UNIT 8: Life in the future

Listening

Task 1

Task 1: Decide whether the statememts are true (T) or false (F).

1. Nobody can predict how long we will be able to live in the 21th century.

2. People's general health will improve because they eat a lot of mushrooms.

3. Nowadays, If people look after themselves, they can live to be 90.

4. Within 30 years, 80% of cancers will be curable.

5. Eternal life isn't impossible.

Task 2: Listen to the interview about people's life expectancy in the future and fill the missing words in the blanks.

Dr. David, a Dutch biologist, is being _____(1) about people's life expectancy in the future.

Interviewer: Many scientists predict that in the 21st century people will be living into the _____(2) age of 130. What do you think about it?
Dr. David: Well, I quite agree with them. They have reasons to be confident about that

Interviewer: What are the reasons?

Dr. David: In fact their prediction is based on research and on the fact that the centenarian population is mushrooming as our general _____(3) improves.

Interviewer: Can you explain this further?

Dr. David: A century ago, _____(4) expectancy in Europe was 45. Today, providing we look after ourselves, eat more healthily, cut down on things like butter, alcohol and cigarettes, we can add nearly _____(5) to that figure.

Interviewer: So these are the _____(6) that help people live longer.

Dr. David: Yes. But the most important factor is the development in _____(7) science.

Interviewer: What do you mean?

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Dr. David: Nobody die from old age, but just from diseases that affect people when they get older.

Interviewer: So scientists are trying to find cures for _____(8) like cancer and AIDS?

Dr. David: Right. Nowadays, about 50% of cancers are curable, and I really believe that within 30 years this will increase to 80%. And in ten years' time. AIDS will also be brought under control, too.

Interviewer: That sounds _____(9) . What about living forever?

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

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