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**Level 0 – 20th February 2025**

**Noise-cancelling headphones may cause hearing problems**

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2502/250220-noise-cancelling-headphones-0.html>

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Please try Levels 1, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2502/250220-noise-cancelling-headphones-0.html>

More young people are wearing headphones. A report from the BBC suggests noise-cancelling earphones could cause hearing problems. The BBC interviewed ear doctors. The doctors said young people are having problems hearing sounds. They can hear sounds, but they're not sure where they are from.

A doctor said many young people are complaining about poor hearing. She said "There is a difference between hearing and listening," and that "listening skills are suffering". We need to hear many sounds so we can decide which ones are important. Headphones mean we can "forget" to hear important sounds.

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cgkjvr7x5x6o>  
<https://nypost.com/2025/02/17/health/doctors-link-noise-canceling-headphones-to-rising-brain-condition/>  
<https://www.ndtv.com/feature/are-noise-cancelling-headphones-causing-hearing-issues-in-young-people-report-reveals-7736886>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2502/250220-noise-cancelling-headphones-0.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                  |                   |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. young people are wearing      | a. sure           |
| 2. A report                      | b. problems       |
| 3. earphones could cause hearing | c. are from       |
| 4. The BBC interviewed           | d. from the BBC   |
| 5. having problems               | e. sounds         |
| 6. They can hear                 | f. headphones     |
| 7. they're not                   | g. hearing sounds |
| 8. where they                    | h. ear doctors    |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                 |                        |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. many young people are        | a. sounds              |
| 2. poor                         | b. and listening       |
| 3. a difference between hearing | c. ones are important  |
| 4. listening skills are         | d. forget              |
| 5. We need                      | e. hearing             |
| 6. we can decide which          | f. to hear many sounds |
| 7. Headphones mean we can       | g. complaining         |
| 8. hear important               | h. suffering           |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2502/250220-noise-cancelling-headphones-0.html>

More (1) \_\_\_\_\_ wearing headphones.

(2) \_\_\_\_\_ the BBC suggests noise-cancelling

earphones could (3) \_\_\_\_\_. The BBC

interviewed ear doctors. The doctors

(4) \_\_\_\_\_ are having

(5) \_\_\_\_\_. They can hear sounds, but they're

(6) \_\_\_\_\_ they are from.

A doctor (77) \_\_\_\_\_ people are complaining

(8) \_\_\_\_\_. She said "There is a difference

between (9) \_\_\_\_\_," and that "listening skills

are suffering". We (10) \_\_\_\_\_ many sounds

so we can (11) \_\_\_\_\_ are important.

Headphones mean we can "forget"

(12) \_\_\_\_\_ sounds.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2502/250220-noise-cancelling-headphones-0.html>

More young people are wearing headphones. A report from the BBC suggests noise-cancelling earphones could cause hearing problems. The BBC interviewed ear doctors. The doctors said young people are having problems hearing sounds. They can hear sounds, but they're not sure where they are from. A doctor said many young people are complaining about poor hearing. She said "There is a difference between hearing and listening, and that listening skills are suffering". We need to hear many sounds so we can decide which ones are important. Headphones mean we can "forget" to hear important sounds.

# HEADPHONES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2502/250220-noise-cancelling-headphones-0.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Headphones 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) \_\_\_\_\_

*Noise-cancelling headphones may cause hearing problems – 20th February 2025*  
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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) \_\_\_\_\_

