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Level 4

Being bilingual may delay dementia

12th November, 2013

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1311/131112-bilingualism-4.html>

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Please try the harder Level 5 and the 26-page Level 6 (harder).

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1311/131112-bilingualism-4.html>

A study shows that being bilingual may delay dementia by five years. Researchers found that bilingual people showed far fewer signs of dementia than monolingual people. Dr. Thomas Bak said: "Bilingualism can be seen as a successful brain training...which can help delay dementia." Speaking two languages keeps the brain in better health. It also helps to keep diseases like Alzheimer's away for longer than in monolingual people.

Dr Bak said the bilingualism-dementia link had little to do with social status, gender, occupation or education. Bak studied the medical records of 648 Indians with dementia. Of these, 391 were bilingual and many were illiterate. Bak found that many illiterate, bilingual people who have never attended any school showed fewer signs of dementia. He suggested that learning a language could keep the brain healthier, because it's fun and trains your brain.

Sources: <http://www.webmd.com/alzheimers/news/20131106/speaking-two-languages-may-delay-dementia-symptoms>
<http://www.newscientist.com/article/dn24537-learn-another-language-to-delay-three-dementias.html#.Un8hd40hYZ4>
<http://www.neurology.org/content/early/2013/11/06/01.wnl.0000436620.33155.a4>

MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1311/131112-bilingualism-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. being bilingual may delay dementia | a. the brain in better health |
| 2. bilingual people showed far | b. monolingual people |
| 3. successful brain | c. Alzheimer's away |
| 4. Speaking two languages keeps | d. by five years |
| 5. helps to keep diseases like | e. training |
| 6. for longer than in | f. fewer signs of dementia |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. the bilingualism- | a. with social status |
| 2. little to do | b. attended any school |
| 3. the medical records | c. keep the brain healthier |
| 4. 391 were bilingual and | d. of 648 Indians |
| 5. people who have never | e. dementia link |
| 6. learning a language could | f. many were illiterate |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1311/131112-bilingualism-4.html>

A study shows (1) _____ may delay dementia by five years. Researchers found that bilingual people (2) _____ signs of dementia (3) _____. Dr. Thomas Bak said: "Bilingualism can be seen as a successful brain training... (4) _____ dementia." Speaking two languages (5) _____ better health. It also (6) _____ like Alzheimer's away for longer than in monolingual people.

Dr Bak said the bilingualism-dementia link (7) _____ social status, gender, (8) _____. Bak studied the medical records of 648 Indians with dementia. Of these, (9) _____ and many were illiterate. Bak (10) _____ illiterate, bilingual people who have (11) _____ school showed fewer signs of dementia. He suggested that learning a language could keep the brain healthier, because (12) _____ your brain.

BILINGUALISM SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1311/131112-bilingualism-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about bilingualism 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)

g)

h)

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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)

g)

h)

FREE WRITING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1311/131112-bilingualism-4.html>

Write about **bilingualism** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.
