



Two members of the *IT*'s team become fathers in October. Rob, one of our magazine editors, and Andy, the its-english Webmaster, are both trying\* to choose a name for their babies.

With 10,000 names to choose from, it's a difficult job. Some people think it's best to choose popular names. The most popular names in the United States in 2003 were Jacob, Michael and Joshua for boys, and Emily, Emma and Madison for girls. Other people think it is better to choose a unique\* name. Several children in the United States are actually called Unique!

A growing trend\* in the U.S. is to name children after\* products and brands\*. Psychology professor Cleveland Evans has studied baby names in the States for 25 years. He has found that car models are a popular source of inspiration\*: 353 girls were named Lexus in 2000 while 55 boys were called Chevy.

Designer labels\* and types of clothing\* are also popular, with almost 300 girls called Armani, six boys called Timberland and seven boys called Denim. Among other popular names are Chanel and Porsche.

Forty-nine boys in the United States are called Canon, after the camera company. There are even six boys named after ESPN, the television sports channel.

Professor Evans says one reason\* for the popularity of brands as names is that parents want to make their children appear different. He also says that naming a child after a brand like Armani or Chanel makes people associate the child with money and exclusivity.

**1. ANSWER WITH "SHORT ANSWERS".**

1. Has Rob already chosen a name for his baby?.
2. Is a difficult job to choose a name?.
3. Do people think that popular names are the best?.
4. Is Madison a popular name for boys in the USA?.
5. Is "Unique" a name of some people?.
6. Is "Denim" a name for a girl?.
7. Is Armani associated to "money"?.
8. Do parents want to make their children different?.

**2. REWRITE INTO INTERROGATIVE.**

1. Evans has studied baby names in the States for 25 years.
2. Several children are called Unique.
3. There's been even six names called ESPN.
4. He has found that car models are a source.
5. Professor Evans's said one reason for that popularity.
6. People associated the child with money.

**3. ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS.**

1. For you, what are the three top baby names in Spain?.
2. Are you happy with your name?.
3. Does anybody in the class have the name as you?.
4. Does your name have a short form? Which one?.
5. Why did your parents give you your name?.
6. What name would you like to have?.
7. How many boys are called like designer labels?.
8. According to the text, what is "Canon"?.
9. Where are some children called "Unique"?.

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#### 4. FIND IN THE TEXT A WORD PRONOUNCED...

- |          |          |
|----------|----------|
| 1. /ai/: | 4. /i/:  |
| 2. /iu/: | 5. /ea/: |
| 3. /ou/: | 6. /ei/: |

#### 5. REWRITE INTO NEGATIVE.

- Evans has studied baby names in the States for 25 years.
- Several children are called Unique.
- There's been even six names called ESPN.
- He has found that car models are a source.
- Professor Evans's said one reason for that popularity.
- People associated the child with money.

#### 6. TRUE OR FALSE.

- Armani is associated with exclusivity. \_\_\_\_\_
- Unique is a baby name. \_\_\_\_\_
- Andy becomes father in October. \_\_\_\_\_
- Madison was the most popular name for boys in 2003. \_\_\_\_\_
- Chanel isn't a popular name. \_\_\_\_\_
- ESPN is the name of a sports TV channel. \_\_\_\_\_
- Thirteen boys are called as designer labels. \_\_\_\_\_
- Madison is a popular name for boys in the USA. \_\_\_\_\_

#### 7. Rewrite into PRESENT PERFECT these sentences.

- Forty nine are boys in the USA.
- We think it's better.
- They become fathers in October.
- Armani associates with exclusivity.
- Enma is popular among girls.
- They find a very good name.

#### 8. COMPLETE. Use PRESENT PERFECT and FOR/SINCE.

- Nathalie (live) \_\_\_\_\_ in Spain (for/since) \_\_\_\_\_ six months.
- She (work) \_\_\_\_\_ for this company (for/since) \_\_\_\_\_ she was 17.
- They (study) \_\_\_\_\_ English (for/since) \_\_\_\_\_ 4 years.
- We (not/be) \_\_\_\_\_ to Madrid (for/since) \_\_\_\_\_ last year.
- Irina (know) \_\_\_\_\_ me (for/since) \_\_\_\_\_ many years.
- They (see) \_\_\_\_\_ Paolo (for/since) \_\_\_\_\_ he left the office.
- Lucas (drive) \_\_\_\_\_ this car (for/since) \_\_\_\_\_ an hour.
- She (plan) \_\_\_\_\_ the party (for/since) \_\_\_\_\_ a weekend.

#### 9. Irregular Verbs. COMPLETE the following list.

SPANISH	PRESENT	PAST PARTICIPLE
	SEND	
	TELL	
	WRITE	
	GO	
	CHOOSE	
	BREAK	
	KNOW	
	READ	