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## **Level 2**

# **Babies make husbands lazier**

**13th May, 2015**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1505/150513-laziness-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/1505/150513-laziness-2.html>

Research says that husbands do not do their fair share of work around the house. A study from the Ohio State University says it is rare for men to do an equal share of housework. Researchers looked at 182 working couples who became first-time parents. Both partners worked the same number of hours in full-time jobs. Men did less housework after the baby was born, even though both parents worked the same number of hours in their job. Fathers did an average of five hours a week less housework. They spent this time helping to look after the baby.

Becoming a parent added about 21 hours per week to the work mothers did. Most of their extra work was spent looking after her baby. The researchers explained why new fathers did not keep up with the extra work. They said most men were unaware that the mother was doing so much more. Another reason is that after a baby is born, fathers follow what happened in their own homes when they were younger. They follow the 'traditional' roles of the mother looking after the baby and the father working, even though the mother is working the same number of hours in her job.

Sources: <http://www.theepochtimes.com/n3/1352264-dual-earner-couples-share-housework-equally-until-first-baby-comes/>  
[http://www.stwnewspress.com/cnhi\\_network/study-men-are-lazy-to-their-core/article\\_bbfd72ec-3be8-56e5-b4be-9f9bab767ed2.html](http://www.stwnewspress.com/cnhi_network/study-men-are-lazy-to-their-core/article_bbfd72ec-3be8-56e5-b4be-9f9bab767ed2.html)  
<http://www.smh.com.au/business/parenthood-makes-men-even-lazier-says-study-20150508-ggwxnr.html>

# MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1505/150513-laziness-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                             |                   |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. do their fair            | a. of hours       |
| 2. it is rare               | b. parents worked |
| 3. do an                    | c. a week less    |
| 4. working                  | d. for men        |
| 5. even though both         | e. after the baby |
| 6. the same number          | f. couples        |
| 7. an average of five hours | g. equal share    |
| 8. helping to look          | h. share          |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                             |                    |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Becoming a               | a. number of hours |
| 2. added about 21 hours per | b. so much more    |
| 3. Most of their extra      | c. week            |
| 4. looking after            | d. unaware         |
| 5. most men were            | e. parent          |
| 6. the mother was doing     | f. her baby        |
| 7. follow the 'traditional' | g. work            |
| 8. working the same         | h. roles           |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1505/150513-laziness-2.html>

Research says that husbands (1) \_\_\_\_\_ fair share of work around the house. (2) \_\_\_\_\_ Ohio State University says it is rare for men to (3) \_\_\_\_\_ of housework. Researchers looked at 182 working couples who became first-time parents. Both partners worked the same number of hours (4) \_\_\_\_\_. Men did less housework after the baby was born, even though both parents worked (5) \_\_\_\_\_ hours in their job. Fathers did an average of five hours a week less housework. They spent this time helping to (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

Becoming a parent added about 21 (7) \_\_\_\_\_ to the work mothers did. Most (8) \_\_\_\_\_ was spent looking after her baby. The researchers explained why new fathers did (9) \_\_\_\_\_ the extra work. They said most men were unaware that the mother was doing (10) \_\_\_\_\_. Another reason is that after a baby is born, fathers follow what happened in their own homes when they were younger. They follow (11) \_\_\_\_\_ of the mother looking after the baby and the father working, even though the mother is working (12) \_\_\_\_\_ of hours in her job.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1505/150513-laziness-2.html>

Research says that husbands do not do their fair share of work around the house. A study from the Ohio State University says it is rare for men to do a nequal share of housework. Researchers looked at 182 working couples who became first-time parents. Both partners worked the same number of hours in full-time jobs. Men did less housework after the baby was born, even though both parents worked the same number of hours in their jobs. Fathers did an average of five hours a week less housework. They spent this time helping to look after the baby. Becoming a parent added about 2.1 hours per week to the work mothers did. Most of their extra work was spent looking after the baby. The researcher explained why new fathers did not keep up with the extra work. They said most men were unaware that their mother was doing so much more. Another reason is that after a baby is born, fathers follow what happened in their own homes when they were younger. They follow the 'traditional' roles of the mother looking after the baby and the father working, even though the mother is working the same number of hours in her job.

## 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)

---

d)

---

e)

---

f)

---

g)

---

h)

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