
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

Lingohack

28 October 2015

The logo for BBC Learning English, featuring the letters 'BBC' in a white box above the words 'LEARNING ENGLISH' in white text on a teal background.

Today's Headlines:

- India's domestic workers law
- Fighting online crime
- E-cigarettes less damaging, says study

Transcript:

These women are part of India's **vast army** of domestic workers. Despite the numbers, it's a sector with few rules. But that might change – there are plans for laws giving workers a minimum wage and compulsory leave – and there would be social security cover too their employers would have to fund, at least in part.

This is not science fiction. This is our world, now in the 21st Century. Here in California they're at the **cutting edge** of cyber security, using this virtual reality map of millions of computers to hunt hackers.

Vaping – in less than a decade, it's gone from nowhere to a habit for more than two and half million British people. Now after claims and counterclaims about the risks of e-cigarettes an official health organisation says they're good news. That's because former smokers like Elaine, have been helped to **kick the habit** – in her case 40 years – encouraged by a clinic she switched to e-cigs which do contain nicotine but not the damaging tobacco smoke.

Words and phrases and definitions:

vast army

large group of people organised and trained to do a task

cutting edge

most modern and advanced point in the development of something

vaping

using an electronic cigarette

kick the habit

stop doing something that you have been doing regularly

Watch the video online: <http://bbc.in/IMTIKA>

Exercise:

Use one of the words or phrases from Lingohack to complete each of these sentences.

Note that you may have to change the form of a word to complete the sentence correctly.

vast army / cutting edge / vaping / kick the habit

1. Since Rob started _____, his clothes smell a lot fresher.
2. I've tried to stop having sugar in my tea but I just can't seem to _____.
3. A _____ of supporters turned up at the stadium for the big match but there weren't enough tickets so some of them couldn't get in.
4. The company was at the _____ of design and had won many awards.

Answers:

1. Since Rob started **vaping**, his clothes smell a lot fresher.
2. I've tried to stop having sugar in my tea but I just can't seem to **kick the habit**.
3. A **vast army** of supporters turned up at the stadium for the big match but there weren't enough tickets so some of them couldn't get in.
4. The company was at the **cutting edge** of design and had won many awards.