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## **Level 4**

### **Chinese maths teachers to help UK schools**

**14th March, 2014**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1403/140314-mathematics-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/1403/140314-mathematics-4.html>

The UK wants Chinese teachers to try to increase the level of maths in its schools. Chinese students have the highest international test results. There is a huge difference in maths levels between the UK and China. A newspaper said: "The children of cleaners in Shanghai outperform those of UK doctors and lawyers in global maths tests." The UK will hire 60 of Shanghai's best maths teachers to help improve the ability of one million British students.

The UK is far behind many countries in maths. Poor numeracy costs the UK economy \$30 billion a year. Britain's education minister went on a fact-finding mission to China. She said: "We have some brilliant maths teachers...but what I saw in Shanghai... strengthened my belief that we can learn from them." She added: "They have a can-do attitude to maths and I want us to match that." Maths qualifications can equal higher salaries and better jobs.

Sources: <http://www.bbc.com/news/education-26533428>  
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/educationnews/10691030/Chinese-teachers-sent-into-English-schools-to-boost-results.html>  
<http://news.tes.co.uk/b/news/2014/02/18/china-39-s-poorest-children-outperform-uk-39-s-wealthiest-in-international-maths-tests.aspx>

# MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1403/140314-mathematics-4.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                      |                               |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. increase the level of maths       | a. international test results |
| 2. Chinese students have the highest | b. million British students   |
| 3. There is a huge                   | c. in its schools             |
| 4. outperform those of               | d. difference                 |
| 5. The UK will hire 60 of Shanghai's | e. UK doctors                 |
| 6. improve the ability of one        | f. best maths teachers        |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                        |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. The UK is far       | a. my belief       |
| 2. poor                | b. minister        |
| 3. Britain's education | c. and better jobs |
| 4. went on a fact-     | d. behind          |
| 5. strengthened        | e. numeracy        |
| 6. higher salaries     | f. finding mission |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1403/140314-mathematics-4.html>

The UK wants Chinese teachers (1) \_\_\_\_\_ the level of maths in its schools. Chinese students have (2) \_\_\_\_\_ test results. There (3) \_\_\_\_\_ in maths levels between the UK and China. A newspaper said: "The children of cleaners in Shanghai (4) \_\_\_\_\_ UK doctors and lawyers in global maths tests." The UK (5) \_\_\_\_\_ best maths teachers (6) \_\_\_\_\_ ability of one million British students.

The UK (7) \_\_\_\_\_ countries in maths. Poor numeracy costs the UK economy \$30 billion a year. Britain's education minister went on (8) \_\_\_\_\_ to China. She said: "We have some brilliant maths teachers...(9) \_\_\_\_\_ Shanghai... strengthened my belief that we can learn from them." She added: "They (10) \_\_\_\_\_ to maths and I want us to match that." Maths (11) \_\_\_\_\_ higher salaries and better jobs.

# MATHEMATICS SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1403/140314-mathematics-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about maths 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) \_\_\_\_\_

*Chinese maths teachers to help UK schools – 14th March, 2014*  
More free lessons at [www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com)

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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/1403/140314-mathematics-4.html>

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

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