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Level 1 – 21st May 2026

Why 90 per cent of humans are right-handed

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com2605/260521-being-right-handed-1.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com2605/260521-being-right-handed-1.html>

Around 90 per cent of people are right-handed.

Researchers believe the answer is because of two areas of human evolution. The first is walking on two legs; the other is our large brain. When humans first walked on two legs, their hands were free to do many things. We started doing many things with our hands. If most people used the same hand, it was easier to do things like use tools, hunt, cook, and work together.

Scientists wondered why only humans are largely right-handed, but monkeys use both hands equally. The researchers compared human behaviour with monkey behaviour. The research showed that humans have longer legs compared to their arms. A researcher said: "By looking across many primate species, we can begin to understand which aspects of handedness are ancient and shared, and which are uniquely human."

Sources: <https://www.popsci.com/science/human-right-handed-leg-evolution/>
<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2026/05/260517211429.htm>
<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/technology/why-is-almost-everyone-right-handed-the-answer-may-lie-in-how-we-learned-to-walk/ar-AA23iiAz>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2605/260521-being-right-handed-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Around 90 per cent | a. evolution |
| 2. the answer is because of two | b. hand |
| 3. human | c. areas |
| 4. When humans first walked | d. free |
| 5. their hands were | e. together |
| 6. do many | f. on two legs |
| 7. most people used the same | g. things |
| 8. hunt, cook, and work | h. of people |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Scientists wondered | a. right-handed |
| 2. only humans are largely | b. human |
| 3. monkeys use both | c. legs |
| 4. human | d. hands equally |
| 5. humans have longer | e. to their arms |
| 6. compared | f. why |
| 7. we can begin to | g. behaviour |
| 8. uniquely | h. understand |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2605/260521-being-right-handed-1.html>

Around 90 per cent (1) _____ right-handed. Researchers believe (2) _____ because of (3) _____ human evolution. The first is walking on two legs; the (4) _____ large brain. When humans first walked on two legs, their hands were free to do many things. We started doing many things (5) _____. If most people used the same hand, it was easier to do things like use tools, hunt, (6) _____ together.

Scientists wondered (7) _____ are largely right-handed, but (8) _____ hands equally. The researchers compared human behaviour with monkey behaviour. The research showed that humans (9) _____ compared to their arms. A researcher said: "By (10) _____ primate species, we can (11) _____ which aspects of handedness are ancient and shared, (12) _____ uniquely human."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2605/260521-being-right-handed-1.html>

Around 90 percent of people are right-handed. Researchers believe the answer is because of two areas of human evolution. The first is walking on two legs; the other is our large brain. When humans first walked on two legs, their hands were free to do many things. We started doing many things with our hands. If most people used the same hand, it was easier to do things like use tools, hunt, cook, and work together. Scientists wondered why only humans are largely right-handed, but monkeys use both hands equally. The researchers compared human behaviour with monkey behaviour. The research showed that humans have longer legs compared to their arms. A researcher said: "By looking across many primate species, we can begin to understand which aspects of handedness are ancient and shared, and which are uniquely human."

BEING RIGHT-HANDED SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2605/260521-being-right-handed-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about being right-handed 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) _____

