Module 3

Life now and then

Module task: Organising a debate

Unit 1 They sometimes work harder.

Listening and vocabulary



1 **Talk about the photo. Say what life was like in the early 1980s and what life is like today.**

There weren't so many cars as there are today.

2 **Listen and answer the questions.**

1 What is the history homework?
2 What is the question they need to answer?
3 What does Betty ask?
4 What does Daming ask?

3 **Listen and read.**

Mum: It's getting late, Betty. How is your homework?

Betty: Nearly finished. Mum, do you think that life is better today than in the past?

Mum: Yes, of course, I do.

Betty: I do too. People are wealthier today, and they live longer than they did in the past.

Mum: That's true. We know more about medicine today, and there's less fear of getting ill because we know how to deal with the ordinary diseases. But people don't take as much exercise as they used to.

Betty: I suppose that's because more people have cars, and they walk or use their bikes less.

Mum: Some people think life in the past was simpler and healthier than today. More wealth sometimes means less health. When the number of cars is doubled, the pollution is also doubled, or even worse.

Betty: What about work? Do people work as hard as they did fifty years ago?

Mum: Yes, and they sometimes work harder. People seldom say they have enough spare time! Why don't you go and ask Mrs Li, our neighbour? She's over seventy years old. She's seen how life has changed.

Betty: That's a good idea. I'll go and ask her.

Mum: Remember to speak up! She's a bit deaf now.

Everyday English

- Nearly finished.
- That's true.
- I suppose…

Now choose the correct answer.

1 People live longer today because _____.
a) we know more about medicine
b) they do not work as hard as they did
c) they take more exercise

2 There is less fear of getting ill _____.
a) so people live longer
b) because people know how to deal with the ordinary diseases
c) so people work harder than before

3 People take less exercise because _____.
a) they do not need to
b) they drive cars instead
c) they do not have cars or bikes

4 People work harder today and _____.
a) they do not live as long as they did
b) they do not usually have enough free time
c) they live a healthier life

4 Complete the questions with the words or expression in the box.

deaf doubled fear spare used to wealth

1 What kinds of things do you _____?
2 What do you do in your _____ time?
3 What can someone not do if they are _____?
4 If something is _____, is it more or less?
5 Do you think people _____ take more exercise than they do today?
6 Do you think people have more _____ today than they used to?

Now work in pairs. Ask and answer.

Pronunciation and speaking

5 Read and predict which words the speaker is likely to stress.

Some people think life in the past was simpler and healthier than today. More wealth sometimes means less health. When the number of cars is doubled, the pollution is also doubled, or even worse.

Now listen and check.

6 Read the paragraph in Activity 5 aloud.

7 Work in pairs. Answer the question and give your reasons.

— Is life better today than in the past?
— Yes, it is. I think it's because... / No, it isn't. I think...

Now say what is better or worse in:

- education
- environment
- health

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Unit 2 I think life is better today.

Reading and vocabulary



1 **Look at the woman in the photo. How do you think she feels? Think about what she will talk about:**

- family
- work
- health
- education

2 **Read the passage and take notes on what Mrs Li says about the points in Activity 1.**

Life now and then

By Betty King

Mrs Li is over seventy years old. She has lived in Beijing all her life. I asked her about life today and in the past.

What was your life like in the past?

My family lived in a tiny house. There were no electric lights, only candles. My father was a postman, and he often worked twelve hours a day outside in the winter cold or in the summer heat. My mum was a farm girl before she met my father. She was a kind and loving mother. She didn't go out to work. There were five children in my family, and looking after us was more than a full-time job.

I remember the family meals. The food was simple. We could only eat meat once or twice a year. I wasn't sent to school because my family couldn't afford it, and what's more, because I was a girl.

How has life changed?

Families have got smaller than they were in the past. Today most people only have one child! The role of women has changed too. My daughter is really lucky. She has a good education, and she goes to work even after getting married. I'm happy to see she's busy working every day, but sometimes I feel lonely because she can't come to see me often.

Transport and travel are easier today. When I was young, I went everywhere on foot or sometimes by bike. Now you can take the bus everywhere, and there's also the underground. And you young people can take a plane to anywhere in the world. The only thing I don't like, though, is that there's so much more traffic. It's so difficult to cross the road.

Of course, we didn't have television when I was a child. I really enjoy watching television today. There're so many good programmes, like the Beijing Opera and old films. But some of the shows are too noisy for me.

Generally speaking, I think life is better today. We eat better and we live longer.

Now complete the notes and add more points of your own.

Life in the past	Life now
1 *Family: bigger; five children*	1 *Family: smaller; one child*
2 *Food:*	2
3 *Work:*	3
4 *Education:*	4

3 Complete the passage with the words and expression in the box.

candles cold generally speaking postman tiny traffic

Mrs Li's father was a (1) _____. He often worked outside for twelve hours a day in the summer heat or in the winter (2) _____. They lived in a (3) _____ house and used (4) _____ for light. Mrs Li says that (5) _____, life is better today. But not everything is satisfying. There are some things that she is not happy with, for example, the (6) _____.

Writing

4 Write a passage about the advantages and disadvantages of life today.

- Choose two or three points from the notes in Activity 2 to write about.
  Families are smaller...
- Give examples or reasons to support those points.
  Most people only have one child today.
- For each of the points you choose, write about an advantage and/or a disadvantage. Use the words *however*, *but*, *although* or *used to* where appropriate.
  Families are smaller because most people only have one child today. As a result, families have more money to spend on their child. However, an only child may feel lonely...
- Finish the passage with your conclusion.
  Generally speaking, I think...

5 Present your passage to the class.

Module 3

Life now and then

Unit 3 Language in use

Language practice

People are **wealthier** today, and they live **longer** than they did in the past.
But people don't take **as much** exercise **as** they used to.
More people have cars, and they walk or use their bikes **less**.
We eat **better** and we live **longer**.

1 Complete the passage with the correct form of the words in brackets.

For many people, life is a lot (1) _____ (easy) today. Medicine and diet are improving, and people are getting (2) _____ (healthy) and living (3) _____ (long). But communication is changing (4) _____ (fast) of all. Today, with the Internet, people can communicate (5) _____ (easily) than ever before with friends all over the world.

Not all the changes are (6) _____ (good) ones. More people drive cars instead of riding bikes, so they are not as (7) _____ (fit) as they were. Increasing traffic makes the roads (8) _____ (crowded) than ever, and it also makes pollution (9) _____ (bad). We must all work harder to reduce pollution.

2 Work in pairs. Look at the two pictures and talk about how the town has changed. Use the words in the box to help you.

big building busy house modern more shop street tall traffic tree





3 Complete the sentences with the words or expressions in the box.

heat more than seldom spare speak up

1 We _____ have time to go on holiday.
2 We do not have much _____ time because we have important exams this year.
3 Never go out in the _____ of the day without a hat.
4 You have to _____ because the students in the back cannot hear you.
5 Mr Smith is _____ a teacher. Most of his pupils think of him as their friend.

4 Read the email and find three examples that show life was harder in the past than it is today.

FROM: Gran
TO: Christine
SUBJECT: The lives of children in Victorian Britain

Dear Christine,

You asked me for help about your school project — the lives of children in Victorian Britain. I was also interested. I searched online and found out the following.

In Victorian Britain, thousands of people came to the cities to work in the factories. Instead of the green, open countryside, people lived in very small houses, very close to each other, with no space for children to play. Families in those days were quite big. Often, there were four or five children in one family, and they all had to sleep in houses of just two rooms. Sometimes, a whole street had to share one outside toilet. Can you imagine that?

Most of the big cities were dirty and unhealthy. The pollution from factories filled the air. People put their rubbish outside in the streets. As a result, there were many illnesses.

And life was harder for children in those times. They didn't always go to school, because they had to work instead. Many children started work in factories when they were only four or five years old. They worked twelve hours a day in dangerous jobs for very little money. Many were hurt in accidents with machines.

I hope this is helpful. Write to me if you need more information.

With love,

Gran



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5 **Read the email again. Find sentences that tell us:**

1 There was not enough living space for people.
2 Most of the big cities were dirty and unhealthy.
3 Life was harder for children in those times.

Write examples.

1 *People lived in very small houses, very close to each other, with no space for children to play.*
2 _____.
3 _____.

Learning to learn

When you do a listening or reading exercise, you should read the instructions carefully. Then you can focus your attention just on the information you need. You don't have to understand every word.

6 **Listen and complete the table.**

	Grandmother	Mother
Age to start school		
Age to start work		
Age to get married		
Number of children		
Age to stop working		

7 **Write a passage comparing the lives of the speaker's grandmother and mother in Activity 6.**

The speaker's grandmother and mother have lived very different lives. Her grandmother had a much bigger family...



Around the world

Cars

The modern car has changed life a great deal. Before the invention of the car, people had to travel by rail, on horseback or by horse-drawn carriage, or on foot. Using horses for travel was slow, and of course walking was even slower. Cars allow people to travel long distances quickly, in comfort and convenience.

The car also solved an enormous problem caused by using horses for transport in cities: manure! There were so many horses in large cities that it was almost impossible to get rid of the manure. Modern people are used to the idea that cars cause pollution, but the first cars actually made cities cleaner!



Module task: Organising a debate

8 **Work in groups. Read the motion of the debate.**

Health is more important than wealth.

Now decide who is for the motion and who is against it. You can use some of the following ideas:

For:

- Without health, wealth means nothing.
- You can enjoy life better if you are healthy.

Against:

- It is hard to be healthy without wealth.
- You can enjoy life better if you are wealthy.

9 **Prepare your arguments. Give examples to support your ideas.**

10 **Hold the debate.**

- Those for the motion give their opinions.
- Those against the motion give their opinions.
- Take turns to say what you think about each other's arguments.

11 **Discuss and find out whether most people are for or against the motion.**

Words and expressions

Module 1

flight /flaɪt/ *n.* 航班；飞行 (2)
because of 因为；由于 (2)
direct /dɪ'rekt; daɪ'rekt/ *adv.* 径直地；直接地 (2)
pilot /'paɪlət/ *n.* 飞行员 (2)
succeed /sək'si:d/ *v.* 成功；做成 (2)
as long as 只要 (2)
school-leaver /'sku:lˌli:və/ *n.* [英] 毕业生 (2)
exactly /ɪg'zæktli/ *adv.* 确切地；完全；[口] (表示赞同) 确实如此 (2)
take care (告别用语) 多保重 (4)
sir /sə; sɜ:/ *n.* 先生；长官 (4)
officer /'ɒfɪsə/ *n.* 军官；官员；警察 (4)
stupid /'stju:pɪd/ *adj.* 笨的；糊涂的 (4)
take off 脱去 (4)
jacket /'dʒækɪt/ *n.* 短上衣；夹克 (4)

Module 2

ours /aʊəz/ *pron.* 我们的 (10)
tie /taɪ/ *n.* 领带 (10)
row /rəʊ/ *n.* 一排；一行；一列 (10)
pool /pu:l/ *n.* 水池；游泳池 (10)
pass /pɑ:s/ *v.* 及格；通过 (考试或检查) (12)
secondary /'sekəndəri/ *adj.* (教育) 中等的；次要的；间接的 (12)
secondary school 中学 (12)
absent /'æbsənt/ *adj.* 缺席的；不在的 (12)
bell /bel/ *n.* 钟；铃 (12)

Module 3

wealthy /'welθi/ *adj.* 富有的；富裕的 (18)
fear /fɪə/ *n.* 担心；害怕 (18)
used to /'ju:st tu/ *v. aux.* (用于表示过去真实或经常性的行为，特别强调现在不那样了) 过去 (18)
wealth /welθ/ *n.* 财富；财产 (18)
double /'dʌbl/ *v.* 使加倍；把……增加一倍
adj. (成) 双的；两个…… (18)
seldom /'seldəm/ *adv.* 很少地；不常 (18)
spare /speə/ *adj.* 空余的；备用的 (18)
spare time 业余时间；闲暇 (18)
speak up 大点声说 (18)
deaf /def/ *adj.* 聋的 (18)
tiny /'taɪni/ *adj.* 微小的；极小的 (20)
electric /ɪ'lektrɪk/ *adj.* 用电的；电动的 (20)
light /laɪt/ *n.* 电灯 (20)
candle /'kændl/ *n.* 蜡烛 (20)
postman /'pəʊstmən/ *n.* 邮递员 (20)
cold /kəʊld/ *n.* 寒冷；冷空气 (20)
heat /hi:t/ *n.* 高温；热度 (20)

注：黑体的单词要求掌握；白体的单词只要求理解。

样书

full-time /ˈfʊlˌtaɪm/ *adj.* 专职的；全日制的 (20)

role /rəʊl/ *n.* 作用；职责；角色 (20)

education /ˌedjʊˈkeɪʃn/ *n.* (个人的)教育；学业 (20)

transport /ˈtrænspɔːt/ *n.* 运输业；交通 (20)

Module 4

set off 动身；出发 (26)

sock /sɒk/ *n.* 短袜 (26)

whenever /wenˈevə/ *conj.* 每当；无论什么时候 (26)

proper /ˈprɒpə/ *adj.* 合适的；恰当的 (26)

edge /edʒ/ *n.* 边；边缘 (26)

yourself /jəˈself/ *pron.* (*pl.* yourselves) 你自己 (26)

go off 离开 (26)

starve /stɑːv/ *v.* 挨饿；饿死 (26)

go /gəʊ/ *n.* 尝试；努力 (26)

in one go 一口气；一下子 (26)

rock /rɒk/ *n.* 岩；岩石 (26)

rock climbing 攀岩 (26)

stone /stəʊn/ *n.* 石头 (26)

fairly /ˈfeəli/ *adv.* 相当；还算 (26)

smooth /smuːð/ *adj.* 无困难的；顺利的；光滑的；平坦的 (26)

straight /streɪt/ *adj.* 直的；笔直的 (26)

tent /tent/ *n.* 帐篷 (28)

fall /fɔːl/ *v.* 变成，进入（某种状态） (28)

fall asleep 入睡；睡着 (28)

hang /hæŋ/ *v.* (hung /hʌŋ/, hung) 悬挂；吊 (28)

sudden /ˈsʌdn/ *adj.* 突然的；急剧的 (28)

gun /gʌn/ *n.* 枪 (28)

soft /sɒft/ *adj.* 软的；柔软的 (28)

still /stɪl/ *adj.* 静止的；不动的 (28)

wood /wʊd/ *n.* (小) 树林；林地 (28)

blood /blʌd/ *n.* 血；血液 (28)

Module 5

catch up 赶上 (40)

agreement /əˈgriːmənt/ *n.* 协议；协定 (40)

blind /blaɪnd/ *adj.* 失明的 (40)

ouch /aʊtʃ/ *int.* 哎哟（用于表示突然的疼痛） (40)

call off 取消；决定终止 (40)

thanks to 多亏；归功于 (42)

health care 医疗保健（服务） (42)

expect /ɪkˈspekt/ *v.* 预料；预计 (42)

require /rɪˈkwaɪə/ *v.* 需要 (42)

physical /ˈfɪzɪkl/ *adj.* 身体的；体力的 (42)

effort /ˈefət/ *n.* 力气；精力 (42)

once in a while 偶尔；有时；间或 (42)

harm /hɑːm/ *v.* 损害；伤害 (42)

样书