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**Level 2** – 26th August, 2021

## 2020 Tokyo Paralympics under way

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210826-tokyo-paralympics-2.html>

### Contents

The Reading	2
Phrase Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
No Spaces	5
Survey	6
Writing and Speaking	7
Writing	8

Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210826-tokyo-paralympics-2.html>

The 2020 Tokyo Paralympic Games have begun after the opening ceremony at Japan's National Stadium. The 12-day sporting celebration has 539 events in 22 para sports. The International Paralympic Committee (IPC) said 161 countries and 4,500 para athletes are taking part. This includes the Refugee Paralympic Team. Japan's emperor opened the Games. He said: "I would like to join you in wishing all athletes the very best." The IPC president said: "The Paralympics are not just fantastic to watch, they also have the ability to transform society."

The Games should have taken place last year. The coronavirus pandemic postponed them. The IPC president spoke about his happiness at the event happening. He said: "I cannot believe we are finally here....Many thought it was impossible. But, thanks to the efforts of many, the most transformative sport event on Earth is about to begin." A 14-year-old Ugandan swimmer summed up her excitement about the Games. She said: "I feel like I'm meeting movie stars." She added: "Since it's the Paralympics and everybody else is disabled, I feel really comfortable."

Sources: <https://the-japan-news.com/news/article/0007704337>  
<https://www.asahi.com/ajw/articles/14425044>  
<https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2021/08/e5935c34a293-japan-emperor-hoping-paralympians-can-reach-highest-highs.html>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210826-tokyo-paralympics-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. the opening                         | a. 22 para sports         |
| 2. The 12-day sporting                 | b. athletes the very best |
| 3. 539 events in                       | c. transform society      |
| 4. 4,500 para athletes are             | d. celebration            |
| 5. Japan's emperor opened              | e. to watch               |
| 6. I'd like to join you in wishing all | f. taking part            |
| 7. fantastic                           | g. ceremony               |
| 8. have the ability to                 | h. the Games              |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                  |                        |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. The Games should have taken   | a. about his happiness |
| 2. The coronavirus pandemic      | b. of many             |
| 3. The IPC president spoke       | c. comfortable         |
| 4. I cannot believe              | d. movie stars         |
| 5. thanks to the efforts         | e. we are finally here |
| 6. the most transformative sport | f. place last year     |
| 7. I feel like I'm meeting       | g. event on Earth      |
| 8. I feel really                 | h. postponed them      |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210826-tokyo-paralympics-2.html>

The 2020 Tokyo Paralympic Games have begun (1) \_\_\_\_\_ ceremony at Japan's National Stadium. The 12-day sporting celebration (2) \_\_\_\_\_ in 22 para sports. The International Paralympic Committee (IPC) said 161 countries and 4,500 para athletes (3) \_\_\_\_\_. This includes the Refugee Paralympic Team. Japan's emperor opened the Games. He said: "I would (4) \_\_\_\_\_ you in wishing all athletes (5) \_\_\_\_\_." The IPC president said: "The Paralympics are not just fantastic to watch, they also have (6) \_\_\_\_\_ transform society."

The Games should have taken (7) \_\_\_\_\_. The coronavirus pandemic postponed them. The IPC president spoke about his happiness (8) \_\_\_\_\_ happening. He said: "I cannot believe we (9) \_\_\_\_\_....Many thought it was impossible. But, thanks to the (10) \_\_\_\_\_, the most transformative sport event on Earth is about to begin." A 14-year-old Ugandan swimmer summed up her excitement about the Games. She said: "I feel like I'm (11) \_\_\_\_\_." She added: "Since it's the Paralympics and everybody else is disabled, I (12) \_\_\_\_\_."

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210826-tokyo-paralympics-2.html>

The2020TokyoParalympicGameshavebegunaftertheopeningceremononatJapan'sNationalStadium.The12-daysportingcelebrationhas539eventsin22parasports.TheInternationalParalympicCommittee(IPC)said161countriesand4,500paraathletesaretakingpart.ThisincludestheRefugeeParalympicTeam.Japan'semperoropenedtheGames.Hesaid:"Iwouldliketojoinyouinwishingallathletesetheverybest."TheIPCpresidentsaid:"TheParalympicsarenotjustfantastictowatch,theyalsohavetheabilitytotransformsociety."TheGamesshouldhavetakenplacealastyear.Thecoronaviruspandemicpostponedthem.TheIPCpresidentspokeaboutthishappinessattheeventhappening.Hesaid:"Icannotbelievewearefinallyhere....Manythoughtitwasimpossible.But,thankstotheeffortsofmany,themosttransformativesporteventonEarthisabouttobegin."A14-year-oldUgandanswimmersummedupherexcitementabouttheGames.Shesaid:"IfellikeI'mmeetingmoviestars."Sheadded:"Sinceit'stheParalympicsandeverybodyelseisdisabled,Ifeelreallycomfortable."

# THE PARALYMPICS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210826-tokyo-paralympics-2.html>

Write five GOOD questions about the Paralympics 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) \_\_\_\_\_

