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Level 2 – 21st May 2026

Why 90 per cent of humans are right-handed

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com2605/260521-being-right-handed-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/2605/260521-being-right-handed-2.html>

Around 90 per cent of people are right-handed. Scientists have spent years trying to find out why. Researchers in the UK believe the answer is because of two areas of human evolution. The first is walking on two legs; the other is the large size of our brain. When humans first walked on two legs, their hands were free to do things. Our brain worked out many things to do with our hands. If most people used the same hand, using tools and working with other people became easier. It was useful for doing things like hunting and cooking.

Scientists wondered why only humans are largely right-handed. Monkeys and apes use both hands equally. The researchers compared human behaviour and brain patterns with monkeys and apes. The research showed that humans have longer legs compared to their arm length. Another reason is the left side of the brain controls the right hand. It is responsible for coordination. 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.popsoci.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-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Around 90 per cent | a. areas |
| 2. Scientists have spent years | b. of our brain |
| 3. the answer is because of two | c. hunting and cooking |
| 4. human | d. the same hand |
| 5. the large size | e. of people |
| 6. their hands were free to | f. evolution |
| 7. most people used | g. trying to find out |
| 8. doing things like | h. do things |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| 1. Scientists wondered | a. the right hand |
| 2. only humans are largely | b. equally |
| 3. apes use both hands | c. behaviour |
| 4. human | d. understand which |
| 5. brain | e. right-handed |
| 6. the left side of the brain controls | f. patterns |
| 7. It is responsible | g. why |
| 8. we can begin to | h. for coordination |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2605/260521-being-right-handed-2.html>

Around 90 per cent (1) _____ right-handed. Scientists have spent years trying (2) _____ why. Researchers in the UK believe (3) _____ because of two areas of human evolution. The first is walking on two legs; the other is the (4) _____ our brain. When humans first walked on two legs, their hands were free to do things. Our brain worked out many things (5) _____ our hands. If most people used the same hand, using tools and working with other people became easier. It was (6) _____ things like hunting and cooking.

Scientists wondered why only (7) _____ right-handed. Monkeys and apes use both hands equally. The researchers compared human behaviour (8) _____ with monkeys and apes. The research showed that humans have longer legs (9) _____ arm length. Another reason is the left side of the brain (10) _____ hand. It is responsible for coordination. A researcher said: "By looking across many primate species, we (11) _____ understand which aspects of handedness are ancient and shared, and (12) _____ human."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2605/260521-being-right-handed-2.html>

Around 90 percent of people are right-handed. Scientists have spent years trying to find out why. Researchers in the UK believe the answer is because of two areas of human evolution. The first is walking on two legs; the other is the large size of our brain. When humans first walked on two legs, their hands were free to do things. Our brain worked out many things to do with our hands. If most people used the same hand, using tools and working with other people became easier. It was useful for doing things like hunting and cooking. Scientists wondered why only humans are largely right-handed. Monkeys and apes use both hands equally. The researchers compared human behaviour and brain patterns with monkeys and apes. Their research showed that humans have longer legs compared to their arm length. Another reason is the left side of the brain controls the right hand. It is responsible for coordination. 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-2.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) _____

