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Level 0 – 11th December, 2020

Japan to use artificial intelligence to match couples

FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201211-ai-matchmaking-0.html>

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Please try Levels 1, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201211-ai-matchmaking-0.html>

Japan wants people to go on dates and increase the birth rate.

There are fewer babies in Japan. Artificial intelligence will match couples. This will cost \$19 million to start. Japan has many matchmaking services. A worker matches people. The AI project will automate this system. It will give better matches.

The government wants to increase Japan's population. Its fertility rate is one of the lowest in the world. The government wants to increase the birth rate. The population is ageing quickly because people are living longer. There are fewer younger workers to pay for the pension and welfare of retired people.

Sources: <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/12/07/national/japan-ai-funding-matchmaking/>
<https://uk.reuters.com/article/japan-matchmaking-ai/love-match-tokyo-to-help-fund-japanese-ai-cupid-upgrades-report-idUKKBN28H19G>
<https://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1209370.shtml>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201211-ai-matchmaking-0.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Japan wants people to | a. people |
| 2. There are fewer babies | b. match couples |
| 3. Artificial intelligence will | c. system |
| 4. This will cost | d. in Japan |
| 5. matchmaking | e. matches |
| 6. A worker matches | f. \$19 million |
| 7. The AI project will automate this | g. services |
| 8. It will give better | h. go on dates |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. increase Japan's | a. longer |
| 2. fertility | b. in the world |
| 3. one of the lowest | c. quickly |
| 4. increase the birth | d. pension |
| 5. The population is ageing | e. people |
| 6. people are living | f. rate |
| 7. pay for the | g. population |
| 8. welfare of retired | h. rate |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201211-ai-matchmaking-0.html>

Japan wants people to (1) _____ and increase the birth rate. There are (2) _____ Japan.

Artificial intelligence (3) _____. This will cost \$19

(4) _____. Japan has many matchmaking

services. A worker matches people. The AI project

(5) _____ system. It (6) _____

matches.

The government (7) _____ Japan's population.

Its (8) _____ one of the lowest in the world. The

government wants to (9) _____ rate. The

population (10) _____ because people are living

longer. There (11) _____ workers to pay for the

pension and welfare (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201211-ai-matchmaking-0.html>

Japan wants people to go on dates and increase the birth rate. There are few
wedding babies in Japan. Artificial intelligence will match couples. This will cost
\$19 million to start. Japan has many matchmaking services. A worker
matches people. The AI project will automate this system. It will give better
matches. The government wants to increase Japan's population. Its fertility
rate is one of the lowest in the world. The government wants to increase
the birth rate. The population is ageing quickly because people are living
longer. There are few younger workers to pay for the pension and welfare
of retired people.

MATCHMAKING SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201211-ai-matchmaking-0.html>

Write five GOOD questions about matchmaking 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) _____

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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) _____

