



FILL THE GAPS

Future Families

toddlers consisting focus rejecting decreasing
households divorcing rise simply rates

With modern-day technology and developments in health, finance, travel, and other sectors, the world is gradually heading towards one with high levels of elderly people as people are healthier and more cared for than ever before. People today are without a doubt living longer than ever, and statistics estimate that our current three-generation families might turn into four-generation families by 2050. Improvements in medicines, healthcare, diets, and fighting diseases are leading to all of us living longer.

Along with the general population getting older, we are also having less children and at much later ages, further leading to societies increasingly _____ of more older people than younger ones. With birth rates _____ as they do, scientists predict that by 2050 there will be half the amount of _____ as there will be senior citizens. This could ultimately lead to families in 2050 having more grandparents than children in their _____!

Along with the reason of people _____ not wanting to have children anymore, people are also deciding to get married later or to _____ more on their careers, thus leading to less attention being focused on starting a family. People are also _____ much more, spending more time on education and _____ or delaying marriage, therefore birth _____ are unlikely to _____ again in the near future as people are focusing more on themselves and moving away from traditional family-oriented lifestyles.

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Match the Columns

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 1. Toddlers | A. Groups of people, typically families, living together. |
| 2. Consisting | B. Children who are in the age range of one to three years old. |
| 3. Focus | C. Composed or made up of. |
| 4. Rejecting | D. Separating legally from a spouse |
| 5. Decreasing | E. Declining or reducing in number |
| 6. Households | F. The action of refusing to accept or consider something |
| 7. Divorcing | G. Concentrate attention or effort on something |
| 8. Rise | H. A general increase or upward movement |
| 9. Simply | I. Plainly and without complication |
| 10. Rates | J. The speed or frequency of occurrence |

Follow-up & Discussion Questions

1. What age do you think is the best to get married?
2. How important is family to you?
3. Do you usually take summer vacations with your family?
4. Did you get on with your brothers and sisters when you were young?
5. Would you say that you get on with one of your parents more than the other?
6. How do you think your friends' families compare to yours? Are they about as close? Closer? More distant?
7. Do you think your friends talk to their parents?
8. What did you do today to help your family or make your family life better?
9. On a scale from 1 to 5, how strict are your parents?
10. Can you list some of the most important rules in your family?
11. Do you plan to meet up with your extended family?
12. What things did you argue with your parents about when you were a child?
13. Do you have better or worse relationships with your sibling(s) than your friends?
14. Do you take after your mother or your father?
15. How are you like each of your parents? How are you different?

Teacher's Key

Future Families - With modern-day technology and developments in health, finance, travel, and other sectors, the world is gradually heading towards one with high levels of elderly people as people are healthier and more cared for than ever before. People today are without a doubt living longer than ever, and statistics estimate that our current three-generation families might turn into four-generation families by 2050. Improvements in medicines, healthcare, diets, and fighting diseases are leading to all of us living longer.

Along with the general population getting older, we are also having less children and at much later ages, further leading to societies increasingly consisting of more older people than younger ones. With birth rates decreasing as they do, scientists predict that by 2050 there will be half the amount of toddlers as there will be senior citizens. This could ultimately lead to families in 2050 having more grandparents than children in their households!

Along with the reason of people simply not wanting to have children anymore, people are also deciding to get married later or to focus more on their careers, thus leading to less attention being focused on starting a family. People are also divorcing much more, spending more time on education, and rejecting or delaying marriage, therefore birth rates are unlikely to rise again in the near future as people are focusing more on themselves and moving away from traditional family-oriented lifestyles.

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