6 INTEGRATE Complete the text with *the* or Ø (no article

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What makes some people live longer than others? Is it geography? We often hear about certain places, such as [1] _____ Japan or countries near [2] _____ Mediterranean Sea, where people live longer, healthier lives. Scientists have yet to prove whether geographical factors alone lead to a longer life. However, we do know that genetics—our DNA—plays a major role.

In fact, researchers in [3] _____ United States have found the specific part of our DNA that is responsible for long life. Scientists at [4] _____ Harvard University and [5] _____ Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in [6] _____ Boston decided to study families to find out more. They discovered that very elderly people often had siblings who also lived much longer than average. All of them appear to have the same features in part of their DNA. They believe this may be the key to a long, healthy life. The researchers hope to find specific "longevity genes" and eventually use them to develop treatments that would allow people to stay healthier and live longer, no matter where on [7] _____ Earth they live.

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