

Grade 8 English First Additional Language Worksheet

Listening comprehension and summarising of text

Activity 1

Listening to a factual text

1. Listen to the passage and take notes to answer the question: Who are the people who live the longest? Try to summarise the main points and answer in your own words as far as possible.
(10)

Here is the text which you will read to the learners:

A recent survey asked people in the street why they thought people live the longest. This is what the public said.

People who live the longest normally live in the country – my gogo lives in a rural area and she's really old! People need to walk in the mountains and get fresh air.

People who live for a long time have a healthy lifestyle: they are thin, they don't eat much meat; they don't smoke, and they exercise a lot. They take care of their health. They are active. Some people said that drinking good wine – not a lot – also helps you to live longer. They eat good food.

People who live the longest don't have any stress!

People who live the longest are married and have children – their children keep them young, and their grandchildren. They also feel young at heart.

Grade 8 English First Additional Language Worksheet

Activity 2

2. Listen to the passage about getting old and fill in the table. You are looking for the good things about getting old and the sad things about getting old.

[15]

Here is the text which you will read to the learners:

Aspects of being old

There are many good things about being old. You are far more confident than when you were younger. You are mature and knowledgeable. Often, you are quieter because you have learned self-control and that screaming and shouting is not good. You are more experienced. You can spend less money because you do not buy all the things you used to want, and so you can save more money. You have time for yourself, to listen to that great jazz trumpeter you always liked or Sibogile Khumalo singing a lovely piece of opera.

Of course, there are some less pleasant sides to being old. Often, your health is not as good as it was and you have to take more tablets. Perhaps your hair grows thin or you become bald. Maybe you have to buy more wigs. You have more grey hair and more wrinkles, but you also have more nephews and nieces to care for you and respect you. Some days, you might read the death columns more because more of your friends pass away.

Table

Write words or short phrases in each column that sum up the main points about being old

Good things about being old	Sad things about being old
1)	1)
2)	2)
3)	3)
4)	4)
5)	5)
6)	6)
7)	
8)	
9)	
10)	

Grade 8 English First Additional Language Worksheet

Suggested Solutions

Activity 1

1. They live in the country/a rural environment. ✓
2. They have a healthy lifestyle: ✓ they exercise ✓, maintain a healthy weight; ✓ avoid meat; ✓ do not smoke; ✓ drink in moderation ✓; eat good food. ✓
2. They avoid stress. ✓
3. They are married ✓ and have children. ✓ Any 10 points.

[10]

Activity 2

Learners must record 15 of the 16 items.

Good things about being old	Sad things about being old
1) confident	1) health deteriorates
2) mature	2) thin hair
3) knowledgeable	3) baldness
4) quieter	4) grey hair
5) self-control	5) wrinkles
6) experienced	6) loss of friends
7) spend less	
8) save money	
9) time to relax	
10) many family members	