Unit 8 - Listening - Gap-filling

Dr. Davis, a Dutch biologist is being interviewed about people's life expectancy in the future.

Interviewer: Many scientists predict that in the 21st century people will be living into the (1) _____ age of 130. What do you think about this?

Dr. Davis: Well, I quite agree with them. They have reasons to be confident about that.

Interviewer: What are the reasons?

Dr. Davis: In fact their prediction is based on (2) _____ and on the fact that the centenarian population is mushrooming as our general health improves.

Interviewer: Can you explain this further?

Dr. Davis: A century ago average life (3) _____ in Europe was 45. Today, providing we look after ourselves, eat more healthily, (4) _____ down on things like butter, alcohol and cigarettes, we can add nearly 35 years to that figure.

Interviewer: So these are the factors that help people live longer?

Dr. Davis: Yes. But the most important factor is the develoment in medical science.

Interviewer: What do you mean?

Dr. Davis: Nobody (5) _____ from old age, just from diseases that (6) _____ people when they get older.

Interviewer: So scientists are trying to find cures for (7) _____ diseases like cancer and Aids ?

Dr. Davis: Right. Nowadays, about 50% of cancers are (8) _____, and I really believe that within 30 years this will increase to 80%. And in ten years' time Aids will also be (9) _____ under control, too.

Interviewer: That sounds interesting. What about living forever?

Dr. Davis: So far, (10) _____ life is just science fiction. But with the advance of science, it's not impossible.

LIVEWORKSHEETS