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**Level 1** – 30th May 2024

## UK leader wants national service for 18-year-olds

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2405/240530-national-service-1.html>

### Contents

The Reading	2
Phrase Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
No Spaces	5
Survey	6
Writing and Speaking	7
Writing	8

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

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2405/240530-national-service-1.html>

The UK leader wants to start national service for 18-year-olds. Eighteen-year-olds will have two choices. One is to spend a year in the army, navy or air force. About 30,000 people will choose this. The other choice is to do voluntary work for one weekend a month. This means volunteering in the health, ambulance or fire services, or in local communities. The UK leader thinks young people will get useful skills.

Many people attacked the plan. They say it is too expensive. There are not enough staff to train 30,000 army volunteers. A former navy head said the idea was crazy. He says national service will "suck" money out of defence. Many young people think the plan will take their freedom away. However, one teenager says it will give young people a purpose. She said national service works well in many countries.

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c9xx1w48wjdo>  
<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/article/2024/may/26/rishi-sunaks-national-service-pledge-is-bonkers-says-ex-military-chief>  
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2024/05/27/national-service-rishi-sunak-memes-election/>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2405/240530-national-service-1.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                 |                   |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Eighteen-year-olds will have | a. communities    |
| 2. About 30,000 people will     | b. voluntary work |
| 3. The other choice is to do    | c. a month        |
| 4. for one weekend              | d. two choices    |
| 5. ambulance or                 | e. skills         |
| 6. in local                     | f. will           |
| 7. young people                 | g. choose this    |
| 8. get useful                   | h. fire services  |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                |                      |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Many people                 | a. in many countries |
| 2. They say it is too          | b. staff             |
| 3. There are not enough        | c. a purpose         |
| 4. train 30,000                | d. away              |
| 5. suck money                  | e. attacked the plan |
| 6. take their freedom          | f. out of defence    |
| 7. give young people           | g. expensive         |
| 8. national service works well | h. army volunteers   |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2405/240530-national-service-1.html>

The UK (1) \_\_\_\_\_ start national service for 18-year-olds. Eighteen-year-olds will (2) \_\_\_\_\_. One is to spend a year (3) \_\_\_\_\_, navy or air force. About 30,000 people will choose this. The other choice is to do voluntary work for one (4) \_\_\_\_\_. This means volunteering in the health, ambulance (5) \_\_\_\_\_, or in local communities. The UK leader thinks young people will (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

Many people (7) \_\_\_\_\_. They say it is too expensive. There are (8) \_\_\_\_\_ to train 30,000 army volunteers. A former navy head said the idea was crazy. He says national service (9) \_\_\_\_\_ out of defence. Many young people think the plan will (10) \_\_\_\_\_ away. However, one teenager says it (11) \_\_\_\_\_ people a purpose. She said national service works well (12) \_\_\_\_\_.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2405/240530-national-service-1.html>

The UK leader wants to start national service for 18-year-olds. Eighteen-year-olds will have two choices. One is to spend a year in the army, navy or air force. About 30,000 people will choose this. The other choice is to do voluntary work for one weekend a month. This means volunteering in the health, ambulance or fire services, or in local communities. The UK leader thinks young people will get useful skills. Many people attacked the plan. They say it is too expensive. There are not enough staff to train 30,000 army volunteers. A former navy head said the idea was crazy. He says national service will "suck" money out of defence. Many young people think the plan will take their freedom away. However, one teenager says it will give young people a purpose. She said national service works well in many countries.

# NATIONAL SERVICE SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2405/240530-national-service-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about national service 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) \_\_\_\_\_

