

# LEWIS HAMILTON

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## THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

Lewis Hamilton was born in England in 1985. He was named after American sprint champion Carl Lewis, so he was associated with speed even from when he was a baby. Perhaps it came as no surprise that Lewis got into racing of some sort. He won the Formula 1 World Championship in November 2008 to become F1's youngest ever champion, at the age of 23.

Hamilton got into racing at a very young age. He loved radio-controlled cars. When he was seven, he came second in a national competition against adults. Lewis' father knew his son had a special talent and bought him a go-kart. He began winning many championships and got a taste for bigger and faster things. He fell in love with Formula One.

When Lewis was just ten years old, he met the boss of the Formula 1 McLaren team Ron Dennis. Hamilton told him: "I want to race for you one day." He impressed Dennis and three years later Lewis joined McLaren's Young Driver Support Programme. He won championships in formula two and three and became an F1 driver for McLaren in 2007.

Hamilton broke many records in his first season in Formula One and won many races. He finished second in the championship, missing out on the title by one point in his final race. He was determined to win in 2008 and did just that, winning the title by a single point on the last corner in the last lap of the last race of the season.

253 words  
Flesch Kinkaid 7.8

**SYNONYM MATCH:** Match the words from the article on the left with their synonyms on the right. Are your answers the same as other students'?

*Paragraphs 1 and 2*

- |               |            |
|---------------|------------|
| 1. named      | a. kind    |
| 2. associated | b. unique  |
| 3. sort       | c. linked  |
| 4. got into   | d. liking  |
| 5. special    | e. called  |
| 6. taste      | f. entered |

*Paragraphs 3 and 4*

- |                  |            |
|------------------|------------|
| 7. boss          | g. exactly |
| 8. impressed     | h. head    |
| 9. championships | i. last    |
| 10. broke        | j. dazzled |
| 11. final        | k. titles  |
| 12. just         | l. smashed |

**PHRASE MATCH:** Match the following phrases from the article.

- |                                |                               |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. it came as no surprise that | a. many records               |
| 2. F1's youngest               | b. and faster things          |
| 3. Hamilton got into           | c. to win in 2008             |
| 4. got a taste for bigger      | d. Formula 1 McLaren team     |
| 5. He fell in                  | e. racing at a very young age |
| 6. he met the boss of the      | f. Lewis got into racing      |
| 7. I want to race for          | g. a single point             |
| 8. Hamilton broke              | h. love with Formula One      |
| 9. He was determined           | i. ever champion              |
| 10. winning the title by       | j. you one day                |

**LISTENING GAP FILL:**

Lewis Hamilton was born in England in 1985. He \_\_\_\_\_ American sprint champion Carl Lewis, so he was \_\_\_\_\_ was a baby. Perhaps it came as no surprise that Lewis got into racing \_\_\_\_\_. He won the Formula 1 World Championship in November 2008 to become F1's youngest ever champion, at the age of 23.

Hamilton \_\_\_\_\_ very young age. He loved radio-controlled cars. When he was seven, \_\_\_\_\_ a national competition against adults. Lewis' father knew his son had a special talent and bought him a go-kart. He began winning many championships and \_\_\_\_\_ and faster things. He \_\_\_\_\_ Formula One.

When Lewis \_\_\_\_\_ old, he met the boss of the Formula 1 McLaren team Ron Dennis. Hamilton told him: "I want to race \_\_\_\_\_." He impressed Dennis \_\_\_\_\_. Lewis joined McLaren's Young Driver Support Programme. He won championships in formula two and \_\_\_\_\_ F1 driver for McLaren in 2007.

Hamilton \_\_\_\_\_ in his first season in Formula One and won many races. He finished second in the championship, \_\_\_\_\_ the title by one point in his final race. He was \_\_\_\_\_ in 2008 and did just that, winning the title by a single point on the last corner \_\_\_\_\_ the last race of the season.

**CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD:**

Delete the wrong word in each of the pairs in italics.

Lewis Hamilton was *birth / born* in England in 1985. He was named *after / before* American sprint champion Carl Lewis, so he was associated with speed *ever / even* from when he was a baby. Perhaps it came as no surprise that Lewis got into racing of some *sort / short*. He won the Formula 1 World Championship in November 2008 to become F1's youngest ever champion, at the age of 23.

Hamilton got into racing *in / at* a very young age. He loved radio-controlled cars. When he was seven, he *come / came* second in a national competition against *adults / adult*. Lewis' father knew his son had a special talent and bought him a go-kart. He began winning many championships and got a *touch / taste* for bigger and faster things. He fell in love with Formula One.

When Lewis was just ten years old, he *met / meet* the boss of the Formula 1 McLaren team Ron Dennis. Hamilton told him: "I want to *racing / race* for you one day." He *impressed / impressive* Dennis and three years later Lewis joined McLaren's Young Driver Support Programme. He *won / beat* championships in formula two and three and became an F1 driver for McLaren in 2007.

Hamilton *broke / broken* many records in his first season in Formula One and won many races. He finished second in the championship, missing *in / out* on the title by one point in his *final / finally* race. He was determined to win in 2008 and did just *that / these*, winning the title by a single point on the last corner in the last lap of the last race of the season.

## SPELLING:

These jumbled words are from the text. Spell them correctly.

### *Paragraph 1*

1. He was denma after American sprint champion Carl Lewis
2. associated with edpes
3. it came as no esrprusi
4. F1's etuynsog ever champion

### *Paragraph 2*

5. Hamilton got into racing at a very unogy age
6. he came second in a annilato competition
7. his son had a slcieap talent
8. He fell in leov with Formula One

### *Paragraph 3*

9. he met the osbs
10. He meisedprs Dennis
11. three years later Lewis djniuo
12. became an F1 edivrr for McLaren in 2007

### *Paragraph 4*

13. Hamilton beork many records
14. He hnidfies second in the championship
15. He was tmndeeried to win
16. the last race of the aesnso

## PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- ( ) when he was a baby. Perhaps it came as no surprise that Lewis got into racing of some
- ( ) to win in 2008 and did just that, winning the title by a single point on the last corner in the last
- ( ) him a go-kart. He began winning many championships and got a taste for bigger and
- ( **1** ) Lewis Hamilton was born in England in 1985. He was named after
- ( ) seven, he came second in a national competition against adults. Lewis' father knew his son had a special talent and bought
- ( ) team Ron Dennis. Hamilton told him: "I want to race for you one day." He impressed Dennis and three years
- ( ) American sprint champion Carl Lewis, so he was associated with speed even from
- ( ) lap of the last race of the season.
- ( ) races. He finished second in the championship, missing out on the title by one point in his final race. He was determined
- ( ) faster things. He fell in love with Formula One. When Lewis was just ten years old, he met the boss of the Formula 1 McLaren
- ( ) three and became an F1 driver for McLaren in 2007. Hamilton broke many records in his first season in Formula One and won many
- ( ) sort. He won the Formula 1 World Championship in November 2008 to become F1's youngest ever champion, at the age
- ( ) later Lewis joined McLaren's Young Driver Support Programme. He won championships in formula two and
- ( ) of 23. Hamilton got into racing at a very young age. He loved radio-controlled cars. When he was

## SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

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

1. champion named Carl after Lewis American He sprint was

---

2. it Perhaps surprise no as came

---

3. second against in adults a he national came competition

---

4. for taste a got things faster and bigger

---

5. One fell love Formula He in with

---

6. years When was ten old Lewis just

---

7. day one you for race to want I

---

8. season first his in records many broke Hamilton

---

9. point one by title the on out missing

---

10. last the last the of the of race season lap

---



## LEWIS HAMILTON DISCUSSION:

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

1. What do you know about Lewis Hamilton?
2. Would you like to meet Lewis Hamilton?
3. What would you like to know about Lewis Hamilton and why?
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_

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## LEWIS HAMILTON DISCUSSION:

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

1. What did you learn from this text about Lewis Hamilton?
2. What questions would you like to ask Lewis Hamilton?
3. What would his answers be to those questions?
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_

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## LEWIS HAMILTON SURVEY:

Write five questions about Lewis Hamilton in the table. Do this in pairs/groups. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

Without your partner, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

**Return to your original partner(s) and share and talk about what you found out. Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.**



## 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 more information about Lewis Hamilton. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. LEWIS HAMILTON POSTER:** Make a poster showing the different stages of the life of Lewis Hamilton. Show your poster to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all find out similar things?

**4. MAGAZINE ARTICLE:** Write a magazine article about Lewis Hamilton. Include an imaginary interview with him. Write about what he does every day and what he thinks about.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**5. LETTER:** Write a letter to Lewis Hamilton. Ask him three questions about his life. Give him three suggestions on what he should do in his future. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your "Lewis Hamilton expert" partner(s) will try and answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## SYNONYM MATCH:

Paragraphs 1 and 2

- |               |            |
|---------------|------------|
| 1. named      | a. called  |
| 2. associated | b. linked  |
| 3. sort       | c. kind    |
| 4. got into   | d. entered |
| 5. special    | e. unique  |
| 6. taste      | f. liking  |

Paragraphs 3 and 4

- |                  |            |
|------------------|------------|
| 7. boss          | g. head    |
| 8. impressed     | h. dazzled |
| 9. championships | i. titles  |
| 10. broke        | j. smashed |
| 11. final        | k. last    |
| 12. just         | l. exactly |

## PHRASE MATCH:

- |                                |                               |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. it came as no surprise that | a. Lewis got into racing      |
| 2. F1's youngest               | b. ever champion              |
| 3. Hamilton got into           | c. racing at a very young age |
| 4. got a taste for bigger      | d. and faster things          |
| 5. He fell in                  | e. love with Formula One      |
| 6. he met the boss of the      | f. Formula 1 McLaren team     |
| 7. I want to race for          | g. you one day                |
| 8. Hamilton broke              | h. many records               |
| 9. He was determined           | i. to win in 2008             |
| 10. winning the title by       | j. a single point             |

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Look at the text on page 2.