# BBC Learning English Words in the News I August 2012

The oldest underwear?



## Transcript:

Supporting women for six centuries.

These **bras**, discovered in a medieval castle in Austria, reveal that the **undergarment** may have been worn as far back as the 15<sup>th</sup> century.

Apart from the **wear and tear**, they look **remarkably** similar to their modern day versions.

They were **spotted** almost by accident when the floorboards of the castle were removed during renovation.

### Vocabulary:

### bras

pieces of underwear used to support women's breasts

## undergarment

clothing people use underneath their outer layer

### wear and tear

damage caused by using something continuously

### remarkably

worthy of notice

### spotted

seen or observed suddenly

Watch the video online: The oldest underwear? <a href="http://bbc.in/QcQpRt">http://bbc.in/QcQpRt</a>

### Exercise:

Use one of the words or phrases below to complete each of these sentences from BBC news reports.

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

# bra / undergarment / wear and tear / remarkably / spotted

<b>1.</b> ", 62% of severely obese children under 12 years of age already
had one or more cardiovascular risk factors," the study concluded. More than half
had high blood pressure, and there were also cases of low "good cholesterol" and
high blood sugar, which can result in Type 2 diabetes.
2. Even without integral layered and embroidered neck-frills and cuffs, the amount of coloured embroidery on the upper part of shirt and smock continued to grow, transforming the simple into an object of beauty in its own right.
3. The toy-sized contestants waved and limbered up before the race got under
way. Organisers say they expect the race to be won not by the fastest robot but
by the one that can withstand the most
<b>4.</b> Former US presidential candidate John Edwards' late wife ripped off her shirt and in a row with her husband over his affair, a court has heard.
5. The bodies were by helicopter but have not yet been

recovered due to treacherous weather conditions.

**Answers:** 

1. "Remarkably, 62% of severely obese children under 12 years of age already

had one or more cardiovascular risk factors," the study concluded. More than half

had high blood pressure, and there were also cases of low "good cholesterol" and

high blood sugar, which can result in Type 2 diabetes.

**Source**: Severely obese children's hearts already in danger

http://bbc.in/MXxwx7

2. Even without integral layered and embroidered neck-frills and cuffs, the

amount of coloured embroidery on the upper part of shirt and smock continued

to grow, transforming the simple undergarment into an object of beauty in its

own right.

**Source:** Underwear as outerwear

http://bbc.in/Oxz6vq

3. The toy-sized contestants waved and limbered up before the race got under

way. Organisers say they expect the race to be won not by the fastest robot but

by the one that can withstand the most wear and tear.

**Source:** First robot marathon kicks off in Osaka, Japan

http://bbc.in/eMgaWO

4. Former US presidential candidate John Edwards' late wife ripped off her shirt

and **bra** in a row with her husband over his affair, a court has heard.

Source: John Edwards' betrayed wife 'tore off bra'

http://bbc.in/IEyv9w

5. The bodies were spotted by helicopter but have not yet been recovered due

to treacherous weather conditions.

**Source:** Bodies of US climbers found on Peru mountain

http://bbc.in/Mdp7vJ