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Level 5

Parents punished if kids late to school

10th June, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1406/140610-education-standards.html>

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Please try Level 4 (easier) and the 26-page Level 6 (harder).

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1406/140610-education-standards.html>

U.K. parents face punishments if their children are continually late for school. Britain's Education Secretary announced he would crack down on "problem parents". He said too many families fail to "face up to their responsibilities" by getting their children to school on time, and are "ready to learn and show respect for their teacher". Parents already get a \$100 fine if their child is repeatedly late. However, 20,000 of these penalties were unpaid last year, so a tougher penalty system will start. There will also be fines if parents take their children on family vacations during school time.

The plans are all part of raising standards in education, creating incentives for parents to get children to school, and tackling "habitual truancy". The U.K. government said opposition politicians promoted policies that set pupils up to fail and contained "a diet of dumbed-down courses". It said they did not want children to show "grit". It also said opposition policies meant not thinking that children might be intellectually curious or "capable of greatness". Furthermore, the government said such policies created very low expectations for students with ambition and potential.

Sources: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/educationnews/10881955/Gove-to-dock-parents-benefits-for-condoning-truancy.html>
<http://news.sky.com/story/1277284/parents-to-be-punished-for-kids-bad-behaviour>
<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/michael-gove-says-parents-will-3657584#ixzz33waR9YHY>

MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1406/140610-education-standards.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. parents face | a. to their responsibilities |
| 2. children are continually | b. during school time |
| 3. crack down | c. late |
| 4. face up | d. system |
| 5. show respect | e. unpaid last year |
| 6. these penalties were | f. punishments |
| 7. a tougher penalty | g. for their teacher |
| 8. family vacations | h. on "problem parents" |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. all part of raising | a. for parents |
| 2. creating incentives | b. curious |
| 3. tackling habitual | c. politicians |
| 4. opposition | d. and potential |
| 5. set pupils | e. standards in education |
| 6. children might be intellectually | f. expectations |
| 7. such policies created very low | g. truancy |
| 8. students with ambition | h. up to fail |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1406/140610-education-standards.html>

U.K. parents (1) _____ their children are continually late for school. Britain's Education Secretary announced (2) _____ on "problem parents". He said too many families (3) _____ their responsibilities" by getting their children to school on time, and are "ready to learn and (4) _____ their teacher". Parents already get a \$100 fine if their child (5) _____. However, 20,000 of these penalties were unpaid last year, so a tougher penalty system will start. There will also be fines if parents take their children on family vacations (6) _____.

The plans (7) _____ standards in education, creating incentives for parents to get children to school, (8) _____ truancy". The U.K. government said opposition politicians promoted policies that (9) _____ and contained "a diet of dumbed-down courses". It said they did not want children to show "grit". It also said (10) _____ not thinking that children might be intellectually curious or (11) _____. Furthermore, the government said such policies created very low expectations for (12) _____ and potential.

EDUCATION SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1406/140610-education-standards.html>

Write five GOOD questions about education 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)

