

Directions: Listen to the audio as many times as you need to, and then fill in the blanks.

Birth _____ in many countries are _____ to _____ low levels.
_____ in Japan and South Korea are _____ questions about the _____
economic _____ of their countries. A _____ conference in Italy has _____
the country's _____ demographic _____. Italy has _____ of the
_____ birth rates in the world. The government is _____ of considerable
_____ on _____ and the welfare _____ as Italy's _____ rapidly
_____. The _____ of the Catholic Church, _____ Francis, has
_____ that having children is _____ more _____ for many _____.
He _____ that starting a _____ in Italy is now a " _____ effort" that only the
_____ and _____ can _____.

Pope Francis _____ Italians to have more _____, even _____ rising
_____. He _____ young couples for making " _____, _____ "
choices that are _____ in _____ low birth rates. He _____ this is
_____ Italy's _____ future. He _____ the situation a "demographic
_____ ". Italy _____ a record _____ number of _____ last year of

392,000, which _____ with an _____ number of _____ – 713,000. The Pope
_____ couples to have _____ instead of _____. He _____ a woman
who _____ him to _____ her "baby," which was _____ a dog. The BBC
_____ that Italy is often _____ "the country of _____". It
_____ Elon Musk as tweeting that: "Italy is _____."