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With romance, women do the talking

MANY FLASH AND ONLINE ACTIVITIES FOR THIS LESSON, PLUS A LISTENING, AT:

http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1204/120423-phone_calls.html

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ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

23 April, 2012

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1204/120423-phone_calls.html

New research shows that women make mobile phone calls to their husband more than to any other person, until children arrive. Researchers from Britain's Oxford University looked at 1.95 billion cell phone calls and 489 million text messages over a 7-month period. They wanted to find out how close relationships change over the years. They discovered that women call their husband most until their daughter has children. Men phone their wife most just for the first seven years of marriage.

Head researcher Professor Robin Dunbar told the BBC News what happens in women's lives, according to his research: "What seems to happen is that women push the 'old man' out to become their second-best friend and he gets called much less often. All her attention is then focused on her daughters just [when] you are likely to see grandchildren arriving," he said. Professor Dunbar reported that "men's relationships are too casual" and that after the first seven years of their relationship, men focus on other friends.

PHRASE MATCH

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1204/120423-phone_calls.html

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. make | a. has children |
| 2. more than any | b. mobile phone calls |
| 3. text | c. seven years |
| 4. close | d. other person |
| 5. until their daughter | e. relationships |
| 6. for the first | f. messages |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. head | a. casual |
| 2. according to | b. on other friends |
| 3. become their second- | c. attention |
| 4. All her | d. researcher |
| 5. men's relationships are too | e. his research |
| 6. men focus | f. best friend |

LISTENING GAP FILL

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1204/120423-phone_calls.html

New research shows that women make mobile phone calls to their husband _____ other person, until children arrive. Researchers from Britain's Oxford University looked at _____ phone calls and 489 million text messages over _____. They wanted to _____ relationships change over the years. They discovered that women call their husband most until their _____. Men phone their wife most _____ seven years of marriage.

Head researcher Professor Robin Dunbar told the BBC News what happens in women's lives, _____ research: "What seems to happen is that women push the 'old man' out to become their _____ and he gets called much less often. _____ is then focused on her daughters just [when] you _____ grandchildren arriving," he said. Professor Dunbar reported that "_____ are too casual" and that _____ of their relationship, men focus on other friends.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1204/120423-phone_calls.html

New research shows that women (1) _____ mobile phone calls to their husband more than to any other person, (2) _____ children arrive. Researchers from Britain's Oxford University looked at 1.95 billion cell phone calls and 489 million text messages (3) _____ a 7-month period. They wanted to find out how (4) _____ relationships change over the years. They discovered that women (5) _____ their husband most until their daughter has children. Men phone their wife most (6) _____ for the first seven years of marriage.

Head researcher Professor Robin Dunbar told the BBC News what happens in women's (7) _____, according (8) _____ his research: "What seems to happen is that women push the 'old man' out to become their (9) _____-best friend and he gets called much less often. All her attention is then focused (10) _____ her daughters just [when] you are (11) _____ to see grandchildren arriving," he said. Professor Dunbar reported that "men's relationships are too (12) _____" and that after the first seven years of their relationship, men focus on other friends.

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. (a) make | (b) give | (c) do |
| 2. (a) since | (b) when | (c) until |
| 3. (a) as | (b) over | (c) up |
| 4. (a) close | (b) divorce | (c) mother |
| 5. (a) bill | (b) call | (c) bull |
| 6. (a) as | (b) over | (c) just |
| 7. (a) lives | (b) lifestyles | (c) living |
| 8. (a) to | (b) of | (c) at |
| 9. (a) two | (b) pair | (c) second |
| 10. (a) in | (b) on | (c) of |
| 11. (a) liking | (b) likely | (c) likelihood |
| 12. (a) caused | (b) casualty | (c) casual |

SPELLING

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1204/120423-phone_calls.html

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. new serhcrae
2. phone calls to their dshnaub
3. text sgssaeem
4. hpstrloesiani change
5. their hetgduar has children
6. seven years of rairmega

Paragraph 2

7. rnocgcdai to his research
8. become their cdenso-best friend
9. All her tontnaiet
10. likely to see grandchildren irrignva
11. too alacus
12. men ufcso on other friends

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1204/120423-phone_calls.html

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () at 1.95 billion cell phone calls and 489 million text messages over a 7-month period. They wanted to
- (**1**) New research shows that women make mobile phone calls to their husband more than
- () find out how close relationships change over the years. They discovered
- () in women's lives, according to his research: "What seems to happen is that women push the 'old man'
- () to see grandchildren arriving," he said. Professor Dunbar reported that "men's relationships are too
- () casual" and that after the first seven years of their relationship, men focus on other friends.
- () to any other person, until children arrive. Researchers from Britain's Oxford University looked
- () often. All her attention is then focused on her daughters just [when] you are likely
- () their wife most just for the first seven years of marriage.
- () Head researcher Professor Robin Dunbar told the BBC News what happens
- () that women call their husband most until their daughter has children. Men phone
- () out to become their second-best friend and he gets called much less

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

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With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. make their mobile husband phone calls Women to.

2. month period 489 million text messages over a 7-

3. close How years the over change relationships.

4. that discovered They husband their call women.

5. for of the marriage first seven Just years.

6. lives what happens Told in the women's BBC.

7. gets much often He called less.

8. on attention her is daughters then focused Her.

9. that casual men's relationships Dunbar are reported too.

10. After of the their first relationship seven years.

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. _____

WRITING

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1204/120423-phone_calls.html

Write about phone calls for 10 minutes. Show your partner your paper. Correct each other's work.

[illegible]

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. PHONE CALLS: Search the Internet and find more information about phone calls. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about phone calls. Include an imaginary interview with professor Dunbar. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

4. 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.

5. LETTER: Write a letter to a mobile-phone-call expert. Ask him/her three questions about phone calls. Give him/her three of your opinions on phone calls. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Your partner will answer the questions you asked.