

## UNIT 8: Life in the future

### Listening

#### Task 1

**Task 1: Decide whether the statements 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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?

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.