

7 C ■ Listening, speaking and vocabulary The golden years

2 Listen to a radio programme about growing old in different societies. Tick the ideas that are mentioned.

physical fitness mental deterioration dependence vs independence depression	loneliness poor diet job opportunities community projects
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3 Listen again and choose the correct answers.

1 According to the presenter, what is happening to society today? a It's becoming more tolerant, b It's becoming much older, c It's becoming less caring.	4 In the East, young people a send the elderly to nursing homes, b take care of the elderly, c are looked after by the elderly
2 What is the attitude to young people in countries like America? a They don't have much to say about important issues. b They come up with new ideas, c They gain experience quickly.	5 How is the way that old people are treated in Japanese culture explained? a It forms part of their upbringing and customs. b They don't value young people as much, c Children rely on their parents to support them.
3 According to the speakers, why do old people lose respect? a Because they retire too early. b Because they don't value young people, c Because they lose their independence.	6 Tribal societies are helped by a the resilience of old people during famine and hardship, b old people's knowledge of tribal history, c old people's ability to fight in battles.

The old and the young

4 Study the words and phrases from the radio programme. Which do you think describe the old and which the young? Which can describe both? Use a dictionary to help you understand the meaning. **LEARN THE WORDS!**

over the hill

adolescent

(in)dependent

wise

juvenile

long in the tooth

youthful

elderly

infantile

dynamic

supportive

(in)experienced

self-reliant

vulnerable

childish

set in their ways

foolish

mature