UNIT 3: CHANGES IN FAMILY

LISTENING: FILL IN THE BLANKS (NO MORE THAN THAN TWO WORDS)

INCOME LEVEL

The level of income plays a significant role in the (1)..... of families. Families with a lower income tend to live with their extended families to save on rent and living expenses. This is because living with extended family members can help in sharing costs and reducing the (2)..... For instance, in many big cities like Hong Kong, it is common for extended families to live together, as it helps to share the expenses and provide emotional support. On the other hand, families with a higher income tend to have their own households. This is because they can afford to pay for their own (3)..... and do not need to depend on others for support. For example, in Western countries, it is common for people to move out of their parents' house and live independently once they start earning a (4)..... income.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Limited job opportunities in a town or city can lead many people to live away from their families to develop their (5)....., resulting in the emergence of dispersed families. This means that family members do not live together or live independently in different places. For example, many people in developing countries (6)..... to the city or abroad to find better job opportunities, leaving their families behind in the rural areas. Furthermore, some families may have to relocate due to their job (6)..... For instance, a person may have to move to another city or country for work, and their family may choose to stay behind due to various reasons, such as children's education or family ties.

COST OF LIVING

The cost of living is another factor that affects family structures. High living expenses can lead many people to delay (6)..... or form small-sized families. This is because they may not have the financial resources to support a large family. For example, in developed countries, it is becoming increasingly common for people to delay marriage and having children due to the high cost of living, such as housing and education expenses. Additionally, people may choose to have fewer children to reduce the financial burden. For instance, in some European countries, the (7)..... is decreasing due to the high cost of raising children. Therefore, couples are choosing to have fewer children or delay having children until they are financially stable.

TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES

Technological advances are the second factor that has gradually changed the (8)..... of families. In the past, when technology and the internet were not as developed as they are today, people tended to spend more time together, both at work and in daily life. However, in the modern world, people often work and spend their free time with technology (9)..... This reduces the interaction among family members and leads to a more solitary lifestyle than in the past. In addition, advances in (10)..... technology today make delayed childbearing easier and less risky. This is why many adults often choose (11)..... solutions, such

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as egg freezing, for fertilization at a later time. Instead, they focus on self-development and spend time on work

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