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Level 2 – 30th May 2024

UK leader wants national service for 18-year-olds

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2405/240530-national-service-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/2405/240530-national-service-2.html>

The UK wants to start national service for 18-year-olds. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak will introduce national service if his party wins the UK's election in July. Under his plan, 18-year-olds will have two choices. The first is to spend one year in the army, navy or air force. About 30,000 people will choose this. The second option is voluntary work for one weekend a month. This means volunteering in the health service, ambulance service, fire service, or in local communities. Mr Sunak said young people will get useful skills, and help to "build a stronger national culture".

Many people attacked Rishi Sunak's plan. They say it is too expensive, and that there are not enough staff to train 30,000 army volunteers. Admiral Alan West, a former navy head, said: "I'm delighted if more young people become aware of defence...but this idea is...[crazy]." He wants the government to spend more money on defence. 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-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. if his party wins | a. is voluntary work |
| 2. 18-year-olds will have | b. in the army |
| 3. spend one year | c. communities |
| 4. navy or | d. choose this |
| 5. About 30,000 people will | e. national culture |
| 6. The second option | f. the UK's election |
| 7. in local | g. air force |
| 8. help to build a stronger | h. two choices |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

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

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2405/240530-national-service-2.html>

The UK wants to (1) _____ for 18-year-olds. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak will introduce national service if his party wins the UK's election in July. (2) _____, 18-year-olds will have two choices. The first is to spend one year in the army, navy (3) _____. About 30,000 people will choose this. The (4) _____ voluntary work for one weekend a month. This means volunteering in the health service, ambulance service, fire service, or (5) _____. Mr Sunak said young people will get useful skills, and help to "build a (6) _____".

Many people attacked Rishi Sunak's plan. They say it (7) _____, and that there are not enough staff to train 30,000 army volunteers. Admiral Alan West, a former navy head, said: "I'm (8) _____ young people become aware of defence...but this idea is...[crazy]." He wants the government to (9) _____ on defence. He says national service will (10) _____ of defence. Many young people think the plan will take (11) _____. However, one teenager says it will give young (12) _____. She said national service works well in many countries.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2405/240530-national-service-2.html>

The UK wants to start national service for 18-year-olds. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak will introduce national service if his party wins the UK's election in July. Under his plan, 18-year-olds will have two choices. The first is to spend one year in the army, navy or air force. About 30,000 people will choose this. The second option is voluntary work for one weekend a month. This means volunteering in the health service, ambulance service, fire service, or in local communities. Mr Sunak said young people will get useful skills, and help to "build a strong national culture". Many people attacked Rishi Sunak's plan. They say it is too expensive, and that there are not enough staff to train 30,000 army volunteers. Admiral Alan West, a former navy head, said: "I'm delighted if more young people become aware of defence... but this idea is... [crazy]." He wants the government to spend more money on defence. 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-2.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) _____

WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2405/240530-national-service-2.html>

Write about **national service** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.
