

## Two is Enough

For two decades, the government in Singapore has been broadcasting the slogan, 'Two is enough'. However, ~~in~~ recently, the government has reversed the policy and is now offer all sorts ~~of~~ incentives encouraging people ~~to~~ go forth and multiply. For instance, the government offers couples tax rebates and child-care subsidies if they produced more than two children. This sudden reversal of policy by the Singaporean's Government was prompted by

the dramatic decline in the nation's birth rate in ~~the~~ recent years. The old message 'Two is enough' seems to have brought undesirable results, which ~~have~~ put Singapore in precarious situation. If the population continuous to shrink, a time would come when there would not be enough male to defend the country. Female would than have to be called up to maintain the country's military force. Experts agree that the shrinking of the population is not checked in time, Singapore's labour force would also have be adversely affected.

In recent years, statistics have shown that many people in Singapore have remained unmarry and that the better-educated people who have married have ~~one~~ or two children. In addition, the national fertility rate seems to be on the decline.

Only a few years ago, the government offers irresistible incentives to married couples to consent in sterilization after having two children. Some low-income groups receive as much US\$5,000, thus enabling them to buy a government flat. With the government's new policy, however, this people will ~~be~~ no longer have the chance to obtain this extra income.

- a. ✓
- b. in
- c. offering
- d. of
77. ✓
78. produce
79. Singaporean (adj) ✓
80. the
81. seemed
82. situations
83. continued
84. then
85. forces
86. if
87. have
88. ✓
89. unmarried (adj)
90. only
91. ✓
92. offered
93. to
94. received
95. as
96. these
97. be

compare  
"Singapore's"

reference

## Matching Items

## A Happy Life

The sentences in Column B can be paired with those in Column A, so that the second sentence follows naturally from the first. Write the letters of the paired sentences from Column B in the spaces provided in Column A. Each letter should be used **ONCE** only.

### Column A

### Column B

67. B My teacher Mr Mac says that every person wants a happy life, but since no two individuals want exactly the same things, it is hard to make a generalization as to what contributes to a truly happy life.
68. H 'Money is an important ingredient of a happy life,' says a wealthy businessman.
69. I Tommy, an orphan who lives under the flyovers with some street urchins like him, has a simple criterion for happiness.
70. C 'The importance of having a good, stable job cannot be over-emphasised,' says Miss Cheng, a social worker.
71. A In an interview, a well-known sports celebrity said that happiness often involves activity.
72. E 'Living in an atmosphere of freedom in a well-governed community is another source of happiness,' explains a political analyst.
73. G Most men and women want to get married and have a happy home with children and a loving spouse.
74. D In early times, it was easier for people to be contented and happy, according to Mr Bates, a lecturer at Hong Kong University.
75. F Chris, a philosophy graduate, believes that it is possible to achieve happiness without much money.
76. J Asked if he believes success to be a measure of happiness, a noted psychology professor says that in some cases, success can make a person unhappy.
- A. 'Without it, a person is left bored and idle. Small wonder, then, that many of the so-called 'idle rich' are, after all, unhappy.'
- B. As the saying goes, 'What is sauce for the goose may not be sauce for the gander.'
- C. 'Lack of steady employment can cause a lot of unhappiness owing to feelings of insecurity and worthlessness.'
- D. 'People in those days lived simpler lives and, therefore, they were easily satisfied. The simpler one's needs and expectations are, the easier it is for him to find happiness.'
- E. 'By contrast, life in an atmosphere of repression brings a sense of unhappiness and rebellion. This explains why coups or uprisings are very common in countries with authoritarian governments.'
- F. 'After all, a desire for it is often regarded as the root of all evil.'
- G. 'But is it easy to achieve marital bliss? If so, then why is there a high incidence of divorce, especially in more advanced countries?'
- H. 'This is because money brings material comforts which eventually make for a happy life.'
- I. 'If I could only have a little room of my own, with a clean and comfortable bed, I would certainly be happy.'
- J. 'Some successful people become conceited, arrogant and inconsiderate. They often look down on their less successful contemporaries. As a result, they lose their friends and end up living alone and lonely.'

○ — questions with clear certainty = do first

## Matching Items

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### Column A

### Column B

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|----------|---|--|
| 67. ____ | My teacher Mr Mac says that every person wants a happy life, but since no two individuals want exactly the same things, it is hard to make a generalization as to what contributes to a truly happy life. | A. 'Without it, a person is left bored and idle. Small wonder, then, that many of the so-called 'idle rich' are, after all, unhappy.'  |
| 68. ____ | 'Money is an important ingredient of a happy life,' says a wealthy businessman.   | B. As the saying goes, 'What is sauce for the goose may not be sauce for the gander.'  |
| 69. ____ | Tommy, an orphan who lives under the flyovers with some street urchins like him, has a simple criterion for happiness.  | C. 'Lack of steady employment can cause a lot of unhappiness owing to feelings of insecurity and worthlessness.'   |
| 70. ____ | 'The importance of having a good, stable job cannot be over-emphasised,' says Miss Cheng, a social worker.  | D. 'People in those days lived simpler lives and, therefore, they were easily satisfied. The simpler one's needs and expectations are, the easier it is for him to find happiness.'                              |
| 71. ____ | In an interview, a well-known sports celebrity said that happiness often involves activity.   | E. 'By contrast, life in an atmosphere of repression brings a sense of unhappiness and rebellion. This explains why coups or uprisings are very common in countries with authoritarian governments.'             |
| 72. ____ | 'Living in an atmosphere of freedom in a well-governed community is another source of happiness,' explains a political analyst.   | F. 'After all, a desire for it is often regarded as the root of all evil.'   |
| 73. ____ | Most men and women want to get married and have a happy home with children and a loving spouse.   | G. 'But is it easy to achieve marital bliss? If so, then why is there a high incidence of divorce, especially in more advanced countries?'   |
| 74. ____ | In early times, it was easier for people to be contented and happy, according to Mr Bates, a lecturer at Hong Kong University.  | H. 'This is because money brings material comforts which eventually make for a happy life.'  |
| 75. ____ | Chris, a philosophy graduate, believes that it is possible to achieve happiness without much money.   | I. 'If I could only have a little room of my own, with a clean and comfortable bed, I would certainly be happy.'   |
| 76. ____ | Asked if he believes success to be a measure of happiness, a noted psychology professor says that in some cases, success can make a person unhappy.   | J. 'Some successful people become conceited, arrogant and inconsiderate. They often look down on their less successful contemporaries. As a result, they lose their friends and end up living alone and lonely.' |

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For two decades, the government in Singapore has been

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| In recent years, statistics have shown that many people in Singapore have remained unary and that the better-educated people who have married have one or two children. In addition, the national fertility rate seems to be on the decline.  | b. ____ <u>in</u>       |
| Only a few years ago, the government offers irresistible incentives to married couples to consent in sterilization after having two children. Some low-income groups receive as much US\$5,000, thus enabling them to buy a government flat. With the government's new policy, however, this people will be no longer have the chance to obtain this extra income.  | c. ____ <u>offering</u> |
|   | d. ____ <u>of</u>       |
|   | 77. ____                |
|   | 78. ____                |
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