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Level 6 – 31st October, 2022

World record gathering of people with same name

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221031-same-first-and-last-name.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221031-same-first-and-last-name.html>

A group of 178 men all sharing the name Tanaka Hirokazu convened in Tokyo on Saturday to break the Guinness World Record for the largest gathering of people with the same first and last name. The successful record attempt was organized by the Tanaka Hirokazu association. This group was established by a guy called Tanaka Hirokazu (surprise, surprise) in 1994. Mr Tanaka's inspiration came from seeing a namesake of his drafted into a professional Japanese baseball team. Ex-baseball player Tanaka Hirokazu was also part of Saturday's record meeting. The 178 new record holders span the generations, with the youngest being three years old, and the eldest being an octogenarian.

Association leader Tanaka Hirokazu, 53, was elated at breaking the world record. His association had tried twice before, in 2011 and 2017, to break the record. These attempts were thwarted largely because of the association's insistence on all participants having to have the same Chinese characters (kanji) in their name. Saturday's meeting had a more lenient criterion. The association deemed that anyone with the name Hirokazu Tanaka was eligible, regardless of the kanji used to spell their name. Mr Tanaka reflected on his world-beating achievement. He told reporters: "I never expected we would achieve such a ridiculous record." He added that the 178 Tanakas had "set an example of silliness".

Sources: <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2022/10/29/national/guinness-record-hirokazu-tanaka/>
<https://mainichi.jp/english/articles/20221029/p2g/00m/0na/037000c>
<https://www.straitstimes.com/asia/east-asia/hiro-kazu-tanaka-namesake-gathering-in-tokyo-smashes-world-record>

WARM-UPS

1. SURNAMES: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about surnames. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

group / men / Tokyo / world record / successful / inspiration / baseball / generation / leader / elated / association / Chinese characters / achievement / reporter / silliness

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. SURNAME FIRST: Students A **strongly** believe we should always write our surname first; Students B **strongly** believe given name first is better. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. BEST NAME: What are the best names for these people / things, and why? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Best Name	Why?
A newborn baby boy		
A newborn baby girl		
A pet dog		
A sports car		
A bookshop		
An English school		

5. MEN: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "men". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. NAMED AFTER: Rank these with your partner. Put the best things to be named after at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- An ancestor
- A movie star
- A flower
- A celestial body
- A month
- An inspirational noun
- A religious figure
- A cartoon character

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. convened | a. A person who is between 80 and 89 years old. |
| 2. inspiration | b. A person or thing that has the same name as another. |
| 3. namesake | c. Extend across a period of time or a range of subjects. |
| 4. drafted | d. Came or brought together for a meeting or activity. |
| 5. span | e. All of the people born and living at about the same time, regarded collectively. |
| 6. generation | f. The process of being mentally stimulated to do or feel something, especially something creative. |
| 7. octogenarian | g. Selected a player for a sports team. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 8. elated | h. Average in amount, intensity, quality, or degree. |
| 9. thwarted | i. Prevented someone from achieving or doing something. |
| 10. insistence | j. Thought deeply or carefully about. |
| 11. lenient | k. Very, very, very happy. |
| 12. criterion | l. A principle or standard by which something may be judged or decided. |
| 13. deemed | m. The fact or quality of saying that something is definitely the case or should be done. |
| 14. reflected | n. Regarded or considered in a specified way. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221031-same-first-and-last-name.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

1. A group of women who all had the same name broke a world record. **T / F**
2. The record attempt was organized by the John Smith Association. **T / F**
3. A former professional baseball player helped to break the record. **T / F**
4. The oldest person in the group was in his/her eighties. **T / F**
5. This was the third time for the group to attempt to break the record. **T / F**
6. This attempt required participants to have the same Chinese characters. **T / F**
7. The person who organized the attempt knew it would be broken. **T / F**
8. The person called the record an example of silliness. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| 1. convened | a. foiled |
| 2. gathering | b. set up |
| 3. attempt | c. allowed |
| 4. established | d. assembly |
| 5. span | e. thrilled |
| 6. elated | f. laughable |
| 7. thwarted | g. effort |
| 8. eligible | h. thought about |
| 9. reflected | i. met |
| 10. ridiculous | j. cross |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. the largest gathering | a. at breaking the world record |
| 2. This group was established | b. a namesake of his |
| 3. Mr Tanaka's inspiration came from seeing | c. of people |
| 4. The 178 new record holders span | d. Chinese characters |
| 5. the eldest being | e. world-beating achievement |
| 6. Tanaka Hirokazu, 53, was elated | f. the generations |
| 7. These attempts were | g. by a guy called Tanaka |
| 8. having to have the same | h. to spell their name |
| 9. regardless of the kanji used | i. an octogenarian |
| 10. Tanaka reflected on his | j. thwarted |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221031-same-first-and-last-name.html>

A group of 178 men all sharing the name Tanaka Hirokazu (1) _____ in Tokyo on Saturday to break the Guinness World Record for the largest (2) _____ of people with the same first and last name. The successful record attempt was organized by the Tanaka Hirokazu association. This group was (3) _____ by a guy called Tanaka Hirokazu (surprise, surprise) in 1994. Mr Tanaka's (4) _____ came from seeing a (5) _____ of his drafted into a professional Japanese baseball team. Ex-baseball player Tanaka Hirokazu was also (6) _____ of Saturday's record meeting. The 178 new record holders (7) _____ the generations, with the youngest being three years old, and the eldest being an (8) _____.

established
namesake
octogenarian
convened
inspiration
span
gathering
part

Association leader Tanaka Hirokazu, 53, was (9) _____ at breaking the world record. His association had tried twice before, in 2011 and 2017, to break the record. These attempts were (10) _____ largely because of the association's (11) _____ on all participants having to have the same Chinese (12) _____ (kanji) in their name. Saturday's meeting had a more (13) _____ criterion. The association deemed that anyone with the name Hirokazu Tanaka was eligible, (14) _____ of the kanji used to spell their name. Mr Tanaka reflected on his world-beating achievement. He told reporters: "I never expected we would (15) _____ such a ridiculous record." He added that the 178 Tanakas had "set an example of (16) _____".

lenient
elated
achieve
insistence
regardless
thwarted
silliness
characters

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221031-same-first-and-last-name.html>

- 1) A group of 178 men all sharing the name Tanaka Hirokazu _____
 - a. contravened in Tokyo
 - b. combined in Tokyo
 - c. convened in Tokyo
 - d. convene in Tokyo
- 2) on Saturday to break the Guinness World Record for the largest _____
 - a. gather ring of people
 - b. gather inner people
 - c. gathering off people
 - d. gathering of people
- 3) (surprise, surprise) in 1994. Mr Tanaka's inspiration came from _____
 - a. seeing a names ache
 - b. seeing a namesake
 - c. seeing a names sake
 - d. seeing a name shake
- 4) part of Saturday's record meeting. The 178 new record holders _____
 - a. span the generations
 - b. spans the generations
 - c. sprain the generations
 - d. stain the generations
- 5) being three years old, and the eldest _____
 - a. been an octogenarian
 - b. being an octogenarian
 - c. being a knocked oh geranium
 - d. being an October geranium
- 6) Association leader Tanaka Hirokazu, _____
 - a. 53, was berated
 - b. 53, was elated
 - c. 53, was ill later
 - d. 53, was eel waited
- 7) before, in 2011 and 2017, to break the record. These _____
 - a. attempts were thwarted
 - b. attempts were the wart add
 - c. attempts were thwart it
 - d. attempt swerve warty
- 8) same Chinese characters (kanji) in their name. Saturday's meeting had a _____
 - a. moor lenient cry teary on
 - b. more lenience criterion
 - c. more lenient criteria on
 - d. more lenient criterion
- 9) I never expected we would achieve such _____
 - a. a ridicule as record
 - b. a ridicule us record
 - c. a ridiculous record
 - d. a rid icicle record
- 10) He added that the 178 Tanakas had set an _____
 - a. example of silly mess
 - b. egg sample of silliness
 - c. examples of silliness
 - d. egg sample of illness

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221031-same-first-and-last-name.html>

A group of 178 (1) _____ the name Tanaka Hirokazu convened in Tokyo on Saturday to break the Guinness World Record for the (2) _____ people with the same first and last name. The successful record attempt was organized by the Tanaka Hirokazu association. This group (3) _____ a guy called Tanaka Hirokazu (surprise, surprise) in 1994. Mr Tanaka's inspiration came from seeing a namesake of (4) _____ a professional Japanese baseball team. Ex-baseball player Tanaka Hirokazu was also part of (5) _____. The 178 new record holders span the generations, with the youngest being three years old, and the eldest (6) _____.

Association leader Tanaka Hirokazu, 53, was (7) _____ the world record. His association had tried twice before, in 2011 and 2017, to break the record. These attempts (8) _____ because of the association's (9) _____ participants having to have the same Chinese characters (kanji) in their name. Saturday's meeting had a (10) _____. The association deemed that anyone with the name Hirokazu Tanaka was eligible, regardless of the kanji used to spell their name. Mr Tanaka (11) _____ world-beating achievement. He told reporters: "I never expected we would achieve such a ridiculous record." He added that the 178 Tanakas had "set an (12) _____".

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221031-same-first-and-last-name.html>

1. In which city did the men break the world record?
2. When was the Tanaka Hirokazu association started?
3. Who started the Tanaka Hirokazu association?
4. What sport did one of the record breakers use to play?
5. How old was the oldest record breaker?
6. How did Tanaka Hirokazu feel about breaking the world record?
7. How many times in total did the group try to break the record?
8. What did the first attempts require all names to have?
9. Who did Tanaka Hirokazu talk to about breaking the record?
10. What did Tanaka Hirokazu call the world record an example of?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221031-same-first-and-last-name.html>

- 1) In which city did the men break the world record?
 - a) Sydney
 - b) Tokyo
 - c) Lima
 - d) Beijing
- 2) When was the Tanaka Hirokazu association started?
 - a) 1991
 - b) 1992
 - c) 1993
 - d) 1994
- 3) Who started the Tanaka Hirokazu association?
 - a) Tanaka Hirokazu
 - b) Guinness World Records
 - c) the Namesake Association
 - d) Genealogy International
- 4) What sport did one of the record breakers use to play?
 - a) ice hockey
 - b) football
 - c) baseball
 - d) tennis
- 5) How old was the oldest record breaker?
 - a) 79
 - b) in his eighties
 - c) 90
 - d) a centenarian
- 6) How did Tanaka Hirokazu feel about breaking the world record?
 - a) bewildered
 - b) relieved
 - c) elated
 - d) mildly surprised
- 7) How many times in total did the group try to break the record?
 - a) ten
 - b) four
 - c) two
 - d) three
- 8) What did the first attempts require all names to have?
 - a) the same Chinese characters
 - b) a middle name
 - c) a birth certificate
 - d) a history
- 9) Who did Tanaka Hirokazu talk to about breaking the record?
 - a) reporters
 - b) Mrs Tanaka
 - c) his neighbours
 - d) a group on Zoom
- 10) What did Tanaka Hirokazu call the world record an example of?
 - a) naming
 - b) silliness
 - c) hard work
 - d) achievement

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221031-same-first-and-last-name.html>

Role A – An Ancestor

You think it is best to call a newborn baby after an ancestor. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their names. Also, tell the others which is the least desirable of these (and why): a movie star, a flower or a religious figure.

Role B – A Movie Star

You think it is best to call a newborn baby after a movie star. Tell them what is wrong with their names. Also, tell the others which is the least desirable of these (and why): an ancestor, a flower or a religious figure.

Role C – A Flower

You think it is best to call a newborn baby after a flower. Tell them what is wrong with their names. Also, tell the others which is the least desirable of these (and why): a movie star, an ancestor or a religious figure.

Role D – A Religious Figure

You think it is best to call a newborn baby after a religious figure. Tell them what is wrong with their names. Also, tell the others which is the least desirable of these (and why): a movie star, a flower or an ancestor.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221031-same-first-and-last-name.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'first' and 'last'.

first	last

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• group• attempt• guy• drafted• part• eldest	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• elated• largely• characters• deemed• never• example
---	--

SURNAMES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221031-same-first-and-last-name.html>

Write five GOOD questions about surnames 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.

SURNAMES DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'name'?
3. What do you think of your name?
4. What do you think of this record?
5. What do you think of common surnames in your country?
6. Would you like to change your name?
7. Do you have any namesakes?
8. Should men or women change their surname after marriage?
9. What do you think of nicknames?
10. Should we write our surname or given name first?

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SURNAMES DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'record'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What world record would you like to break?
15. How do you feel when you see your surname written down?
16. What do you think of middle names?
17. What do you think of double-barrelled (hyphenated) surnames?
18. Do you prefer your surname or given name?
19. Do you think the record is 'an example of silliness'?
20. What questions would you like to ask one of the Tanaka Hirokazus?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221031-same-first-and-last-name.html>

A group of 178 men (1) _____ sharing the name Tanaka Hirokazu convened in Tokyo on Saturday to break the Guinness World Record for the largest (2) _____ of people with the same first and last name. The successful record (3) _____ was organized by the Tanaka Hirokazu association. This group was established by a guy called Tanaka Hirokazu (surprise, surprise) in 1994. Mr Tanaka's inspiration (4) _____ from seeing a namesake of (5) _____ drafted into a professional Japanese baseball team. Ex-baseball player Tanaka Hirokazu was also part of Saturday's record meeting. The 178 new record holders span the generations, with the youngest being three years old, and the eldest being an (6) _____.

Association leader Tanaka Hirokazu, 53, was elated (7) _____ breaking the world record. His association had tried twice before, in 2011 and 2017, to break the record. These attempts were (8) _____ largely because of the association's insistence on all participants having to have the same Chinese characters (kanji) in their name. Saturday's meeting had a more (9) _____ criterion. The association deemed that anyone with the name Hirokazu Tanaka was eligible, (10) _____ of the kanji used to spell their name. Mr Tanaka (11) _____ on his world-beating achievement. He told reporters: "I never expected we would achieve such a ridiculous record." He added that the 178 Tanakas had "set an example of (12) _____".

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) whole | (b) all | (c) every | (d) total |
| 2. | (a) garnishing | (b) gathering | (c) guttering | (d) grating |
| 3. | (a) contempt | (b) temptation | (c) tempting | (d) attempt |
| 4. | (a) gone | (b) came | (c) went | (d) arrived |
| 5. | (a) their | (b) that | (c) them | (d) his |
| 6. | (a) octagon | (b) octuplet | (c) octogenarian | (d) octopus |
| 7. | (a) at | (b) on | (c) in | (d) as |
| 8. | (a) thwacked | (b) thrashed | (c) thwarted | (d) threadbare |
| 9. | (a) sentient | (b) lean | (c) leaning | (d) lenient |
| 10. | (a) regardless | (b) regarding | (c) regards | (d) regarded |
| 11. | (a) reflected | (b) mirrored | (c) shone | (d) bounced |
| 12. | (a) silliness | (b) dizziness | (c) sloppiness | (d) business |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221031-same-first-and-last-name.html>

Paragraph 1

1. nneveodc in Tokyo on Saturday
2. organized by the Tanaka Hirokazu osnasiatico
3. inspiration came from seeing a eksmaaen
4. edtfard into a professional Japanese baseball team
5. span the tngensiaero
6. the eldest being an ornotcaeaing

Paragraph 2

7. Tanaka Hirokazu, 53, was daleet
8. These attempts were reddtawh
9. because of the association's iistesennc
10. a more einltne criterion
11. the name Hirokazu Tanaka was liigblee
12. achieve such a uiuioldcsr record

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221031-same-first-and-last-name.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () surprise) in 1994. Mr Tanaka's inspiration came from seeing a namesake of his drafted
- () reflected on his world-beating achievement. He told reporters: "I never expected we would achieve
- () name. Saturday's meeting had a more lenient criterion. The association deemed that anyone
- () with the name Hirokazu Tanaka was eligible, regardless of the kanji used to spell their name. Mr Tanaka
- () into a professional Japanese baseball team. Ex-baseball player Tanaka Hirokazu was also part
- () by the Tanaka Hirokazu association. This group was established by a guy called Tanaka Hirokazu (surprise,
- () for the largest gathering of people with the same first and last name. The successful record attempt was organized
- () twice before, in 2011 and 2017, to break the record. These attempts were thwarted largely because
- (**1**) A group of 178 men all sharing the name Tanaka Hirokazu convened in Tokyo on Saturday to break the Guinness World Record
- () of Saturday's record meeting. The 178 new record holders span the generations, with
- () the youngest being three years old, and the eldest being an octogenarian.
- () such a ridiculous record." He added that the 178 Tanakas had "set an example of silliness".
- () Association leader Tanaka Hirokazu, 53, was elated at breaking the world record. His association had tried
- () of the association's insistence on all participants having to have the same Chinese characters (kanji) in their

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221031-same-first-and-last-name.html>

1. of A sharing men 178 the name . group
2. The the name . with people gathering largest of
3. group established guy . a This by was
4. a namesake . came seeing Tanaka's inspiration from
5. generations . 178 new the holders record The span
6. the at was Tanaka elated breaking world record .
7. Thwarted of because association's largely insistence . the
8. name . characters (kanji) in same Chinese their The
9. of used kanji name . their in Regardless the
10. expected record . I achieve a we'd ridiculous never

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221031-same-first-and-last-name.html>

A group of 178 men all *sharing / shared* the name Tanaka Hirokazu convened in Tokyo on Saturday to *break / broken* the Guinness World Record for the largest *garnishing / gathering* of people with the same first and last name. The successful *recorded / record* attempt was organized by the Tanaka Hirokazu association. This group was *established / establishment* by a guy called Tanaka Hirokazu (surprise, surprise) in 1994. Mr Tanaka's inspiration came from *seeing / seeking* a namesake of his *drafted / drifted* into a professional Japanese baseball team. Ex-baseball player Tanaka Hirokazu was *alas / also* part of Saturday's record meeting. The 178 new record holders span *them / the* generations, with the youngest being three years old, and the eldest being *an / the* octogenarian.

Association leader Tanaka Hirokazu, 53, was *elected / elated* at breaking the world record. His association had tried twice before, in 2011 and 2017, to break the record. These attempts were thwarted *largely / hugely* because of the association's insistence *on / in* all participants having to have the same Chinese characters (kanji) *in / on* their name. Saturday's meeting had a more lenient *creation / criterion*. The association *deemed / doomed* that anyone with the name Hirokazu Tanaka was *eligible / eligibility*, regardless of the kanji used to spell their name. Mr Tanaka reflected *in / on* his world-beating achievement. He told reporters: "I never expected we would achieve *so / such* a ridiculous record." He added that the 178 Tanakas had "set an example of *silliness / silly*".

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct. Look up the definition of new words.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221031-same-first-and-last-name.html>

A group of 178 men all sharing the name Tank Herkzovland in Tokyo on Saturday took the Guinness World Record for the largest gathering of people with the same first and last name. The successful record attempt was organized by the Tank Herkzovland Society. This group was established by a group called Tank Herkzovland (Society, Society) in 1994. Mr Tank's inspiration came from seeing a nameless of his drafted into professional Japanese baseball team. A baseball player Tank Herkzovland was also part of Saturday's record making. The 178 new record holders spent the afternoon, with the youngest being three years old, and the oldest being an octogenarian.

The Society leader Tank Herkzovland, 53, was invited to break the world record. His Society had tried twice before, in 2011 and 2017, to break the record. These attempts were thwarted largely because of the Society's insistence on all participants having to have the same Chinese characters (kanji) in their name. Saturday's meeting had a more lenient criterion. The Society decided that anyone with the name Tank Herkzovland was eligible, regardless of the kanji used to spell their name. Mr Tank reflected on his world-breaking achievement. He told reporters: "I never expected to witness such a record." He added that the 178 Tanks had "set an example for all of us".

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221031-same-first-and-last-name.html>

a group of 178 men all sharing the name tanaka hirokazu convened in tokyo on saturday to break the guinness world record for the largest gathering of people with the same first and last name the successful record attempt was organized by the tanaka hirokazu association this group was established by a guy called tanaka hirokazu surprise surprise in 1994 mr tanakas inspiration came from seeing a namesake of his drafted into a professional japanese baseball team exbaseball player tanaka hirokazu was also part of saturdays record meeting the 178 new record holders span the generations with the youngest being three years old and the eldest being an octogenarian

association leader tanaka hirokazu 53 was elated at breaking the world record his association had tried twice before in 2011 and 2017 to break the record these attempts were thwarted largely because of the associations insistence on all participants having to have the same chinese characters kanji in their name saturdays meeting had a more lenient criterion the association deemed that anyone with the name hirokazu tanaka was eligible regardless of the kanji used to spell their name mr tanaka reflected on his worldbeating achievement he told reporters i never expected we would achieve such a ridiculous record he added that the 178 tanakas had set an example of silliness

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221031-same-first-and-last-name.html>

A group of 178 men all sharing the name Tanaka Hirokazu convened in Tokyo on Saturday to break the Guinness World Record for the largest gathering of people with the same first and last name. The successful record attempt was organized by the Tanaka Hirokazu association. This group was established by a guy called Tanaka Hirokazu (surprise, surprise) in 1994. Mr Tanaka's inspiration came from seeing a namesake of his drafted into a professional Japanese baseball team. Ex-baseball player Tanaka Hirokazu was also part of Saturday's record meeting. The 178 new record holders span the generations, with the youngest being three years old, and the eldest being an octogenarian. Association leader Tanaka Hirokazu, 53, was late at breaking the world record. His association had tried twice before, in 2011 and 2017, to break the record. These attempts were thwarted largely because of the association's insistence on all participants having to have the same Chinese characters (kanji) in their name. Saturday's meeting had a more lenient criterion. The association deemed that anyone with the name Hirokazu Tanaka was eligible, regardless of the kanji used to spell their name. Mr Tanaka reflected on his world-beating achievement. He told reporters: "I never expected we would achieve such a ridiculous record." He added that the 178 Tanakas had "set an example of silliness".

FREE WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221031-same-first-and-last-name.html>

Write about **surnames** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner’s paper.

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. SURNAMES: Make a poster about surnames. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. SURNAME LAST: Write a magazine article about always writing surnames last. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on surnames. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your favourite names and why you like them. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. d 2. f 3. b 4. g 5. c 6. e 7. a
8. k 9. i 10. m 11. h 12. l 13. n 14. j

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 F 2 F 3 T 4 T 5 T 6 F 7 F 8 T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. i	2. d	3. g	4. b	5. j
6. e	7. a	8. c	9. h	10. f

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. Tokyo
2. 1994
3. Tanaka Hirokazu
4. Baseball
5. In his eighties
6. Elated
7. Three
8. The same Chinese characters
9. Reporters
10. Silliness

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

1. A group of 178 men sharing the name.
2. The largest gathering of people with the name.
3. This group was established by a guy.
4. Tanaka's inspiration came from seeing a namesake.
5. The 178 new record holders span the generations.
6. Tanaka was elated at breaking the world record.
7. Thwarted largely because of the association's insistence.
8. The same Chinese characters (kanji) in their name.
9. Regardless of the kanji used in their name.
10. I never expected we'd achieve a ridiculous record.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. b 2. d 3. a 4. c 5. b 6. c 7. d 8. a 9. a 10. b

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)