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Level 6 – 18th January, 2020

Denmark is the best country to raise kids

FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200118-raising-kids.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200118-raising-kids.html>

Scandinavia has ranked as the best place in the world to raise children. The Nordic region holds the top three places on the U.S. News & World Report's list of "The Best Countries for Raising Kids" in 2020. The list has been compiled annually since 2016 in collaboration with the University of Pennsylvania. Denmark topped the list, with Sweden a close runner-up, and neighbour Norway edging out Canada for third place. The 2020 listings will come as little surprise as the three nations also ranked highest on the list for 2019. A spokeswoman explained: "These countries tend to have generous paternal leave and maternal leave, offer free preschool and have good overall public education systems."

The listing was released as part of the annual "Best Countries" list. This survey adopted "a global perceptions-based" approach in examining data and attitudes. It used research from the World Bank, as well as the opinions of 20,000 people in the Americas, Asia, Europe, the Middle East and Africa. Researchers tested countries against 65 different metrics, or what the researchers called "country attributes". These included income equality, well-developed public education and healthcare systems, human rights, gender equality, safety, family friendliness and levels of perceived happiness. Switzerland once again topped the "Best Countries" list, followed by Canada and Japan.

Sources: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/best-country-for-kids-the-list-of-the-best-countries-in-the-world-to-raise-kids-has-been-released-america/>
<https://edition.cnn.com/2020/01/15/health/best-country-to-raise-child-wellness/index.html>
<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-7890051/Revealed-BEST-countries-world-raise-child-Britain-ranks-11th.html>

WARM-UPS

1. RAISING KIDS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about raising kids. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

Scandinavia / raise children / top / list / collaboration / runner-up / paternal leave / annual / data / attitudes / opinions / metrics / gender / happiness / human rights

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. MY COUNTRY: Students A **strongly** believe their country is the best country for children to grow up in; Students B **strongly** believe it isn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. RAISING CHILDREN: Write what children need and why in the table below. How did this compare with how you grew up? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	The Best Kind	Your Experiences of This
Education		
Music and Art		
Physical activity		
Nutrition		
Games		
Environment		

5. LIST: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "list". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. BEST PLACES: Rank these with your partner. Put the best places to raise children at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- The countryside
- By the sea
- New York
- A mountain village
- Silicon Valley
- Hollywood
- Kyoto
- Denmark

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 1. ranked | a. A competitor or team taking second place in a contest. |
| 2. Nordic | b. Of or appropriate to a father. |
| 3. region | c. Gave someone or something a rank or place within a grading system. |
| 4. compiled | d. Relating to Scandinavia, Finland, Iceland, and the Faroe Islands. |
| 5. runner-up | e. Collect information in order to produce something. |
| 6. edging out | f. Narrowly defeated / beat a competitor or opponent. |
| 7. paternal | g. An area or division, especially part of a country or the world having definable characteristics but not always fixed boundaries. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 8. adopted | h. Which sex someone is (male, female or other). |
| 9. perception | i. A quality or feature regarded as a characteristic or inherent part of someone or something. |
| 10. data | j. A system or standard of measuring things and assessing quality. |
| 11. metric | k. Start to use or follow an idea, method, or course of action. |
| 12. attribute | l. The state of being the same as everyone else, especially in status, rights, and opportunities. |
| 13. gender | m. A way of regarding, understanding, or interpreting something; a mental impression or image. |
| 14. equality | n. Facts and statistics collected together for reference or analysis. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200118-raising-kids.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. Scandinavia is part of the Nordic region. **T / F**
- b. The top three countries to raise children are in Scandinavia. **T / F**
- c. The USA was fourth on the list of the best places to raise children. **T / F**
- d. Scandinavian countries tend to have generous paternity leave. **T / F**
- e. Researchers used a global perceptions approach for their report. **T / F**
- f. Researchers looked at metrics in 65 different countries. **T / F**
- g. Researchers looked at levels of unhappiness in different countries. **T / F**
- h. Switzerland was top on the "Best Countries" list. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. ranked | a. views |
| 2. top | b. co-operation |
| 3. compiled | c. general |
| 4. collaboration | d. contentment |
| 5. overall | e. issued |
| 6. released | f. leading |
| 7. attitudes | g. parity |
| 8. attributes | h. rated |
| 9. equality | i. qualities |
| 10. happiness | j. assembled |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| 1. Scandinavia has ranked | a. -based approach |
| 2. The list has been compiled | b. equality |
| 3. edging out | c. education systems |
| 4. These countries tend to have generous | d. happiness |
| 5. good overall public | e. Canada for third place |
| 6. This survey adopted a global perceptions | f. paternal leave |
| 7. examining data | g. friendliness |
| 8. income | h. as the best place |
| 9. family | i. and attitudes |
| 10. levels of perceived | j. annually since 2016 |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200118-raising-kids.html>

Scandinavia has (1) _____ as the best place in the world to raise children. The Nordic (2) _____ holds the top three places on the U.S. News & World Report's list of "The Best Countries for Raising Kids" in 2020. The list has been (3) _____ annually since 2016 in (4) _____ with the University of Pennsylvania. Denmark topped the list, with Sweden a close (5) _____, and neighbour Norway edging out Canada for third place. The 2020 listings will come as little surprise as the three nations also ranked highest on the list for 2019. A spokeswoman explained: "These countries (6) _____ to have generous paternal leave and maternal (7) _____, offer free preschool and have good (8) _____ public education systems."

collaboration
overall
ranked
compiled
leave
region
tend
runner-up

The listing was released as part of the (9) _____ "Best Countries" list. This survey adopted "a global perceptions-based" (10) _____ in examining data and attitudes. It used research from the World Bank, as well as the (11) _____ of 20,000 people in the Americas, Asia, Europe, the Middle East and Africa. Researchers tested countries against 65 different (12) _____, or what the researchers called "country attributes". These included (13) _____ equality, well-developed (14) _____ education and healthcare systems, human rights, gender (15) _____, safety, family friendliness and levels of (16) _____ happiness. Switzerland once again topped the "Best Countries" list, followed by Canada and Japan.

public
metrics
perceived
approach
annual
opinions
equality
income

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200118-raising-kids.html>

- 1) The Nordic region holds the _____
 - a. top three plaice is
 - b. top three play sis
 - c. top three plates
 - d. top three places
- 2) The list has been compiled annually since 2016 in _____ University
 - a. collaboration with the
 - b. collaborated with the
 - c. collaborate shun with the
 - d. collar aberration with the
- 3) Denmark topped the list, with Sweden a _____
 - a. closed runner-up
 - b. close runner-up
 - c. closely runner-up
 - d. clothes runner-up
- 4) These countries tend to have generous paternal leave and _____
 - a. external leave
 - b. fraternal leave
 - c. maternal leave
 - d. matronly leave
- 5) offer free preschool and have good overall public _____
 - a. education system
 - b. education systemic
 - c. education systems
 - d. education systemise
- 6) The listing was released as part of the _____ Countries" list
 - a. annually "Best
 - b. annual "Best
 - c. annul "Best
 - d. ennui "Best
- 7) This survey adopted "a global _____" approach
 - a. perceptions-basted
 - b. perceptions-biased
 - c. perceptions-paste
 - d. perceptions-based
- 8) It used research from the World Bank, as well as the _____ 20,000 people
 - a. aprons of
 - b. opines of
 - c. opinions of
 - d. onions of
- 9) Researchers tested countries against 65 _____
 - a. different met ticks
 - b. different met tricks
 - c. different mat tricks
 - d. different metrics
- 10) gender equality, safety, family friendliness and levels of _____
 - a. received happiness
 - b. perceived happiness
 - c. pre-seeded happiness
 - d. per sieved happiness

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200118-raising-kids.html>

Scandinavia (1) _____ the best place in the world to raise children. The Nordic region holds the (2) _____ on the U.S. News & World Report's list of "The Best Countries for Raising Kids" in 2020. The list has been (3) _____ 2016 in collaboration with the University of Pennsylvania. Denmark topped the list, with Sweden a close runner-up, and neighbour Norway (4) _____ for third place. The 2020 listings will come (5) _____ the three nations also ranked highest on the list for 2019. A spokeswoman explained: "These countries tend to have (6) _____ and maternal leave, offer free preschool and have good overall public education systems."

The listing was released as part (7) _____ "Best Countries" list. This survey adopted "(8) _____" approach in examining (9) _____. It used research from the World Bank, as well as the opinions of 20,000 people in the Americas, Asia, Europe, the Middle East and Africa. Researchers tested countries against (10) _____, or what the researchers called "country attributes". These included income equality, well-developed public education and healthcare systems, human rights, (11) _____, family friendliness and levels of perceived happiness. Switzerland (12) _____ the "Best Countries" list, followed by Canada and Japan.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200118-raising-kids.html>

1. What region is Scandinavia in?
2. Since when has this list been compiled?
3. Which country was the runner-up?
4. What did the article say was generous in the Scandinavian countries?
5. What did the article say was free in the Scandinavian countries?
6. What list was the raising kids list a part of?
7. How many people's opinions did researchers look at?
8. How many continents were part of the research?
9. What kind of friendliness did the researchers look at?
10. Which country was top of the Best Countries list?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200118-raising-kids.html>

- 1) What region is Scandinavia in?
 - a) the Steppes
 - b) the Nordic region
 - c) the Baltic region
 - d) Siberia
- 2) Since when has this list been compiled?
 - a) 2014
 - b) 2014
 - c) 2015
 - d) 2016
- 3) Which country was the runner-up?
 - a) Sweden
 - b) Switzerland
 - c) Canada
 - d) Norway
- 4) What did the article say was generous in the Scandinavian countries?
 - a) gender equality
 - b) healthcare
 - c) maternal and paternal leave
 - d) public education
- 5) What did the article say was free in the Scandinavian countries?
 - a) collaboration
 - b) preschool
 - c) maternal leave
 - d) education systems
- 6) What list was the raising kids list a part of?
 - a) the Best Countries list
 - b) the World Education list
 - c) the WHO list
 - d) the A-Z of Countries list
- 7) How many people's opinions did researchers look at?
 - a) 10,000
 - b) 30,000
 - c) 20,000
 - d) 40,000
- 8) How many continents were part of the research?
 - a) 5
 - b) 4
 - c) 6
 - d) 3
- 9) What kind of friendliness did the researchers look at?
 - a) family-friendliness
 - b) child-friendliness
 - c) user-friendliness
 - d) teacher-friendliness
- 10) Which country was top of the Best Countries list?
 - a) Japan
 - b) Canada
 - c) Finland
 - d) Switzerland

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200118-raising-kids.html>

Role A – Denmark

You think Denmark is the best place to raise children. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their places. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): Hollywood, Kyoto or New York.

Role B – Hollywood

You think Hollywood is the best place to raise children. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their places. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): Denmark, Kyoto or New York.

Role C – Kyoto

You think Kyoto is the best place to raise children. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their places. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): Hollywood, Denmark or New York.

Role D – New York

You think New York is the best place to raise children. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their places. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): Hollywood, Kyoto or Denmark.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200118-raising-kids.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'country' and 'kids'.

country	kids

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• holds• since• topped• close• little• free	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• part• data• well• 65• human• once
--	--

RAISING KIDS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200118-raising-kids.html>

Write five GOOD questions about raising kids in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

RAISING KIDS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'kids'?
3. Which word do you like better - 'kids' or 'children'?
4. Where do you think is the best place in the world to raise children?
5. What is your country like for children?
6. How good was the place you grew up in?
7. Why are the Scandinavian countries so good for children?
8. Where would you like to have grown up as a child?
9. What is the most important thing a country can give its children?
10. Where would you like to raise your children?

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RAISING KIDS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'country'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What do you know about Denmark?
15. What do you think is the best country in the world?
16. What are the global perceptions of your country?
17. What is the world's best continent?
18. How happy a place is your country?
19. What would you change about your country to make it better?
20. What questions would you like to ask a Danish child?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200118-raising-kids.html>

Scandinavia has (1) _____ as the best place in the world to raise children. The Nordic region holds the top three places on the U.S. News & World Report's list of "The Best Countries for Raising Kids" in 2020. The list has been (2) _____ annually since 2016 (3) _____ collaboration with the University of Pennsylvania. Denmark topped the list, with Sweden a close runner-up, and neighbour Norway edging (4) _____ Canada for third place. The 2020 listings will come as little surprise as the three nations also ranked highest on the list for 2019. A spokeswoman explained: "These countries (5) _____ to have generous paternal leave and maternal leave, offer free preschool and have good (6) _____ public education systems."

The listing was released (7) _____ part of the annual "Best Countries" list. This survey adopted "a global perceptions-based" approach (8) _____ examining data and attitudes. It used research from the World Bank, as well as the opinions of 20,000 people in the (9) _____, Asia, Europe, the Middle East and Africa. Researchers tested countries against 65 different (10) _____, or what the researchers called "country attributes". These included income equality, well-developed public education and healthcare systems, (11) _____ rights, gender equality, safety, family friendliness and levels of perceived happiness. Switzerland once again (12) _____ the "Best Countries" list, followed by Canada and Japan.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. | (a) wrinkled | (b) wrangled | (c) rankled | (d) ranked |
| 2. | (a) combed | (b) collided | (c) complied | (d) compiled |
| 3. | (a) on | (b) in | (c) of | (d) at |
| 4. | (a) up | (b) in | (c) out | (d) of |
| 5. | (a) tend | (b) trend | (c) tread | (d) treat |
| 6. | (a) overall | (b) overalls | (c) overly | (d) overtly |
| 7. | (a) has | (b) is | (c) was | (d) as |
| 8. | (a) in | (b) to | (c) up | (d) on |
| 9. | (a) Americans | (b) Americas | (c) America | (d) American |
| 10. | (a) metres | (b) mortises | (c) metrics | (d) matrices |
| 11. | (a) humanly | (b) humane | (c) human | (d) humanist |
| 12. | (a) tipped | (b) topped | (c) tapped | (d) tepid |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200118-raising-kids.html>

Paragraph 1

1. The doriNc region
2. The list has been dclipmoe annually
3. in tlornilacoboa with the University
4. with Sweden a close uenrrn-pu
5. generous apltrnea leave
6. good levlroa public education

Paragraph 2

7. a global peinctroeps-based" approach
8. examining data and austtdeit
9. tested countries against 65 different mtiresc
10. country uesbaittr
11. gender tyqaluei
12. levels of edvrepiec happiness

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200118-raising-kids.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () The listing was released as part of the annual "Best Countries" list. This survey adopted "a global perceptions-
- () leave and maternal leave, offer free preschool and have good overall public education systems."
- () based" approach in examining data and attitudes. It used research from the World Bank, as well as the
- () in 2020. The list has been compiled annually since 2016 in collaboration with the University
- () region holds the top three places on the U.S. News & World Report's list of "The Best Countries for Raising Kids"
- () equality, well-developed public education and healthcare systems, human rights, gender equality, safety, family
- () highest on the list for 2019. A spokeswoman explained: "These countries tend to have generous paternal
- () friendliness and levels of perceived happiness. Switzerland once
- () opinions of 20,000 people in the Americas, Asia, Europe, the Middle East and Africa. Researchers tested countries against 65 different
- () again topped the "Best Countries" list, followed by Canada and Japan.
- () out Canada for third place. The 2020 listings will come as little surprise as the three nations also ranked
- () of Pennsylvania. Denmark topped the list, with Sweden a close runner-up, and neighbour Norway edging
- (**1**) Scandinavia has ranked as the best place in the world to raise children. The Nordic
- () metrics, or what the researchers called "country attributes". These included income

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200118-raising-kids.html>

1. in best the Ranked as place world . the
2. holds top region Nordic places . three the The
3. since The compiled annually has list 2016 . been
4. as surprise . will little listings come 2020 The
5. to leave . These paternal have tend generous countries
6. a approach . This survey perceptions-based global adopted
7. Americas . of opinions in 20,000 The the people
8. against metrics . tested countries Researchers 65 different
9. and friendliness of Family happiness . levels perceived
10. again Best Countries once the list . Switzerland topped

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200118-raising-kids.html>

Scandinavia has ranked as the best place in the world to *arise / raise* children. The Nordic region *holds / grips* the top three places on the U.S. News & World Report's list of "The Best Countries for Raising Kids" in 2020. The list has been *complied / compiled* annually since 2016 in *collaborator / collaboration* with the University of Pennsylvania. Denmark topped the list, with Sweden a close *cool down / runner-up*, and neighbour Norway *edging / bordering* out Canada for third place. The 2020 listings will come as *little / few* surprise as the three nations also *ranked / linked* highest on the list for 2019. A spokeswoman explained: "These countries *attend / tend* to have generous paternal leave and maternal leave, offer free preschool and have good *overall / overlay* public education systems."

The listing was released as part of the *annually / annual* "Best Countries" list. This survey adopted "a global perceptions-based" *reproach / approach* in examining *data / datum* and attitudes. It used research from the World Bank, as well as the *opines / opinions* of 20,000 people in the *America / Americas*, Asia, Europe, the Middle East and Africa. Researchers tested countries against 65 different *mathematics / metrics*, or what the researchers *called / culled* "country attributes". These included income equality, well-developed public education and healthcare *system / systems*, human rights, gender equality, safety, family friendliness and levels of *perception / perceived* happiness. Switzerland once again topped the "Best Countries" list, followed *by / in* Canada and Japan.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200118-raising-kids.html>

S_c_n_d_n_v__ h_s r_n k_d _s th_ b_st pl_c_ _n t
h_ w_r_l_d t_ r__ s_ ch_l_d_r_n. Th_ N_r_d_c r_g__
n h_l_d_s th_ t_p thr__ pl_c_s _n th_ U.S.
N_w_s & W_r_l_d R_p_r_t's l_st _f "Th_ B_st
C__ n_t_r__ s_f_r R__ s_n_g K_d_s" _n 2020. Th_
l_st h_s b__ n c_m_p_l_d _n n__ lly s_n_c_ 2016
_n c_l_l_b_r_t__ n w_th th_ U_n_v_r_s_t_y _f P_n_n
s_y_l_v_n__ . D_n_m_r_k t_p_p_d th_ l_st, w_th S
w_d_n _c_l_s_ r_n_n_r_p, _n_d n__ g_h_b__ r N_r
w_y _d_g_n_g __ t C_n_d_ f_r th_r_d pl_c_. Th_ 2
020 l_st_n_g_s w_ll c_m__ s_l_t_t_l_ s_r_p_r_s__ s
th_ thr__ n_t__ n_s _l_s_ r_n_k_d h_g_h_s_t _n th_
l_st _f_r 2019. A s_p_k_s_w_m_n _x_p_l__ n_d: "
Th_s_ c__ n_t_r__ s_t_n_d t_h_v_ g_n_r__ s_p_t_r
n_l_l__ v__ n_d m_t_r_n_l_l__ v__, _f_f_r_f_r__ p_r_s_c
h__ l__ n_d h_v_ g__ d_v_r_l_l_p_b_l_c_d_c_t__ n_s_y
s_t_m_s."

Th_ l_st_n_g w_s r_l__ s_d _s p_r_t _f th_ _n_n__
l "B_st C__ n_t_r__ s" l_st. Th_s s_r_v_y _d_p
t_d "_g_l_b_l_p_r_c_p_t__ n_s - b_s_d" _p_p_r__ c_h _n
_x_m_n_n_g d_t__ n_d t_t_t_d_s. It _s_d r_s__ r_c_h
f_r_m th_ W_r_l_d B_n_k, _s_w_l_l_s th_ _p_n__ n
s _f 20,000 p__ p_l__ n th_ A_m_r_c_s, A_s__,
E_r_p_, th_ M_d_d_l_ E_s_t _n_d A_f_r_c_. R_s__ r_c
h_r_s t_s_t_d c__ n_t_r__ s _g__ n_s_t 65 d_f_f_r_n_t
m_t_r_c_s, _r_w_h_t th_ r_s__ r_c_h_r_s c_l_l_d "c__
n_t_r_y _t_t_r_b_t_s". Th_s _n_c_l_d_d _n_c_m__ q__
l_t_y, w_ll-d_v_l_p_d p_b_l_c_d_c_t__ n _n_d h__ l
t_h_c_r_ s_y_s_t_m_s, h_m_n_r_g_h_t_s, g_n_d_r_q__
l_t_y, s_f_t_y, f_m_l_y_f_r__ n_d_l_n_s_s _n_d l_v_l_s
_f_p_r_c__ v_d_h_p_p_n_s_s. S_w_t_z_r_l_n_d _n_c_g__
n_t_p_p_d th_ "B_st C__ n_t_r__ s" l_st, f_l
l_w_d_b_y C_n_d_ _n_d J_p_n.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200118-raising-kids.html>

scandinavia has ranked as the best place in the world to raise children the nordic region holds the top three places on the us news world reports list of the best countries for raising kids in 2020 the list has been compiled annually since 2016 in collaboration with the university of pennsylvania denmark topped the list with sweden a close runnerup and neighbour norway edging out canada for third place the 2020 listings will come as little surprise as the three nations also ranked highest on the list for 2019 a spokeswoman explained these countries tend to have generous paternal leave and maternal leave offer free preschool and have good overall public education systems

the listing was released as part of the annual best countries list this survey adopted a global perceptionsbased approach in examining data and attitudes it used research from the world bank as well as the opinions of 20000 people in the americas asia europe the middle east and africa researchers tested countries against 65 different metrics or what the researchers called country attributes these included income equality welldeveloped public education and healthcare systems human rights gender equality safety family friendliness and levels of perceived happiness switzerland once again topped the best countries list followed by canada and japan

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200118-raising-kids.html>

Scandinavia has ranked as the best place in the world to raise children. The Nordic region holds the top three places on the U.S. News & World Report's list of "The Best Countries for Raising Kids" in 2020. The list has been compiled annually since 2016 in collaboration with the University of Pennsylvania. Denmark topped the list, with Sweden a closer runner-up, and neighbour Norway edging out Canada for third place. The 2020 listings will come as a little surprise as the three nations also ranked highest on the list for 2019. A spokeswoman explained: "These countries tend to have generous parental leave and maternal leave, offer free preschool and have good overall public education systems." The listing was released as part of the annual "Best Countries" list. This survey adopted "a global perceptions-based" approach in examining data and attitudes. It used research from the World Bank, as well as the opinions of 20,000 people in the Americas, Asia, Europe, the Middle East and Africa. Researchers tested countries against 65 different metrics, or what the researchers called "country attributes". These included income equality, well-developed public education and health care systems, human rights, gender equality, safety, family friendliness and level of perceived happiness. Switzerland once again topped the "Best Countries" list, followed by Canada and Japan.

ACADEMIC WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200118-raising-kids.html>

"I believe my country is the best country in the world." Argue why this is true.

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. RAISING KIDS: Make a poster about raising kids. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. HARDER: Write a magazine article about it being harder to raise kids these days than before. Include imaginary interviews with people who agree and disagree with this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on raising kids. Ask him/her three questions about this. Give him/her three of your ideas on how best to bring up children. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. c 2. d 3. g 4. e 5. a 6. f 7. b
8. k 9. m 10. n 11. j 12. i 13. h 14. l

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- a T b T c F d T e T f F g F h T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. h	2. f	3. j	4. b	5. c
6. e	7. a	8. i	9. g	10. d

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. The Nordic area
2. 2016
3. Sweden
4. Paternal and maternal leave
5. Preschool
6. The Best Countries list
7. 20,000
8. Five
9. Family-friendliness
10. Switzerland

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

1. Ranked as the best place in the world.
2. The Nordic region holds the top three places.
3. The list has been compiled annually since 2016.
4. The 2020 listings will come as little surprise.
5. These countries tend to have generous paternal leave.
6. This survey adopted a global perceptions-based approach.
7. The opinions of 20,000 people in the Americas.
8. Researchers tested countries against 65 different metrics.
9. Family friendliness and levels of perceived happiness.
10. Switzerland once again topped the Best Countries list.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. b 2. d 3. a 4. c 5. b 6. a 7. c 8. a 9. a 10. d

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)