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The 4 page 60 minute ESL British English lesson – 25/10/15

## What are the best and worst countries in the world for end-of-life care?

Today, we are going to talk about what are the best and worst countries in the world for end-of-life care. It's a bit of a morbid subject talking about death. Unless we die in an accident, have a heart attack or massive stroke, we will all face the moment at some point in our lives. Perhaps we should think about where we might want to pop off?

End-of-life care is important. Many of us will die long before we get to this point. Those of us that don't might be looked after by our children or grandchildren - assuming we have some that is. We might get home help and social help. When these aren't enough we end up in care homes. These can be state run or privately run. The latter cost an arm-and-a-leg, whichever country you live in.

In a recent survey the *Economist Intelligence Unit* published a report on the best and worst end-of-life care countries in the world. Top of the list was the UK, closely followed by Australia, New Zealand and Ireland. Belgium came in at number five with Taiwan at number six. Germany came in at number seven followed by Holland. The US surprisingly came in at number nine with France at number ten.

The worst countries in the world for end-of-life care were Iraq at number one, closely followed by Bangladesh. Surprisingly the Philippines came in as the third worst place in the world to die. Nigeria was fourth followed by Myanmar, the Dominican Republic, and Guatemala. Iran came in eight followed by Botswana. The tenth worst place in the world to die was China.

The rankings were worked out following assessments for the quality of the hospitals and hospital environments, staff numbers and skills, quality of care and affordability of care. Only 34 out of 80 countries provided what could be good end-of-life care – and these accounted for just 15% of the population. People today are living longer, meaning a more drawn out death.

### SPEAKING – WARM UP

What do you understand by the meaning 'end-of-life care'? Go round the room swapping details with others.

### LISTENING – WRITING - DICTATION

The teacher will read some lines of the article slowly to the class.

### READING

Students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

### SPEAKING - UNDERSTANDING

**1) The article** – Students check any unknown vocabulary or phrases with the teacher.

**2) The article** - Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- 1) What is the article about?
- 2) What do you think about the article?
- 3) Was this an easy or difficult article to understand?
- 4) Was this a boring or interesting article?
- 5) Discuss the article.

**3) Article quiz** - Students quiz each other in pairs. Score a point for each correct answer. Score half a point each time you have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

#### Student A questions

- 1) Who conducted the survey?
- 2) What does 'pop off' mean?
- 3) Name the top three countries.
- 4) What does 'cost an-arm-and-a-leg' mean?
- 5) Name the bottom three countries.

#### Student B questions

- 1) What does 'latter' mean?
- 2) What does 'morbid' mean?
- 3) Where in the world is Guatemala and Bangladesh?
- 4) Where is Taiwan and Holland?
- 5) How were the rankings worked out?

**Category: Health / End-of-Life / Lifestyle**  
**Level: Intermediate / Upper Intermediate**

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### WRITING / SPEAKING

*In pairs.* On the board write as many words as you can about 'Care homes'. *One-two minutes.* Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

### WRITING / SPEAKING

*In pairs* – Think of three countries in the article you might like to live out your end-of-life in. Write them below. Discuss!

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

Add three things you might like to do before you pop off. Why these? Discuss!

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

### SPEAKING 4 – GAME

*As a class* – Form a circle. Repeat the following...

*I went to a care home and I saw...*

Repeat what the previous person to your right said. Add one more suggestion. Forget what was previously said and you are eliminated! *10 mins.*

### DISCUSSION

#### Student A questions

- 1) What do you think about what you've read?
- 2) What do you think about euthanasia?
- 3) Why does the USA do so badly in the survey?
- 4) Why does the Philippines do so badly? Surely they have a lot of nurses to help look after their old people?
- 5) What is the level of care like for old people in your country?
- 6) Is end-of-life care expensive in your country? Explain.
- 7) In the UK the price of end-of-life care is about £3000-£4000 a month! How does this compare to the cost in your country?
- 8) Is this a difficult subject to discuss?
- 9) When did you last visit a care home?
- 10) Have you learnt anything in today's English lesson?

### SPEAKING 1 – ROLEPLAY

*In groups.* One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are in the *Discussion FM* radio studio. Today's interview is about: *What are the best and worst countries in the world for end-of-life care?*

- 1) An undertaker.
- 2) A care worker.
- 3) A doctor.
- 4) A social care worker.

**The teacher** will choose some groups to roleplay their interview in front of the class.

### SPEAKING 2 - INTERVIEW

*Student A* is a reporter. *Student B* is someone in the street. *Student A* is asking *Student B* about end-of-life care in their country. *2-3 mins.*

### SPEAKING 3 - DISCUSSION

*Allow 10 minutes* – As a class.

*Discuss the following...*

*What are the best and worst countries in the world for end-of-life care?*

**The teacher** can moderate the session.

### DISCUSSION

#### Student B questions

- 1) Is Switzerland right to allow people the right to die when they want?
- 2) In Britain you have to sell your own house to pay for end-of-life care – till you are down to your last £23,500 – then the state will pay. However, you are likely to be shifted to a cheaper care home. How does this compare in your country?
- 3) Why is China one of the worst 10 countries in the world to die, yet Taiwan is in the top 10 best countries to die? Explain.
- 4) Would you want to live out your last days in Nigeria, Botswana or the Dominican Republic? Explain.
- 5) Why do you think the UK, Ireland, Australia and New Zealand came out top in the end-of-life care survey?
- 6) Did you like this discussion?

## GAP FILL: READING

### What are the best and worst countries in the world for end-of-life care?

Today, we are going to talk about what are the best and worst countries in the world for (1)\_\_\_ care. It's a bit of a (2)\_\_\_ subject talking about (3)\_\_\_ . Unless we die in an accident, have a heart attack or (4)\_\_\_ stroke, we will all face the moment at some point in our lives. Perhaps we should think about where we might want to (5)\_\_\_?

End-of-life care is important. Many of us will (6)\_\_\_ long before we get to this point. Those of us that don't might be looked after by our children or grandchildren - assuming we have some that is. We might get home help and social help. When these aren't enough we end up in care homes. These can be state run or privately run. The (7)\_\_\_ cost an (8)\_\_\_, whichever country you live in.

**death / massive / die / pop off / morbid / latter / end-of-life / arm-and-a-leg**

In a recent (1)\_\_\_ the *Economist* (2)\_\_\_ *Unit* published a (3)\_\_\_ on the best and (4)\_\_\_ end-of-life care countries in the world. Top of the list was the UK, (5)\_\_\_ followed by Australia, New Zealand and Ireland. Belgium came in at number five with Taiwan at number six. Germany came in at number seven followed by Holland. The US (6)\_\_\_ came in at number nine with France at number ten.

The worst countries in the world for end-of-life (7)\_\_\_ were Iraq at number one, closely followed by Bangladesh. Surprisingly the Philippines came in as the third worst place in the world to die. Nigeria was fourth followed by Myanmar, the Dominican Republic, and Guatemala. Iran came in eight followed by Botswana. The tenth worst (8)\_\_\_ in the world to die was China.

**surprisingly / worst / care / survey / place / report / closely / intelligence**

## GAP FILL: GRAMMAR

### What are the best and worst countries in the world for end-of-life care?

Today, we are going to talk about (1)\_\_\_ are the best and worst countries in the world for end-of-life care. It's a bit of a morbid subject talking about death. Unless we die in an accident, have a heart attack or massive stroke, we will all face the moment at (2)\_\_\_ point in our lives. Perhaps we (3)\_\_\_ think about (4)\_\_\_ we (5)\_\_\_ want to pop off?

End-of-life care is important. (6)\_\_\_ of us will die long before we get to this point. (7)\_\_\_ of us that don't might be looked after by our children or grandchildren - assuming we have some that is. We might get home help and social help. When these aren't enough we end up in care homes. (8)\_\_\_ can be state run or privately run. The latter cost an arm-and-a-leg, whichever country you live in.

**some / might / where / should / what / many / these / those**

In (1)\_\_\_ recent survey the *Economist Intelligence Unit* published a report (2)\_\_\_ the best and worst end-of-life care countries in the world. Top (3)\_\_\_ the list was the UK, closely followed by Australia, New Zealand and Ireland. Belgium came in (4)\_\_\_ number five with Taiwan at number six. Germany came in at number seven followed (5)\_\_\_ Holland. The US surprisingly came in at number nine with France at number ten.

The worst countries in the world for end-of-life care were Iraq at number one, closely followed by Bangladesh. Surprisingly (6)\_\_\_ Philippines came (7)\_\_\_ as the third worst place in the world to die. Nigeria was fourth followed by Myanmar, the Dominican Republic, (8)\_\_\_ Guatemala. Iran came in eight followed by Botswana. The tenth worst place in the world to die was China.

**at / in / a / the / by / and / of / on /**



## GAP FILL: LISTENING

### What are the best and worst countries in the world for end-of-life care?

Today, we are going to talk about what are the best and worst countries in the world for \_\_\_\_\_. It's a bit \_\_\_\_\_ talking about death. Unless we die in an accident, have a heart attack or massive stroke, we will all face the moment at some point in our lives. Perhaps we should think about where we might want to pop off?

End-of-life care is important. \_\_\_\_\_ long before we get to this point. Those of us that don't might be looked after by our children or grandchildren - assuming we have some that is. We might get \_\_\_\_\_ help. When these aren't enough we end up in care homes. These can be state run or privately run. The latter cost an arm-and-a-leg, whichever country you live in.

In a recent survey the \_\_\_\_\_ *Unit* published a report on the best and worst end-of-life care countries in the world. Top of the list was the UK, \_\_\_\_\_ Australia, New Zealand and Ireland.

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\_\_\_\_\_ in the world for end-of-life care were Iraq at number one, closely \_\_\_\_\_. Surprisingly the Philippines came in as the third worst place in the world to die. Nigeria was fourth followed by Myanmar, the \_\_\_\_\_, and Guatemala. Iran came in eight followed by Botswana. The tenth worst place in the world to die was China.

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## WRITING/SPELLING

**1) On the board** - *In pairs/As a class*, list 10 positive things about care homes in your country. Add 10 negative things. *One-two minutes. Talk about each of them.*

**2) Sentence starters** - Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- 1) In my country \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) When I die \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Care cost \_\_\_\_\_

**3) Write down 50 words about: *What are the best and worst countries in the world for end-of-life care?*** Your words can be read out in class.

**4) Homework** - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: ***What are the best and worst countries in the world for end-of-life care?*** Your email can be read out in class.

### SPELLING

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards check your answers.

- 1) worst
- 2) care
- 3) pop off
- 4) perhaps
- 5) death
- 6) morbid
- 7) might
- 8) important
- 9) grandchildren
- 10) these

### SPELLING

Use the following ratings:

**Pass = 12**  
**Good = 15**  
**Very good = 18**  
**Excellent = 20**

- 11) surprisingly
- 12) worst
- 13) affordability
- 14) quality
- 15) environments
- 16) rankings
- 17) assessments
- 18) skills
- 19) population
- 20) latter

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