinks about 30,000 people will choose to do this. The second
- () experts say the idea is unworkable. Admiral Alan West, a former navy head, said: "I'm
- () expensive, and that the UK does not have enough staff to train 30,000 army volunteers. Many defence
- (**1**) The UK leader has a plan to introduce national service for 18-year-olds. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak says he will
- () introduce compulsory national service if his party wins the UK election on July the 4th. Under his plan, young
- () disagree with the plan. They believe it takes away their freedom. However, one 17-
- () Rishi Sunak's plan has been attacked by many people. Various experts say it is too
- () National Health Service, ambulance service, fire service, or in local communities. Mr Sunak
- () to spend more money on defence. He says national service will "suck" money out of defence. Many young people
- () delighted if more young people become aware of defence...but this idea is...bonkers." He believes the government needs
- () option is to do voluntary work for one weekend a month. This means volunteering to work with Britain's

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2405/240530-national-service.html>

1. If the his wins party UK election .
2. 18 . will have they People choices become when
3. do voluntary second to work . The is option
4. skills . valuable people will young Sunak said gain
5. Help build stronger a national to culture .
6. is experts expensive . Various it too say
7. not have enough The does staff . UK
8. The spend more money . needs to government
9. young the people disagree with plan . Many
10. will give purpose . It a young many people

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2405/240530-national-service.html>

The UK leader has a plan to *introduction / introduce* national service for 18-year-olds. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak says he will introduce compulsory national service if his *event / party* wins the UK election on July the 4th. *Under / Below* his plan, young people will have two *chooses / choices* when they become 18. The first choice is *for / to* spend one year in the army, navy or air *fierce / force*. The government thinks about 30,000 people will choose to do this. The second *caption / option* is to do voluntary work for one weekend *a / the* month. This means volunteering to work with Britain's National Health Service, ambulance service, fire service, or in *local / locally* communities. Mr Sunak said young people will gain valuable skills, and help to "build a *strengthen / stronger* national culture".

Rishi Sunak's plan has been attacked *by / for* many people. Various experts say it is too expensive, and that the UK does not have enough *stuff / staff* to train 30,000 army volunteers. Many defence *expats / experts* say the *idea / ideal* is unworkable. Admiral Alan West, a former navy head, said: "I'm delighted if more young people become *beware / aware* of defence...but this idea is...bonkers." He believes the government needs to spend *most / more* money on defence. He says national service will "*stuck / suck*" money out of defence. Many young people disagree with the plan. They *belief / believe* it takes away their freedom. However, one 17-year-old said it will *giving / give* many young people a purpose. She said national service works well in *dozens / dozen* of countries.

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

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

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2405/240530-national-service.html>

Th_ _K l__d_r h_s _ pl_n t_ _ntr_d_c_ n_t__n_l s_rv_c_ f_r 18-y__r-_lds. Pr_m_ M_n_st_r R_sh_ S_n_k s_ys h_ w_ll _ntr_d_c_ c_mp_ls_ry n_t__n_l s_rv_c_ _f h_s p_rty w_ns th_ _K l_ct__n _n J_ly th_ 4th. _nd_r h_s pl_n, y__ng p__pl_ w_ll h_v_ tw_ ch__c_s wh_n th_y b_c_m_ 18. Th_ f_rst ch__c_ _s t_ sp_nd _n_ y__r _n th_ _rmy, n_vy _r __r f_rc_. Th_ g_v_rnm_nt th_nks _b__t 30,000 p__pl_ w_ll ch__s_ t_ d_ th_s. Th_ s_c_nd _pt__n _s t_ d_ v_l_nt_ry w_rk f_r _n_ w__k_nd _ m_nth. Th_s m__ns v_l_nt__r_ng t_ w_rk w_th Br_t__n's N_t__n_l H__lth S_rv_c_, _mb_l_nc_ s_rv_c_, f_r_ s_rv_c_, _r _n l_c_l c_mm_n_t__s. Mr S_n_k s__d y__ng p__pl_ w_ll g__n v_l__bl_ sk_lls, _nd h_lp t_ "b__ld _ strng_r n_t__n_l c_lt_r_".

R_sh_ S_n_k's pl_n h_s b__n _tt_ck_d by m_ny p__pl_. V_r__s _xp_rts s_y _t _s t__ _xp_ns_v_, _nd th_t th_ _K d__s n_t h_v_ _n__gh st_ff t_ tr__n 30,000 _rmy v_l_nt__rs. M_ny d_f_nc_ _xp_rts s_y th_ _d__ _s _nw_rk_bl_. _dm_r_l _l_n W_st, _ f_rm_r n_vy h__d, s__d: "'m d_l_ght_d _f m_r_ y__ng p__pl_ b_c_m_ _w_r_ _f d_f_nc_...b_t th_s _d__ _s...b_nk_rs." H_ b_l__v_s th_ g_v_rnm_nt n__ds t_ sp_nd m_r_ m_n_y _n d_f_nc_. H_ s_ys n_t__n_l s_rv_c_ w_ll "s_ck" m_ny __t _f d_f_nc_. M_ny y__ng p__pl_ d_s_gr__ w_th th_ pl_n. Th_y b_l__v_ _t t_k_s _w_y th__r fr__d_m. H_w_v_r, _n_ 17-y__r-_ld s__d _t w_ll g_v_ m_ny y__ng p__pl_ _ p_rps_. Sh_ s__d n_t__n_l s_rv_c_ w_rks w_ll _n d_z_ns _f c__ntr__s.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2405/240530-national-service.html>

the uk leader has a plan to introduce national service for 18-year-olds prime minister rishi sunak says he will introduce compulsory national service if his party wins the uk election on july the 4th under his plan young people will have two choices when they become 18 the first choice is to spend one year in the army navy or air force the government thinks about 30000 people will choose to do this the second option is to do voluntary work for one weekend a month this means volunteering to work with britains national health service ambulance service fire service or in local communities mr sunak said young people will gain valuable skills and help to build a stronger national culture

rishi sunaks plan has been attacked by many people various experts say it is too expensive and that the uk does not have enough staff to train 30000 army volunteers many defence experts say the idea is unworkable admiral alan west a former navy head said im delighted if more young people become aware of defence but this idea is bonkers he believes the government needs to spend more money on defence he says national service will suck money out of defence many young people disagree with the plan they believe it takes away their freedom however one 17-year-old said it will give many young people a purpose she said national service works well in dozens of countries

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2405/240530-national-service.html>

The UK leader has a plan to introduce national service for 18-year-olds. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak says he will introduce compulsory national service if his party wins the UK's election on July the 4th. Under his plan, young people will have two choices when they become 18. The first choice is to spend one year in the army, navy or air force. The government thinks about 30,000 people will choose to do this. The second option is to do voluntary work for one weekend a month. This means volunteering to work with Britain's National Health Service, ambulance service, fire service, or in local communities. Mr Sunak said young people will gain valuable skills, and help to "build a strong national culture". Rishi Sunak's plan has been attacked by many people. Various experts say it is too expensive, and that the UK does not have enough staff to train 30,000 army volunteers. Many defence experts say the idea is unworkable. Admiral Alan West, a former navy head, said: "I'm delighted if more young people become aware of defence... but this idea is... bonkers." He believes the government needs to spend more money on defence. He says national service will "suck" money out of defence. Many young people disagree with the plan. They believe it takes away their freedom. However, one 17-year-old said it will give many young people a purpose. She said national service works well in dozens of countries.

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. VOLUNTARY WORK: Make a poster about voluntary work. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. NATIONAL SERVICE: Write a magazine article about all young people doing national service. 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 national service. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your opinions on national service. 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)

- 1 F 2 T 3 F 4 F 5 T 6 T 7 T 8 F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. The UK election
2. Two
3. 30,000
4. Local communities
5. Valuable skills
6. Staff (to train volunteers)
7. Navy head
8. Defence
9. Their freedom
10. Dozens

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

1. If his party wins the UK election.
2. People will have choices when they become 18.
3. The second option is to do voluntary work.
4. Sunak said young people will gain valuable skills.
5. Help to build a stronger national culture.
6. Various experts say it is too expensive.
7. The UK does not have enough staff.
8. The government needs to spend more money.
9. Many young people disagree with the plan.
10. It will give many young people a purpose.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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