

The Modern Age



Among the wide array of trends that are associated with the processes of (1) _____ (*modern*) and economic development, one in particular stands out: the rapid (2) _____ (*age*) of the population. In the days before widespread (3) _____ (*provide*) of pensions, the only guarantee of having a decent (4) _____ (*retire*) was to have plenty of grown-up children to look after you.

At the same time, infant (5) _____ (*mortal*) rates in the days before mass (6) _____ (*immune*) programmes and modern (7) _____ (*hygienic*) standards were considerably higher than today, so parents typically had as many children as possible. In the modern world, however, children are no longer a means of (8) _____ (*survive*) but rather a matter of (9) _____ (*choose*), leading to a sharp (10) _____ (*reduce*) in the number of births.

Simultaneously, dramatic (11) _____ (*improve*) in healthcare have caused the average (12) _____ (*long*) of one's lifespan to increase, with the result that over-64s will soon outnumber under-18s in many parts of the world.

Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given. You must use between three and eight words, including the word given.

- 1 It's possible that Greg didn't go to Swansea after all. **not**
Greg to Swansea after all.
- 2 It's quite likely that Sasha was lying about what Doug said. **well**
Sasha about what Doug said.
- 3 The most likely situation is that they awarded Grandpa the medal during the war. **must**
Grandpa during the war.
- 4 It's highly likely that Stephen was listening. **may**
Stephen listening.
- 5 It's not possible that Andrew is half Spanish. **be**
Andrew half Spanish.