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## **UK PM leaves 8-year-old daughter in bar**

**12th June, 2012**

[http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1206/120612-david\\_cameron.html](http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1206/120612-david_cameron.html)

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# THE ARTICLE

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1206/120612-david\\_cameron.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1206/120612-david_cameron.html)

British newspapers have revealed that Prime Minister David Cameron left his eight-year-old daughter in a pub and went home, thinking the little girl was with his wife. His wife Samantha left the pub separately believing her child Nancy to be with her father. Neither Mr nor Mrs Cameron was aware they had left their child behind until they met each other at their house. Mr Cameron said he immediately phoned the pub and heard that Nancy was safe with the bar staff. She was in the toilet when the Camerons left a few minutes apart in different cars. Mr Cameron's spokeswoman said "the prime minister and Samantha were distraught when they realized Nancy wasn't with them".

The incident has sparked a debate in Britain about Cameron's parenting skills. Newspapers are also pointing the finger at who was to blame. Many say the prime minister's security team should have been more aware of where the UK leader's children were. A spokesperson said there "are security arrangements in place for the prime minister's family," but provided no further details on the type of protection given to the PM's wife and children. Most newspapers are sympathetic towards the Camerons, saying it is a terrifying mistake that happens to many parents. The Guardian, however, suggested Mr Cameron was too relaxed at a time when most of his people were suffering economic hardships.

# WARM-UPS

**1. PARENTING:** Walk around the class and talk to other students about Parenting. Change partners often. Sit with your first partner(s) and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

*newspapers / revealed / separately / aware / left behind / bar staff / distraught / debate / pointing the finger / blame / security arrangement / protection / sympathetic*

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. KIDS:** What's different as kids grow? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners and share what you wrote. Change and share again.

Kids' age	Cute things	Not-so-cute things
0 - 2		
3 - 6		
7 - 10		
11 - 14		
15 - 17		
18+		

**4. IRRESPONSIBLE:** Students A **strongly** believe parents who forget a child in a pub are irresponsible; Students B **strongly** believe they're not; that these things happen. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**5. LOST:** Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the things you (would) lose / forget most easily at the top. Change partners and share your rankings again.

- a child
- your sanity
- money
- games
- your patience
- your way in life
- friends
- the remote control

**6. DAUGHTER:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word 'daughter'. Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1206/120612-david\\_cameron.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1206/120612-david_cameron.html)

## 1. TRUE / FALSE:

Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| a. The British Prime Minister's daughter stayed in a bar to have a drink.  | T / F |
| b. The PM and his wife didn't really know where their daughter was.        | T / F |
| c. The couple realized their daughter was missing 15 minutes later.        | T / F |
| d. The Camerons were distraught once they knew where their child was.      | T / F |
| e. All British newspapers have attacked David Cameron's skill as a father. | T / F |
| f. The article says Mr Cameron has fired his security team.                | T / F |
| g. A Cameron spokesperson detailed the PM's security arrangements.         | T / F |
| h. One newspaper suggested the PM shouldn't be having fun in pubs.         | T / F |

## 2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms from the article.

- |                        |                  |
|------------------------|------------------|
| 1. revealed            | a. straightaway  |
| 2. separately          | b. pain          |
| 3. aware               | c. upset         |
| 4. immediately         | d. independently |
| 5. distraught          | e. plans         |
| 6. pointing the finger | f. conscious of  |
| 7. arrangements        | g. understanding |
| 8. sympathetic         | h. accusing      |
| 9. terrifying          | i. disclosed     |
| 10. hardships          | j. frightening   |

## 3. PHRASE MATCH:

(Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |                                    |                            |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Samantha left the               | a. skills                  |
| 2. Mrs Cameron was aware they had  | b. apart                   |
| 3. Nancy was safe                  | c. a debate                |
| 4. the Camerons left a few minutes | d. they realized           |
| 5. distraught when                 | e. towards the Camerons    |
| 6. The incident has sparked        | f. left their child behind |
| 7. parenting                       | g. pub separately          |
| 8. security                        | h. hardships               |
| 9. Most newspapers are sympathetic | i. arrangements            |
| 10. suffering economic             | j. with the bar staff      |

# WHILE READING / LISTENING

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1206/120612-david\\_cameron.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1206/120612-david_cameron.html)

**GAP FILL:** Put the words into the gaps in the text.

British newspapers have (1) \_\_\_\_\_ that Prime Minister David Cameron left his eight-year-old daughter in a pub and went home, (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the little girl was with his wife. His wife Samantha left the pub (3) \_\_\_\_\_ believing her child Nancy to be with her father. Neither Mr nor Mrs Cameron was (4) \_\_\_\_\_ they had left their child behind (5) \_\_\_\_\_ they met each other at their house. Mr Cameron said he (6) \_\_\_\_\_ phoned the pub and heard that Nancy was safe with the bar staff. She was in the toilet when the Camerons left a few minutes (7) \_\_\_\_\_ in different cars. Mr Cameron's spokeswoman said "the prime minister and Samantha were (8) \_\_\_\_\_ when they realized Nancy wasn't with them".

*aware*  
*thinking*  
*apart*  
*immediately*  
*revealed*  
*distraught*  
*separately*  
*until*

The incident has (9) \_\_\_\_\_ a debate in Britain about Cameron's parenting skills. Newspapers are also (10) \_\_\_\_\_ the finger at who was to blame. Many say the prime minister's security team should have been more (11) \_\_\_\_\_ of where the UK leader's children were. A spokesperson said there "are (12) \_\_\_\_\_ arrangements in place for the prime minister's family," but (13) \_\_\_\_\_ no further details on the type of protection given to the PM's wife and children. Most newspapers are (14) \_\_\_\_\_ towards the Camerons, saying it is a terrifying mistake that happens to many parents. The Guardian, however, (15) \_\_\_\_\_ Mr Cameron was too relaxed at a time when most of his people were suffering (16) \_\_\_\_\_ hardships.

*aware*  
*suggested*  
*pointing*  
*economic*  
*security*  
*sparked*  
*sympathetic*  
*provided*

## LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1206/120612-david\\_cameron.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1206/120612-david_cameron.html)

British newspapers \_\_\_\_\_ Prime Minister David Cameron left his eight-year-old daughter in a pub and went home, thinking the little girl was with his wife. His wife Samantha left the pub \_\_\_\_\_ child Nancy to be with her father. Neither Mr nor Mrs Cameron was aware they had \_\_\_\_\_ until they met each other at their house. Mr Cameron \_\_\_\_\_ phoned the pub and heard that Nancy was safe with the bar staff. She was in the toilet when the Camerons left \_\_\_\_\_ in different cars. Mr Cameron's spokeswoman said "the prime minister and Samantha \_\_\_\_\_ they realized Nancy wasn't with them".

The incident has \_\_\_\_\_ in Britain about Cameron's parenting skills. Newspapers are also \_\_\_\_\_ at who was to blame. Many say the prime minister's \_\_\_\_\_ have been more aware of where the UK leader's children were. A spokesperson said there "are security arrangements \_\_\_\_\_ prime minister's family," but provided no further details on the \_\_\_\_\_ given to the PM's wife and children. Most newspapers are sympathetic towards the Camerons, saying it is a terrifying mistake that happens to many parents. The Guardian, however, suggested Mr Cameron was too relaxed at a time when most of his people \_\_\_\_\_ hardships.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1206/120612-david\\_cameron.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1206/120612-david_cameron.html)

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'bar' and 'staff'.

bar	staff

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• revealed</li><li>• separately</li><li>• aware</li><li>• safe</li><li>• apart</li><li>• realized</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• sparked</li><li>• finger</li><li>• in place</li><li>• type</li><li>• most</li><li>• relaxed</li></ul>
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# PARENTING SURVEY

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1206/120612-david\\_cameron.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1206/120612-david_cameron.html)

Write five GOOD questions about Parenting 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.



# PARENTING DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'parenting'?
- c) What do you think of the Camerons' mishap?
- d) How serious is their mishap?
- e) Does this incident reflect in any way on David Cameron's ability to lead a country?
- f) Was this just a simple mistake that any parents could make?
- g) Should Mr and Mrs Cameron at least have checked with each other?
- h) Is it a good example to set for a world leader to take his 8-year-old daughter to a pub?
- i) Have you ever been distraught?

*UK PM leaves 8-year-old daughter in bar – 12th June, 2012*  
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# PARENTING DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a) Did you like reading this article?
- b) Do you think the Camerons' parenting skills are in question?
- c) Was the Camerons' security team more to blame than the Camerons?
- d) Do you think this could happen to the child of the leader of your country?
- e) Do you understand why the newspapers are sympathetic towards David Cameron and his wife?
- f) What would you do if you suddenly realized your child wasn't with you?
- g) What's the biggest thing you've ever lost?
- h) Do you agree with the British paper who suggested Mr Cameron should not be enjoying himself in pubs while people have many problems.?
- i) What questions would you like to ask David Cameron about this incident?

# LANGUAGE – MULTIPLE CHOICE

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1206/120612-david\\_cameron.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1206/120612-david_cameron.html)

British newspapers have (1) \_\_\_\_ that Prime Minister David Cameron left his eight-year-old daughter in a pub and went home, thinking the little girl was with his wife. His wife Samantha left the pub (2) \_\_\_\_ believing her child Nancy to be with her father. Neither Mr nor Mrs Cameron was (3) \_\_\_\_ they had left their child behind until they met each other at their house. Mr Cameron said he immediately phoned the pub and heard that Nancy was safe with the bar (4) \_\_\_\_\_. She was in the toilet when the Camerons left a few minutes (5) \_\_\_\_ in different cars. Mr Cameron's spokeswoman said "the prime minister and Samantha were (6) \_\_\_\_ when they realized Nancy wasn't with them".

The incident has (7) \_\_\_\_ a debate in Britain about Cameron's parenting skills. Newspapers are also pointing the (8) \_\_\_\_ at who was to blame. Many say the prime minister's security team should have been more aware of where the UK leader's children were. A spokesperson said there "are security arrangements (9) \_\_\_\_ place for the prime minister's family," but provided (10) \_\_\_\_ further details on the type of protection given to the PM's wife and children. Most newspapers are sympathetic (11) \_\_\_\_ the Camerons, saying it is a terrifying mistake that happens to many parents. The Guardian, however, suggested Mr Cameron was too relaxed (12) \_\_\_\_ a time when most of his people were suffering economic hardships.

## Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- |     |                  |                |                    |                 |
|-----|------------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| 1.  | (a) revelation   | (b) revealing  | (c) revealed       | (d) reveals     |
| 2.  | (a) separation   | (b) separately | (c) separated      | (d) separate    |
| 3.  | (a) aware        | (b) knowledge  | (c) known          | (d) conscious   |
| 4.  | (a) staffs       | (b) staffing   | (c) staffed        | (d) staff       |
| 5.  | (a) separate     | (b) division   | (c) apart          | (d) to one side |
| 6.  | (a) distraction  | (b) distanced  | (c) distraught     | (d) distilled   |
| 7.  | (a) extinguished | (b) sparked    | (c) exploded       | (d) lit         |
| 8.  | (a) finger       | (b) accusation | (c) responsibility | (d) hand        |
| 9.  | (a) at           | (b) in         | (c) of             | (d) as          |
| 10. | (a) not          | (b) none       | (c) non            | (d) never       |
| 11. | (a) via          | (b) through    | (c) over           | (d) towards     |
| 12. | (a) all          | (b) as         | (c) and            | (d) at          |



# HOMework

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about parenting. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. PARENTING:** Make a poster about parenting. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. MISHAP:** Write a magazine article about the Camerons' mishap. Include imaginary interviews with David and a parenting expert.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. LETTER:** Write a letter to David Cameron. Ask him three questions about parenting. Give him three ideas on how to be a great parent. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## TRUE / FALSE:

- a. F      b. T      c. T      d. T      e. F      f. F      g. T      h. T

## SYNONYM MATCH:

- |                        |                  |
|------------------------|------------------|
| 1. revealed            | a. disclosed     |
| 2. separately          | b. independently |
| 3. aware               | c. conscious of  |
| 4. immediately         | d. straightaway  |
| 5. distraught          | e. upset         |
| 6. pointing the finger | f. accusing      |
| 7. arrangements        | g. plans         |
| 8. sympathetic         | h. understanding |
| 9. terrifying          | i. frightening   |
| 10. hardships          | j. pain          |

## PHRASE MATCH:

- |                                    |                            |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Samantha left the               | a. pub separately          |
| 2. Mrs Cameron was aware they had  | b. left their child behind |
| 3. Nancy was safe                  | c. with the bar staff      |
| 4. the Camerons left a few minutes | d. apart                   |
| 5. distraught when                 | e. they realized           |
| 6. The incident has sparked        | f. a debate                |
| 7. parenting                       | g. skills                  |
| 8. security                        | h. arrangements            |
| 9. Most newspapers are sympathetic | i. towards the Camerons    |
| 10. suffering economic             | j. hardships               |

## GAP FILL:

### UK PM leaves 8-year-old daughter in bar

British newspapers have (1) **revealed** that Prime Minister David Cameron left his eight-year-old daughter in a pub and went home, (2) **thinking** the little girl was with his wife. His wife Samantha left the pub (3) **separately** believing her child Nancy to be with her father. Neither Mr nor Mrs Cameron was (4) **aware** they had left their child behind (5) **until** they met each other at their house. Mr Cameron said he (6) **immediately** phoned the pub and heard that Nancy was safe with the bar staff. She was in the toilet when the Camerons left a few minutes (7) **apart** in different cars. Mr Cameron's spokeswoman said "the prime minister and Samantha were (8) **distraught** when they realized Nancy wasn't with them".

The incident has (9) **sparked** a debate in Britain about Cameron's parenting skills. Newspapers are also (10) **pointing** the finger at who was to blame. Many say the prime minister's security team should have been more (11) **aware** of where the UK leader's children were. A spokesperson said there "are (12) **security** arrangements in place for the prime minister's family," but (13) **provided** no further details on the type of protection given to the PM's wife and children. Most newspapers are (14) **sympathetic** towards the Camerons, saying it is a terrifying mistake that happens to many parents. The Guardian, however, (15) **suggested** Mr Cameron was too relaxed at a time when most of his people were suffering (16) **economic** hardships.

## LANGUAGE WORK

- 1 - c    2 - b    3 - a    4 - d    5 - c    6 - c    7 - b    8 - a    9 - b    10 - a    11 - d    12 - d