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Level 2

Toy store stops selling drug-dealer dolls

24th October, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1410/141024-breaking-bad-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/1410/141024-breaking-bad-2.html>

Toys R Us has stopped selling a drug-dealer doll from the popular American TV series 'Breaking Bad'. One of the figures had bags full of drug money and blue crystal drugs. A mother, Susan Myers, started an online petition to get Toys R Us to stop selling the toys. More than 3,000 people signed it. Ms Myers wrote on the petition: "Toys R Us is well known around the world....However their decision to sell a Breaking Bad doll...with a...sack of cash and a bag of [drugs], alongside children's toys is a dangerous [move away] from their family-friendly values."

Ms Myers said Breaking Bad was popular with adults, but the dolls from the show should not be on a toy store shelf next to Disney characters. She said: "Parents and grandparents around the world shop at Toys R Us, online and in stores, with their children. They should not [have to] explain why a certain toy comes with a bag of highly dangerous and illegal drugs, or why someone who sells those drugs deserves to be made into an action figure." Toys R Us said the packaging clearly said that the dolls are for ages 15 and up. The toys were in the adult action figure area of the stores.

Sources: <http://news.sky.com/story/1356927/breaking-bad-dolls-spark-online-petition>
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/northamerica/usa/11177774/Toys-R-Us-quietly-withdraws-drug-dealer-Breaking-Bad-dolls.html>
<http://www.change.org/p/toys-r-us-remove-breaking-bad-dolls-from-their-shelves>

MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1410/141024-breaking-bad-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Toys R Us has stopped selling | a. around the world |
| 2. the popular American | b. full of drug money |
| 3. One of the figures had bags | c. toys |
| 4. started an online | d. TV series |
| 5. More than 3,000 people | e. friendly values |
| 6. well known | f. petition |
| 7. alongside children's | g. signed it |
| 8. family- | h. a drug-dealer doll |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1. Breaking Bad was popular | a. sells those drugs |
| 2. should not be on a toy store shelf | b. with adults |
| 3. online and | c. are for ages 15 and up |
| 4. They should not have to explain | d. in stores |
| 5. illegal | e. figure area of the stores |
| 6. someone who | f. drugs |
| 7. the packaging clearly said that the dolls | g. next to Disney characters |
| 8. The toys were in the adult action | h. why |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1410/141024-breaking-bad-2.html>

Toys R Us (1) _____ a drug-dealer doll from the popular American TV series 'Breaking Bad'. (2) _____ had bags full of drug money and blue crystal drugs. A mother, Susan Myers, started (3) _____ get Toys R Us to stop selling the toys. More than 3,000 (4) _____. Ms Myers wrote on the petition: "Toys R Us is (5) _____ the world....However their decision to sell a Breaking Bad doll...with a...sack of cash and a bag of [drugs], alongside children's toys is a dangerous [move away] from their (6) _____."

Ms Myers said Breaking Bad was (7) _____, but the dolls from (8) _____ be on a toy store shelf next to Disney characters. She said: "Parents (9) _____ the world shop at Toys R Us, online and in stores, with their children. They should not [have to] explain why a certain toy comes with a bag of highly dangerous (10) _____, or why someone who sells those drugs deserves to be made into an action figure." Toys R Us said the (11) _____ that the dolls are for ages 15 and up. The toys were (12) _____ figure area of the stores.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1410/141024-breaking-bad-2.html>

ToysRUs has stopped selling a drug-dealer doll from the popular American TV series 'Breaking Bad'. One of the figures had bags full of drug money and blue crystal drugs. Another, Susan Myers, started an online petition to get ToysRUs to stop selling the toys. More than 3,000 people signed it. Ms Myers wrote on the petition: "ToysRUs is well known around the world ... However their decision to sell a Breaking Bad doll... with a... sack of cash and a bag of [drugs], alongside children's toys is a dangerous [move away] from their family-friendly values." Ms Myers said Breaking Bad was popular with adults, but the dolls from the show should not be on a toy store shelf next to Disney characters. She said: "Parents and grandparents around the world shop at ToysRUs, online and in stores, with their children. They should not [have to] explain why a certain toy comes with a bag of highly dangerous and illegal drugs, or why someone who sells those drugs deserves to be made into an action figure." ToysRUs said the packaging clearly said that the dolls are for ages 15 and up. The toys were in the adult action figure area of the stores.

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)

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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)

WRITING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1410/141024-breaking-bad-2.html>

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