



Average person to live more than 90 years

Lesson code: 1ZQP-268E-SNL5

INTERMEDIATE

1 Warm-up

Would you like to live to be over 90? Why/why not?

2 Key Vocabulary

Match the words on the left to the definitions on the right.

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| 1. a figure | a. an amount of money paid to person who doesn't work because of their age |
| 2. a prediction | b. a number |
| 3. a rate | c. a person who lives in a particular place |
| 4. a pension | d. a position in something (e.g) a competition |
| 5. a ranking | e. a statement about what you think will happen in the future |
| 6. a resident | f. the number of times something happens within a period of time |
| 7. life expectancy | g. the number of years that a person is likely to live |

3 Before you read

You are going to read an article about the results of a study to find the age that people will live to in different countries by the year 2030. Before you read, choose the name of a country for each of the gaps in the sentences below. Then read the text on the next page to check your answers.

France

Japan

Mexico

South Korea

The United States

1. Women in _____ will live the longest by 2030.
2. _____ will have the lowest life expectancy of any advanced country.
3. _____ and the United States will have a similar age that people will live to.
4. Life expectancy for men in _____ will stay at a high position.
5. South Korea and _____ will have a higher life expectancy for women than Japan.

Life expectancy to be more than 90 by 2030

22nd of February 2017

- 1 Average life expectancy in some countries will be more than 90 by 2030, and will also rise in many other countries.
- 2 Imperial College London and the World Health Organization completed a study to look at life expectancy in 35 countries, including the United States, Britain, Germany, Australia, Poland and Mexico.
- 3 The study showed that South Korean women are likely to live the longest, to the age of 90.8. However, the life expectancy figure in the United States will be the lowest for more advanced countries, similar to Mexico's and Croatia's. The study predicts an average age of 80 for American men and 83 for women. These numbers will be less than in Chile.
- 4 The predictions for South Korea were connected to eating well in childhood, low blood pressure, low levels of smoking and good access to health services, plus new medical knowledge and technologies.
- 5 Majid Ezzati, the lead researcher and a professor at Imperial College's school of public health said: "South Korea has gotten a lot of things right," and "they seem to have been a more equal place and have things that have benefited people".
- 6 He said that the United States was almost the opposite of South Korea, where the unequal society in the US had a negative influence on the results for the country. Not all US residents have access to health services. Child and pregnant mother death rates are high, and so are murder rates. Diet in the US also causes serious health problems. People will also stop growing taller, probably because of their diet in childhood.
- 7 The researchers said that the results showed big challenges ahead for pensions and how societies are going to take care of older people. Prof Ezzati said that we will need to make our health and social care systems stronger because we are going to live longer.
- 8 In Japan, there is a large number of older people and Japanese women currently live longer than anyone else in the world. However, the life expectancy figure for women will fall down the global rankings, and be less than South Korea and France. The age which men will live to will drop from fourth to eleventh.
- 9 The gap in the age men and women will live to will start to close in most countries. Men had more unhealthy lifestyles in the past, as they smoked and drank more and had more road accidents as well as being murdered, but as men's and women's lifestyles have become similar, so has the age that they will live to.
- 10 The study did not look at unexpected events that might suddenly change the forecast, for example the discovery of a drug to prevent cancer.
- 11 Prof Ezzati said that he didn't believe that we are anywhere close to the limit of how long we can live, or even if there is a limit.

Sources: BBC News, The Telegraph

4 Checking understanding

Read the text again and put 'T' (True) or 'F' (False) next to each statement below.

1. People in Korea will live longer because they don't drink much alcohol.
2. Life expectancy in America will go down because of people's different lifestyles.
3. Men and women now have similar lifestyles.
4. The study looked at how surprise events could change how long we live.
5. Scientists think that there is no maximum life expectancy.

5 Find the words

Find a word or phrase in the text which means....

1. probably going to happen (*adj, P.3*): _____
2. are able to use something (*phrase, P.6*): _____
3. the person in charge of a project to study something (*noun phrase, P.5*): _____
4. services that are organized to make people healthy or look after people (*phrase, P.7*): _____
5. look after (*phrase, P.7*): _____
6. a prediction (*noun, P.10*): _____

6 Collocations

Match the adjectives on the left to the words on the right to make collocations from the text.

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. an unequal | a. age |
| 2. the average | b. blood pressure |
| 3. a negative | c. influence |
| 4. low | d. lifestyle |
| 5. an unhealthy | e. society |

Now make your own sentences using these phrases.

7 Talking Point

Discuss any of the questions below in pairs or small groups.

1. Are you surprised by any of the results of the study? Why/why not?
2. How old do you think that people in your country will live to by the year 2030? Why?
3. Do you think that the study's predictions will come true? Why/why not?