

# Breaking News English.com

Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

"1,000 IDEAS & ACTIVITIES  
FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS"

[breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html](http://breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html)

Thousands more free lessons  
from Sean's other websites

[www.freematerials.com/sean\\_banville\\_lessons.html](http://www.freematerials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html)

**Level 6** – 13th November 2023

## World population has passed 8 billion

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2311/231113-world-population.html>

### Contents

The Article	2	Discussion (Student-Created Qs)	15
Warm-Ups	3	Language Work (Cloze)	16
Vocabulary	4	Spelling	17
Before Reading / Listening	5	Put The Text Back Together	18
Gap Fill	6	Put The Words In The Right Order	19
Match The Sentences And Listen	7	Circle The Correct Word	20
Listening Gap Fill	8	Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u)	21
Comprehension Questions	9	Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals	22
Multiple Choice - Quiz	10	Put A Slash ( / ) Where The Spaces Are	23
Role Play	11	Free Writing	24
After Reading / Listening	12	Academic Writing	25
Student Survey	13	Homework	26
Discussion (20 Questions)	14	Answers	27

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

Twitter



[twitter.com/SeanBanville](https://twitter.com/SeanBanville)

Facebook



[www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176](https://www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176)

# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2311/231113-world-population.html>

The world has reached a somewhat worrying demographic milestone. The U.S. Census Bureau said on Thursday that the population of our planet has surpassed 8 billion. A spokesperson said the bureau estimated that the global population exceeded 8 billion on the 26th of September. However, he said this was a very rough guess and the precise day could be a month or two either side of this date. The Bureau declared that the world population would continue to grow at a steady rate. It has grown from 6 billion to 8 billion in the past two decades. The number of Earth's inhabitants had doubled between 1960 and 2000. The rate of growth is slowing as birth rates are falling in many nations.

The Census Bureau attributed the slowdown in population growth to trends of longer lifespans and lower fertility rates. However, it forecast that the population would reach 10.2 billion in 2060. It said: "The world population is projected to keep growing despite declining fertility rates. In fact, we estimate the number of infants already peaked in 2017. Instead, population growth in the future will come from larger groups of people at adult ages." It added: "Population growth is the result of fertility, mortality, migration and the share of the population at certain ages....Nearly three quarters (74 per cent) of the earth's population reside in countries where fertility is around or below the replacement level."

Sources: <https://www.census.gov/library/stories/2023/11/world-population-estimated-eight-billion.html>  
<https://apnews.com/article/world-population-8-billion-census-159f6eeac66bbc9800ad3ec4d9653b52>  
<https://www.marketwatch.com/story/world-population-has-surpassed-8-billion-says-u-s-census-bureau-d1d2d53f>

# WARM-UPS

**1. WORLD POPULATION:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about world population. 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?

the world / demographic / milestone / population / guess / precise / Earth / growth / trends / lifespans / fertility rate / infants / adult / mortality / migration / countries

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

**3. POPULATION CAP:** Students A **strongly** believe each country should have a cap on its population to stop overpopulation; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. POPULATION GROWTH:** How do or will these things affect population growth? Should we do anything to limit these things? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	How This Affects Population	Limits
Fertility rates		
Climate change		
Contraception		
Pandemics		
Wars		
AI		

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

**6. OVERPOPULATION:** Rank these with your partner. Put the biggest dangers of overpopulation at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Lack of drinking water
- Riots
- Pandemics
- Deforestation
- Migration
- Biodiversity loss
- War
- Climate change

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 1. somewhat    | a. A person or animal that lives in or occupies a place.         |
| 2. demographic | b. To a moderate extent or by a moderate amount; rather.         |
| 3. milestone   | c. Not exact or precise; approximate.                            |
| 4. census      | d. Relating to the structure of populations.                     |
| 5. rough       | e. An official count or survey, especially of a population.      |
| 6. precise     | f. A significant stage or event in the development of something. |
| 7. inhabitant  | g. Exact and accurate.   |

## Paragraph 2

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 8. attributed | h. Regard something as being caused by.   |
| 9. fertility  | i. Have one's permanent home in a particular place.                             |
| 10. projected | j. The ability to produce children or young.                                    |
| 11. infant    | k. The state of being subject to death.   |
| 12. peaked    | l. Estimated or forecast on the basis of current trends or data.                |
| 13. mortality | m. A very young child or baby.  |
| 14. reside    | n. Reached a highest point, either of a specified value or at a specified time. |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2311/231113-world-population.html>

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

1. The article says the world has reached a demographic milestone. **T / F**
2. A census bureau said the 8 billion was reached on September 26. **T / F**
3. The bureau said population growth would reverse within two decades. **T / F**
4. Earth's population doubled between 1960 and 2000. **T / F**
5. The world population could be 10.2 billion in 2060. **T / F**
6. There will be population growth despite falling fertility rates. **T / F**
7. The number of babies in the world peaked in 2017. **T / F**
8. Fertility rates are falling in nearly 74% of countries. **T / F**

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                       |                |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| 1. <b>somewhat</b>    | a. predicted   |
| 2. <b>surpassed</b>   | b. approximate |
| 3. <b>rough</b>       | c. population  |
| 4. <b>steady</b>      | d. babies      |
| 5. <b>inhabitants</b> | e. death       |
| 6. <b>forecast</b>    | f. slightly    |
| 7. <b>reach</b>       | g. constant    |
| 8. <b>infants</b>     | h. live        |
| 9. <b>mortality</b>   | i. exceeded    |
| 10. <b>reside</b>     | j. rise to     |

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

- |  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1. reached a somewhat worrying               | a. a steady rate         |
| 2. the global population exceeded            | b. is slowing            |
| 3. this was a very rough                     | c. peaked                |
| 4. continue to grow at                       | d. of fertility          |
| 5. The rate of growth                        | e. guess                 |
| 6. longer lifespans and lower                | f. demographic milestone |
| 7. The world population is projected         | g. from larger groups    |
| 8. the number of infants already             | h. fertility rates       |
| 9. population growth in the future will come | i. 8 billion             |
| 10. Population growth is the result          | j. to keep growing       |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2311/231113-world-population.html>

The world has reached a (1) \_\_\_\_\_ worrying demographic milestone. The U.S. Census Bureau said on Thursday that the population of our planet has (2) \_\_\_\_\_ 8 billion. A spokesperson said the bureau estimated that the global population (3) \_\_\_\_\_ 8 billion on the 26th of September. However, he said this was a very rough guess and the (4) \_\_\_\_\_ day could be a month or two either side of this (5) \_\_\_\_\_. The Bureau declared that the world population would continue to grow at a (6) \_\_\_\_\_ rate. It has grown from 6 billion to 8 billion in the past two (7) \_\_\_\_\_. The number of Earth's inhabitants had doubled between 1960 and 2000. The rate of growth is (8) \_\_\_\_\_ as birth rates are falling in many nations.

*exceeded*  
*date*  
*slowing*  
*surpassed*  
*decades*  
*precise*  
*somewhat*  
*steady*

The Census Bureau attributed the (9) \_\_\_\_\_ in population growth to trends of longer lifespans and (10) \_\_\_\_\_ fertility rates. However, it forecast that the population would reach 10.2 billion in 2060. It said: "The world population is (11) \_\_\_\_\_ to keep growing despite declining fertility rates. In fact, we estimate the number of (12) \_\_\_\_\_ already peaked in 2017. Instead, population (13) \_\_\_\_\_ in the future will come from larger groups of people at adult ages." It added: "Population growth is the result of fertility, (14) \_\_\_\_\_, migration and the share of the population at certain ages....Nearly three quarters (74 per cent) of the earth's population (15) \_\_\_\_\_ in countries where fertility is around or below the (16) \_\_\_\_\_ level."

*projected*  
*mortality*  
*infants*  
*replacement*  
*slowdown*  
*reside*  
*lower*  
*growth*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2311/231113-world-population.html>

- 1) The world has reached a somewhat \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. worrying demographic milestone
  - b. worrying demographic millstone
  - c. worrying demographic miles tone
  - d. worrying demographic miles stone
- 2) said on Thursday that the population of our planet has \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. surpassed 8 billion
  - b. surprised 8 billion
  - c. sir passed 8 billion
  - d. sir past 8 billion
- 3) However, he said this was a \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. very rough guessed
  - b. very bough guess
  - c. very rough guess
  - d. very cough guess
- 4) The Bureau declared that the world population would continue to grow at \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. a steadily rate
  - b. a steady irate
  - c. a steady rate
  - d. a steady rated
- 5) The number of Earth's \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. inhabitants had doublet
  - b. inhabitants had dabbled
  - c. inhabitants had dubbed
  - d. inhabitants had doubled
- 6) population growth to trends of longer lifespans and \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. slower fertility rates
  - b. flower fertility rates
  - c. lower fertility rates
  - d. lowly fertility rates
- 7) In fact, we estimate the number of infants already \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. peeked in 2017
  - b. peak tin 2017
  - c. perk tin 2017
  - d. peaked in 2017
- 8) Instead, population growth in the future will come from larger groups of people \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. at adults ages
  - b. late adult ages
  - c. as adult ages
  - d. at adult ages
- 9) mortality, migration and the share of the population \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. at certain ages
  - b. ascertain ages
  - c. at curtain ages
  - d. act certain ages
- 10) population reside in countries where fertility is around or below \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. the replacement bevel
  - b. the replacement level
  - c. the replacement revel
  - d. the replacement devil

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2311/231113-world-population.html>

The world has reached (1) \_\_\_\_\_ demographic milestone. The U.S. Census Bureau said on Thursday that the population of our planet has surpassed 8 billion. A spokesperson said the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the global population exceeded 8 billion on the 26th of September. However, he said this was a very rough guess and the (3) \_\_\_\_\_ be a month or two either side of this date. The Bureau declared that the world population would continue to grow at (4) \_\_\_\_\_. It has grown from 6 billion to 8 billion in the (5) \_\_\_\_\_. The number of Earth's inhabitants had doubled between 1960 and 2000. The rate of growth is slowing as birth rates are falling (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

The Census Bureau (7) \_\_\_\_\_ in population growth to trends of longer lifespans and lower fertility rates. However, it forecast that the population would reach 10.2 billion in 2060. It said: "The world population is projected to keep growing (8) \_\_\_\_\_ rates. In fact, we estimate the number of (9) \_\_\_\_\_ in 2017. Instead, population growth in the future will come from larger groups of people at adult ages." It added: "Population growth is the (10) \_\_\_\_\_, mortality, migration and the share of the population (11) \_\_\_\_\_. Nearly three quarters (74 per cent) of the earth's population reside in countries where (12) \_\_\_\_\_ or below the replacement level."



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2311/231113-world-population.html>

1. Who said the global population had gone over 8 billion?
2. On what date did the population reportedly reach 8 billion?
3. By how much did the global population increase in the past 20 years?
4. When did the world's population double?
5. What is falling that is slowing the rate of population growth?
6. When will the population reach 10.2 billion?
7. What peaked in 2017?
8. Where will population growth come from in future?
9. What results from fertility, mortality and migration?
10. What percentage of the world lives in countries with a flat fertility rate?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2311/231113-world-population.html>

- 1) Who said the global population had gone over 8 billion?
  - a) the WHO
  - b) the U.S. Census Bureau
  - c) Facebook
  - d) Google
- 2) On what date did the population reportedly reach 8 billion?
  - a) September 22
  - b) September 24
  - c) September 25
  - d) September 26
- 3) By how much did the global population increase in the past 20 years?
  - a) 2,000,000,000
  - b) 2,000,000,000,000
  - c) 20,000,000
  - d) 20,000,000,000
- 4) When did the world's population double?
  - a) between 1950 and 2000
  - b) between 1940 and 2020
  - c) between 1960 and 2000
  - d) between 1960 and 2020
- 5) What is falling that is slowing the rate of population growth?
  - a) contraception use
  - b) birth rates
  - c) the number of marriages
  - d) divorce rates
- 6) When will the population reach 10.2 billion?
  - a) 2040
  - b) 2050
  - c) 2060
  - d) 2070
- 7) What peaked in 2017?
  - a) the population of Africa
  - b) the global population
  - c) the number of teenagers
  - d) the number of infants
- 8) Where will population growth come from in future?
  - a) adults
  - b) Asia
  - c) poor people
  - d) children
- 9) What results from fertility, mortality and migration?
  - a) population growth
  - b) overpopulation
  - c) underpopulation
  - d) a population explosion
- 10) What percentage of the world lives in countries with a flat fertility rate?
  - a) 73%
  - b) 74%
  - c) 75%
  - d) 76%

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2311/231113-world-population.html>

## **Role A – Lack of Water**

You think a lack of water is the biggest danger of overpopulation. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their danger isn't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least likely of these (and why): food riots, biodiversity loss or war.

## **Role B – Food Riots**

You think food riots is is the biggest danger of overpopulation. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their danger isn't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least likely of these (and why): lack of water, biodiversity loss or war.

## **Role C – Biodiversity Loss**

You think biodiversity loss is is the biggest danger of overpopulation. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their danger isn't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least likely of these (and why): food riots, lack of water or war.

## **Role D – War**

You think war is is the biggest danger of overpopulation. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their danger isn't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least likely of these (and why): food riots, biodiversity loss or lack of water.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2311/231113-world-population.html>

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

world	population

- 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"><li>• somewhat</li><li>• exceeded</li><li>• rough</li><li>• declared</li><li>• past</li><li>• nations</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• lower</li><li>• 2060</li><li>• 2017</li><li>• adult</li><li>• result</li><li>• below</li></ul>
---	--

# WORLD POPULATION SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2311/231113-world-population.html>

Write five GOOD questions about world population 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.

# WORLD POPULATION 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 'world'?
3. What do you think of this demographic milestone?
4. What are the problems of having 8 billion people in the world?
5. Is your country overpopulated or underpopulated?
6. Should countries set limits on populations?
7. Is it good the world population doubled in 40 years?
8. Why are birth rates falling in many countries?
9. What do you think of the phrase 'population explosion'?
10. In what way are the demographics of your country changing?

*World population has passed 8 billion – 13th November 2023*  
Thousands more free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](https://breakingnewsenglish.com)

---

# WORLD POPULATION 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 'population'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. Why are people living longer?
15. What is causing fertility rates to fall?
16. What would a world of 10 billion people be like?
17. How is migration changing the world?
18. What will drive migration in the future?
19. What's the best number of children to have?
20. What questions would you like to ask the U.S. Census Bureau?

# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

Copyright © breakingnewsenglish.com 2023

---

# 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//2311/231113-world-population.html>

The world has reached a (1) \_\_\_\_\_ worrying demographic milestone. The U.S. Census Bureau said on Thursday that the population of our planet has (2) \_\_\_\_\_ 8 billion. A spokesperson said the bureau estimated that the global population (3) \_\_\_\_\_ 8 billion on the 26th of September. However, he said this was a very (4) \_\_\_\_\_ guess and the precise day could be a month or two either side of this date. The Bureau declared that the world population would continue to grow at a (5) \_\_\_\_\_ rate. It has grown from 6 billion to 8 billion in the past two decades. The number of Earth's inhabitants had doubled between 1960 and 2000. The rate of growth is slowing (6) \_\_\_\_\_ birth rates are falling in many nations.

The Census Bureau attributed the slowdown (7) \_\_\_\_\_ population growth to trends of longer lifespans and lower fertility (8) \_\_\_\_\_. However, it forecast that the population would reach 10.2 billion in 2060. It said: "The world population is (9) \_\_\_\_\_ to keep growing despite declining fertility rates. In fact, we estimate the number of infants already (10) \_\_\_\_\_ in 2017. Instead, population growth in the future will come from larger groups of people at adult ages." It added: "Population growth is the result of fertility, (11) \_\_\_\_\_, migration and the share of the population at certain ages....Nearly three quarters (74 per cent) of the earth's population (12) \_\_\_\_\_ in countries where fertility is around or below the replacement level."

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

- |     |                |                |                |                 |
|-----|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1.  | (a) somewhere  | (b) somewhat   | (c) someday    | (d) someone     |
| 2.  | (a) surprised  | (b) surpassed  | (c) supplanted | (d) surmised    |
| 3.  | (a) exulted    | (b) exuded     | (c) exploded   | (d) exceeded    |
| 4.  | (a) smooth     | (b) rough      | (c) silky      | (d) bumpy       |
| 5.  | (a) studded    | (b) steady     | (c) steed      | (d) steadily    |
| 6.  | (a) was        | (b) that's     | (c) as         | (d) has         |
| 7.  | (a) at         | (b) by         | (c) in         | (d) as          |
| 8.  | (a) raters     | (b) rituals    | (c) rates      | (d) rations     |
| 9.  | (a) projectile | (b) projection | (c) projecting | (d) projected   |
| 10. | (a) peaked     | (b) poked      | (c) parked     | (d) peeked      |
| 11. | (a) mortality  | (b) mortals    | (c) mortal     | (d) immortalize |
| 12. | (a) aside      | (b) inside     | (c) reside     | (d) upside      |



# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2311/231113-world-population.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. a somewhat worrying emgdparhoic milestone
2. the population of our planet has upssarsed 8 billion
3. the global population xeeceeded 8 billion
4. the recipse day
5. grow at a tsaedy rate
6. Earth's jabhiantnts had doubled

## Paragraph 2

7. tbritutaed the slowdown in population growth
8. lower irtfliety rates
9. the number of finants
10. the result of fertility, ratolmtiy, migration...
11. esirde in countries
12. below the elaecrmpnet level

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2311/231113-world-population.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) on Thursday that the population of our planet has surpassed 8 billion. A spokesperson said the bureau
- ( ) estimated that the global population exceeded 8 billion on the 26th of September. However, he said this was a very rough
- ( ) population reside in countries where fertility is around or below the replacement level."
- ( ) decades. The number of Earth's inhabitants had doubled between 1960 and 2000. The rate
- ( ) of people at adult ages." It added: "Population growth is the result of fertility, mortality,
- ( ) fertility rates. However, it forecast that the population would reach 10.2 billion in 2060. It said: "The world
- ( ) of growth is slowing as birth rates are falling in many nations.
- ( ) The Census Bureau attributed the slowdown in population growth to trends of longer lifespans and lower
- ( ) population is projected to keep growing despite declining fertility rates. In fact, we estimate the number of
- ( ) population would continue to grow at a steady rate. It has grown from 6 billion to 8 billion in the past two
- ( **1** ) The world has reached a somewhat worrying demographic milestone. The U.S. Census Bureau said
- ( ) migration and the share of the population at certain ages....Nearly three quarters (74 per cent) of the earth's
- ( ) guess and the precise day could be a month or two either side of this date. The Bureau declared that the world
- ( ) infants already peaked in 2017. Instead, population growth in the future will come from larger groups

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2311/231113-world-population.html>

1. world has The demographic a reached milestone . worrying
2. this said He a was rough guess . very
3. population to The continue would grow . world
4. inhabitants number of Earth's The had doubled .
5. falling in Birth many are rates nations .
6. It would forecast billion . reach 10 .2 the that population
7. growing . to keep population projected The world is
8. number infants peaked . We the of already estimate
9. of at ages . share certain The the population
10. around is the below Fertility or replacement level .

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2311/231113-world-population.html>

The world has reached a *somewhere / somewhat* worrying demographic milestone. The U.S. Census Bureau said on Thursday that the population of our planet has *surprised / surpassed* 8 billion. A spokesperson said the bureau estimated that *a / the* global population exceeded 8 billion on the 26th of September. However, he said this was a very *roughly / rough* guess and the *precise / incise* day could be a month or two *either / neither* side of this date. The Bureau declared that the world population would continue to grow *of / at* a steady rate. It has grown from 6 billion to 8 billion in the *passed / past* two decades. The number of Earth's inhabitants had *doubled / doubles* between 1960 and 2000. The rate of growth is slowing *as / has* birth rates are falling in many nations.

The Census Bureau *contributed / attributed* the slowdown in population growth *for / to* trends of *longer / lengthen* lifespans and lower fertility rates. However, it forecast that the population would *reach / breach* 10.2 billion in 2060. It said: "The world population is projected to *keep / hold* growing despite declining fertility rates. In fact, we estimate the number of infants already *parked / peaked* in 2017. Instead, population growth *on / in* the future will come from larger groups of people at adult *years / ages*." It added: "Population growth is the result of fertility, mortality, migration and the share of the population at certain *ages / age*....Nearly three quarters (74 per cent) of the earth's population *reside / inside* in countries where fertility is around or below the replacement level."

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct. Look up the definition of new words.**

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

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2311/231113-world-population.html>

The world has reached a somewhat worrying demographic milestone. The U.S. Census Bureau said on Thursday that the population of the planet has surpassed 8 billion. It says the population exceeded 8 billion on the 26th of September. However, it says the world is very rich and the process of development is moving rather slowly. The Bureau declared that the world population would continue to grow at a steady rate. It has grown from 6 billion to 8 billion in the past two decades. The number of deaths has declined between 1960 and 2000. The rate of growth is slowing as birth rates are falling in many nations.

The Census Bureau attributed the slowdown in population growth to trends of longer lifespans and lower fertility rates. However, it forecasts that the population would reach 10.2 billion in 2060. It said: "The world population is projected to keep growing despite declining fertility rates. In fact, we estimate that the number of infants already packed in 2017. Instead, population growth in the future will come from larger groups of people that die less." It added: "Population growth is the result of fertility, mortality, migration and the share of the population that continues to grow. Nearly three quarters (74 per cent) of the world's population resides in countries where fertility is around or below the replacement level."

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2311/231113-world-population.html>

the world has reached a somewhat worrying demographic milestone the us census bureau said on thursday that the population of our planet has surpassed 8 billion a spokesperson said the bureau estimated that the global population exceeded 8 billion on the 26th of september however he said this was a very rough guess and the precise day could be a month or two either side of this date the bureau declared that the world population would continue to grow at a steady rate it has grown from 6 billion to 8 billion in the past two decades the number of earths inhabitants had doubled between 1960 and 2000 the rate of growth is slowing as birth rates are falling in many nations

the census bureau attributed the slowdown in population growth to trends of longer lifespans and lower fertility rates however it forecast that the population would reach 102 billion in 2060 it said the world population is projected to keep growing despite declining fertility rates in fact we estimate the number of infants already peaked in 2017 instead population growth in the future will come from larger groups of people at adult ages it added population growth is the result of fertility mortality migration and the share of the population at certain ages nearly three quarters 74 per cent of the earths population reside in countries where fertility is around or below the replacement level

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2311/231113-world-population.html>

The world has reached a somewhat worrying demographic milestone. The U.S. Census Bureau said on Thursday that the population of our planet has surpassed 8 billion. A spokesperson said the bureau estimated that the global population exceeded 8 billion on the 26th of September. However, he said this was a very rough guess and the precise day could be a month or two either side of this date. The Bureau declared that the world population would continue to grow at a steady rate. It has grown from 6 billion to 8 billion in the past two decades. The number of Earth's inhabitants has doubled between 1960 and 2000. The rate of growth is slowing as birth rates are falling in many nations. The Census Bureau attributed the slowdown in population growth to trends of longer lifespans and lower fertility rates. However, it forecast that the population would reach 10.2 billion in 2060. It said: "The world population is projected to keep growing despite declines in fertility rates. In fact, we estimate the number of infants already peaked in 2017. Instead, population growth in the future will come from larger groups of people at adult ages." It added: "Population growth is the result of fertility, mortality, migration and the share of the population at certain ages.... Nearly three quarters (74 percent) of the earth's population reside in countries where fertility is around or below the replacement level."







# 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. WORLD POPULATION:** Make a poster about world population. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. FEWER BABIES:** Write a magazine article about people having fewer babies. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against 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 world population. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to control it. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

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

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 F    2 T    3 F    4 T    5 T    6 T    7 T    8 F

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. The U.S. Census Bureau
2. September 26
3. Two billion
4. Between 1960 and 2000
5. Birth rates
6. 2060
7. The number of infants
8. Adults
9. Population growth
10. 74 per cent

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

1. The world has reached a worrying demographic milestone.
2. He said this was a very rough guess.
3. The world population would continue to grow.
4. The number of Earth's inhabitants had doubled.
5. Birth rates are falling in many nations.
6. It forecast that the population would reach 10.2 billion.
7. The world population is projected to keep growing.
8. We estimate the number of infants already peaked.
9. The share of the population at certain ages.
10. Fertility is around or below the replacement level.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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