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## **Level 2**

# **16-year-old joins F1 team as race driver**

**21st August, 2014**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1408/140821-formula-1-2.html>

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**Please try Levels 0 and 1 (easier) and the 26–page Level 3 (harder).**

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1408/140821-formula-1-2.html>

In most countries you have to be 18 years old to be able to drive a car. Not for 16-year old Max Verstappen. He has just signed to drive for a Formula 1 racing team. He will be the youngest ever F1 driver when he races for the Toro Rosso team. He will be 17 when he takes part in his first Grand Prix, against drivers like Fernando Alonso and Sebastian Vettel. The current record for the youngest F1 driver is 19 years. Verstappen's debut will be at the Australian Grand Prix. He said: "Ever since I was seven years old, Formula 1 has been my career goal, so this...is truly a dream come true."

The racing team boss Franz Tost was very excited about Max joining his team. He said: "We are happy to welcome Max....We consider [him] to be one of the most skilled young drivers of the new generation and we believe he has the necessary...mental strength to take on this challenge successfully." He said the team must give Max a competitive car, so he will have, "the best possible start to his Formula 1 career". Max's father was an F1 driver. He thanked his father and said he owed a lot of his success to him for always being there, "day and night, year after year".

Sources: <http://www.autosport.com/news/report.php/id/115435>  
<http://www.sportinglife.com/formula1/news/article/669/9429101/toro-rosso-sign-teenager>  
<http://www1.skysports.com/f1/news/12471/9428944/max-verstappen-will-replace-jean-eric-vergne-at-toro-rosso-in-2015>

# MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1408/140821-formula-1-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                  |                          |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. In most countries you have to | a. I was seven years old |
| 2. He will be the youngest       | b. youngest F1 driver    |
| 3. He will be 17 when            | c. come true             |
| 4. The current record for the    | d. debut                 |
| 5. Verstappen's                  | e. be 18 years old       |
| 6. the Australian                | f. ever F1 driver        |
| 7. Ever since                    | g. he takes part         |
| 8. a dream                       | h. Grand Prix            |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                      |                            |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. The racing                        | a. strength                |
| 2. We are happy to                   | b. car                     |
| 3. the most skilled young drivers of | c. year after year         |
| 4. mental                            | d. the new generation      |
| 5. a competitive                     | e. success to him          |
| 6. the best possible start           | f. team boss               |
| 7. he owed a lot of his              | g. to his Formula 1 career |
| 8. day and night,                    | h. welcome Max             |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1408/140821-formula-1-2.html>

In most countries you have to be 18 years (1) \_\_\_\_\_ to drive a car. Not for 16-year old Max Verstappen. He has (2) \_\_\_\_\_ drive for a Formula 1 racing team. He will be (3) \_\_\_\_\_ F1 driver when he races for the Toro Rosso team. He will be 17 when he takes part in his first Grand Prix, (4) \_\_\_\_\_ Fernando Alonso and Sebastian Vettel. The current record for the youngest F1 driver is 19 years. Verstappen's (5) \_\_\_\_\_ the Australian Grand Prix. He said: "Ever since I was seven years old, Formula 1 has been my career goal, so this...is (6) \_\_\_\_\_ true."

The racing team boss Franz Tost (7) \_\_\_\_\_ about Max joining his team. He said: "We are happy to welcome Max....We consider [him] (8) \_\_\_\_\_ most skilled young drivers of the new generation and we believe (9) \_\_\_\_\_ ...mental strength to take on this challenge successfully." He said the team must give Max (10) \_\_\_\_\_, so he will have, "the best possible start to his Formula 1 career". Max's father was an F1 driver. He thanked his father (11) \_\_\_\_\_ a lot of his success to him for always being there, " (12) \_\_\_\_\_ after year".

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1408/140821-formula-1-2.html>

In most countries you have to be 18 years old to be able to drive a car. Not for 16-year-old Max Verstappen. He has just signed to drive for a Formula 1 racing team. He will be the youngest ever F1 driver when he races for the Toro Rosso team. He will be 17 when he takes part in his first Grand Prix, against drivers like Fernando Alonso and Sebastian Vettel. The current record for the youngest F1 driver is 19 years. Verstappen's debut will beat the Australian Grand Prix. He said: "Ever since I was seven years old, Formula 1 has been my career goal, so this... is truly a dream come true." The racing team boss Franz Tost was very excited about Max joining his team. He said: "We are happy to welcome Max.... We consider [him] to be one of the most skilled young drivers of the new generation and we believe he has the necessary... mental strength to take on this challenge successfully." He said the team must give Max a competitive car, so he will have, "the best possible start to his Formula 1 career". Max's father was an F1 driver. He thanked his father and said he owed a lot of his success to him for always being there, "day and night, year after year".

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

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b)

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c)

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d)

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e)

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f)

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g)

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h)

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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

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b)

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c)

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d)

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e)

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f)

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g)

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h)

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