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Level 6 – 26th May 2025

Denmark to have world's highest retirement age

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2505/250526-rising-retirement-ages.html>

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

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2505/250526-rising-retirement-ages.html>

Higher rates of longevity are pushing up ages of retirement. In line with this, the Danish government has just announced it will raise the retirement age for its citizens from 67 to 70 by the year 2040. In so doing, Denmark's workers will have the world's longest wait before they can retire. Denmark said the new law was necessary to keep pace with increasing life expectancy. However, Jesper Rasmussen, a trade union leader in Denmark, expressed his consternation at the government's move. He said: "Denmark has a healthy economy and yet the EU's highest retirement age". He added: "A higher retirement age means that [workers will] lose their right to a dignified senior life."

There is a precedent for the retirement age being 70. The world's first case was in Germany in 1881. It set the age at 70, before reducing it to 65 in 1916. Many countries followed suit and incorporated their own ages for workers to retire with a state pension. The USA first adopted a retirement age in 1935. It was set at 65. The USA Today website reported that in America, the retirement age was also steadily creeping up. It wrote: "The upward trend is slow, but striking. In 1994, the average man worked to age 61, while the typical woman clocked out at 59. Americans are living longer, and working longer." China has also announced an increase, to be rolled out over the next 15 years.

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cvg71v533q6o>
<https://www.barrons.com/news/denmark-raises-retirement-age-to-70-by-2040-1ce887c0>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Retirement_age
<https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/2025/05/22/retirement-age-rising-social-security-medicare/83767525007/>

WARM-UPS

1. RETIREMENT AGES: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about retirement ages. 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?

longevity / retirement / workers / life expectancy / trade union / healthy / economy / precedent / state pension / creep up / trend / the typical woman / working longer

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

3. 60: Students A **strongly** believe the retirement age for everyone should be 60; Students B **strongly** believe otherwise. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. RETIREMENT CHALLENGES: How serious are these retirement challenges? How can we overcome them? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	How serious?	How to overcome this
Less income		
Lack of purpose		
Physical decline		
Boredom		
Social isolation		
Loneliness		

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

6. RETIREMENT: Rank these with your partner. Put the best things about retirement at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- A simpler life
- No work
- Less stress
- New hobbies
- Time to sleep
- More time to exercise
- Hobby time
- Travel

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| 1. longevity | a. How long a person is expected to live. |
| 2. citizen | b. Living for a long time. |
| 3. keep in line | c. To follow a rule or stay at the same level as something. |
| 4. life expectancy | d. A strong feeling of worry or surprise. |
| 5. keep pace with | e. Calm, serious, and showing respect. |
| 6. consternation | f. A person who belongs to a country. |
| 7. dignified | g. To go as fast or grow as much as something else. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 8. precedent | h. Money you get after you stop working because of age. |
| 9. followed suit | i. Finished work (at the end of the day or when you retire). |
| 10. incorporated | j. Easy to notice; surprising. |
| 11. pension | k. Added or included as part of something. |
| 12. creeping up | l. Slowly getting higher or bigger. |
| 13. striking | m. Something done first that others follow. |
| 14. clocked out | n. Did the same thing as someone else. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2505/250526-rising-retirement-ages.html>

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

1. People in Denmark will have to retire when they are 70 from 2030. **T / F**
2. Only two countries will have a higher retirement age than Denmark. **T / F**
3. Denmark's new law is because people are living longer. **T / F**
4. A trade union leader said Denmark had too unhealthy an economy. **T / F**
5. Germany was the first country to have a retirement age of 70. **T / F**
6. The USA started retirement ages in 1935. **T / F**
7. In the USA, women clock out from work at the age of 59. **T / F**
8. China is set to lower the retirement age over the next 15 years. **T / F**

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

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. retirement | a. previous case |
| 2. citizens | b. essential |
| 3. necessary | c. decided on |
| 4. consternation | d. subjects |
| 5. senior | e. established |
| 6. precedent | f. constantly |
| 7. adopted | g. giving up work |
| 8. set | h. started |
| 9. steadily | i. alarm |
| 10. rolled out | j. older |

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

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 1. Higher rates of longevity are pushing | a. at the government's move |
| 2. it will raise the retirement age for its | b. creeping up |
| 3. the new law was necessary to keep | c. to a dignified senior life |
| 4. expressed his consternation | d. out at 59 |
| 5. workers will lose their right | e. pace |
| 6. The world's first | f. suit |
| 7. Many countries followed | g. up ages of retirement |
| 8. the retirement age was also steadily | h. over the next 15 years |
| 9. the typical woman clocked | i. case was in Germany in 1881 |
| 10. rolled out | j. citizens from 67 to 70 |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2505/250526-rising-retirement-ages.html>

Higher rates of (1) _____ are pushing up ages of retirement. In line with this, the Danish government has just announced it will raise the retirement age for its (2) _____ from 67 to 70 by the year 2040. In (3) _____ doing, Denmark's workers will have the world's longest (4) _____ before they can retire. Denmark said the new law was necessary to keep (5) _____ with increasing life (6) _____. However, Jesper Rasmussen, a trade union leader in Denmark, expressed his consternation at the government's move. He said: "Denmark has a (7) _____ economy and yet the EU's highest retirement age". He added: "A higher retirement age means that [workers will] lose their right to a dignified (8) _____ life."

citizens
expectancy
wait
senior
longevity
so
healthy
pace

There is a (9) _____ for the retirement age being 70. The world's first (10) _____ was in Germany in 1881. It set the age at 70, before reducing it to 65 in 1916. Many countries followed (11) _____ and incorporated their own ages for workers to retire with a state (12) _____. The USA first adopted a retirement age in 1935. It was set at 65. The USA Today website reported that in America, the retirement age was also (13) _____ creeping up. It wrote: "The upward trend is slow, but (14) _____. In 1994, the average man worked to age 61, while the (15) _____ woman clocked out at 59. Americans are living longer, and working longer." China has also announced an increase, to be (16) _____ out over the next 15 years.

suit
steadily
rolled
precedent
typical
pension
case
striking

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2505/250526-rising-retirement-ages.html>

- 1) Higher rates of longevity are pushing up _____
 - a. age is of retirement
 - b. ages of retirement
 - c. ages off retirement
 - d. ages of retire meant
- 2) In so doing, Denmark's workers will have the _____
 - a. world's longest wait
 - b. world's longest waiting
 - c. world's longest waited
 - d. world's longest waiter
- 3) Denmark said the new law was necessary _____
 - a. to keep space
 - b. to keep pate
 - c. to keep pace
 - d. to keep pale
- 4) Jesper Rasmussen, a trade union leader in Denmark, _____
 - a. expressed his constellation
 - b. expressed his concertina
 - c. expressed his consternation
 - d. expressed his concentration
- 5) A higher retirement age means that workers will lose their right to a _____
 - a. dignified seniority life
 - b. dignified senior life
 - c. dignified senor life
 - d. dignified senorita life
- 6) followed suit and incorporated their own ages for workers to retire with _____
 - a. a stale pension
 - b. a state pension
 - c. a stage pension
 - d. a stare pension
- 7) reported that in America, the retirement age was also _____
 - a. steadily creep in up
 - b. steadily creep pin-up
 - c. steadily creep pin up
 - d. steadily creeping up
- 8) It wrote: "The upward trend is _____ "
 - a. slow, but striking
 - b. slow, but stricken
 - c. slow, but stroking
 - d. slow, but staking
- 9) In 1994, the average man worked to age 61, while the typical _____
 - a. woman cloaked out
 - b. woman clucked out
 - c. woman clocked out
 - d. woman clicked out
- 10) China has also announced an increase, to _____
 - a. be rolled doubt
 - b. be roll doubt
 - c. be riled out
 - d. be rolled out

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2505/250526-rising-retirement-ages.html>

Higher rates of (1) _____ up ages of retirement. In line with this, the Danish government has just announced it will raise the retirement age (2) _____ from 67 to 70 by the year 2040. In so doing, Denmark's workers will have the (3) _____ before they can retire. Denmark said the new law was necessary to (4) _____ increasing life expectancy. However, Jesper Rasmussen, a trade union leader in Denmark, expressed (5) _____ the government's move. He said: "Denmark has a healthy economy and yet the EU's highest retirement age". He added: "A higher retirement age means that [workers will] lose their right to a (6) _____."

There is (7) _____ the retirement age being 70. The world's first case was in Germany in 1881. It set the age at 70, before reducing it to 65 in 1916. Many countries (8) _____ incorporated their own ages for workers to retire with a state pension. The USA (9) _____ retirement age in 1935. It was set at 65. The USA Today website reported that in America, the retirement age was also (10) _____. It wrote: "The upward trend is slow, but striking. In 1994, the average man worked to age 61, while the (11) _____ out at 59. Americans are living longer, and working longer." China has also announced an increase, to be (12) _____ the next 15 years.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2505/250526-rising-retirement-ages.html>

1. What does the article say is pushing up ages of retirement?
2. By when will Denmark's new retirement age come into effect?
3. Who is Jesper Rasmussen?
4. What did Jesper Rasmussen say was healthy about Denmark?
5. What did Jesper Rasmussen say workers had a right to?
6. When did Germany set a retirement age of 70?
7. When did the USA introduce its first retirement age?
8. What is happening to the retirement age in the USA?
9. At what age does the typical American woman retire?
10. Which country will increase its retirement age over the next 15 years?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2505/250526-rising-retirement-ages.html>

- 1) What does the article say is pushing up ages of retirement?
 - a) the cost of living crisis
 - b) higher rates of longevity
 - c) job losses
 - d) AI
- 2) By when will Denmark's new retirement age come into effect?
 - a) 2030
 - b) 2035
 - c) 2038
 - d) 2040
- 3) Who is Jesper Rasmussen?
 - a) a trade union leader
 - b) a retiree
 - c) a pensions advisor
 - d) a writer
- 4) What did Jesper Rasmussen say was healthy about Denmark?
 - a) its food
 - b) its citizens
 - c) it's economy
 - d) lifestyles
- 5) What did Jesper Rasmussen say workers had a right to?
 - a) a good pension
 - b) a dignified senior life
 - c) a good job
 - d) union membership
- 6) When did Germany set a retirement age of 70?
 - a) 1879
 - b) 1880
 - c) 1881
 - d) 1882
- 7) When did the USA introduce its first retirement age?
 - a) 1932
 - b) 1933
 - c) 1934
 - d) 1935
- 8) What is happening to the retirement age in the USA?
 - a) It's steadily creeping up.
 - b) It's becoming lower.
 - c) It's being negotiated.
 - d) It's disappearing.
- 9) At what age does the typical American woman retire?
 - a) 59
 - b) 60
 - c) 61
 - d) 62
- 10) Which country will increase its retirement age over the next 15 years?
 - a) South Africa
 - b) China
 - c) Ecuador
 - d) New Zealand

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2505/250526-rising-retirement-ages.html>

Role A – No Work

You think no work is the best thing about retirement. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least realistic of these (and why): more hobbies, time to sleep or time to travel.

Role B – More Hobbies

You think more hobbies is the best thing about retirement. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least realistic of these (and why): no work, time to sleep or time to travel.

Role C – Time to Sleep

You think time to sleep is the best thing about retirement. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least realistic of these (and why): more hobbies, no work or time to travel.

Role D – Time to Travel

You think time to travel is the best thing about retirement. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least realistic of these (and why): more hobbies, time to sleep or no work.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2505/250526-rising-retirement-ages.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look online / in your dictionary to find collocates, information on, synonyms for... the words 'retirement' and 'age'.

retirement	age

- 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">• longevity• citizens• pace• trade• healthy• life	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• case• suit• 1935• slow• clocked• rolled
--	--

RETIREMENT AGES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2505/250526-rising-retirement-ages.html>

Write five GOOD questions about retirement ages 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.

RETIREMENT AGE 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 'retirement'?
3. What do you think of retirement?
4. What's the best age at which to retire?
5. When would you like to retire?
6. Is increased life expectancy good for the world?
7. What will you do when you are retired?
8. Does a higher retirement age mean a less dignified senior life?
9. Should people be able to work after retirement age?
10. What advice do you have for people who are retired?

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RETIREMENT AGE 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 'pension'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. How can retirees contribute to society?
15. What do you think of retirement homes?
16. Should early retirement be a human right?
17. How would you feel about working until you are 80?
18. In what way might retirement be the best years of our lives?
19. What do you think of state pensions?
20. What questions would you like to ask a retired person?

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/2505/250526-rising-retirement-ages.html>

Higher rates of longevity are pushing (1) ____ ages of retirement. In line with this, the Danish government has just announced it will (2) ____ the retirement age for its citizens from 67 to 70 by the year 2040. In so (3) ____, Denmark's workers will have the world's longest wait before they can retire. Denmark said the new law was necessary to keep (4) ____ with increasing life expectancy. However, Jesper Rasmussen, a trade union leader in Denmark, expressed his (5) ____ at the government's move. He said: "Denmark has a healthy economy and yet the EU's highest retirement age". He added: "A higher retirement age means that [workers will] lose their right to a (6) ____ senior life."

There is a precedent (7) ____ the retirement age being 70. The world's first case was in Germany in 1881. It set the age at 70, before reducing it to 65 in 1916. Many countries followed (8) ____ and incorporated their own ages for workers to retire with a state pension. The USA first adopted a retirement age in 1935. It was set at 65. The USA Today website reported that in America, the retirement age was also steadily (9) ____ up. It wrote: "The upward (10) ____ is slow, but striking. In 1994, the average man worked to age 61, while the typical woman (11) ____ out at 59. Americans are living longer, and working longer." China has also announced an increase, to be (12) ____ out over the next 15 years.

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|-------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. | (a) down | (b) over | (c) along | (d) up |
| 2. | (a) risen | (b) arise | (c) rise | (d) raise |
| 3. | (a) does | (b) doing | (c) done | (d) do |
| 4. | (a) space | (b) pate | (c) pace | (d) spate |
| 5. | (a) consternation | (b) conversation | (c) conservation | (d) contamination |
| 6. | (a) dignified | (b) dignity | (c) digital | (d) deign |
| 7. | (a) by | (b) of | (c) from | (d) for |
| 8. | (a) suit | (b) dress | (c) match | (d) suite |
| 9. | (a) creepy | (b) creeping | (c) crept | (d) the creeps |
| 10. | (a) trendy | (b) trending | (c) trend | (d) trends |
| 11. | (a) alarmed | (b) watched | (c) clocked | (d) timed |
| 12. | (a) tumbled | (b) rolled | (c) flowed | (d) streamed |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2505/250526-rising-retirement-ages.html>

Paragraph 1

1. Higher rates of tgoelnviy
2. the Danish vnnrmoegte
3. the retirement age for its inzesitc
4. keep pace with increasing life execancytp
5. expressed his totncnnoaesri
6. lose their right to a ifdgndiei senior life

Paragraph 2

7. There is a edrpnteec for the retirement age
8. arcneoiorcpt their own ages
9. retire with a state piesonn
10. lyatdise creeping up
11. the playcit woman
12. China has also naueonncd an increase

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2505/250526-rising-retirement-ages.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () added: "A higher retirement age means that [workers will] lose their right to a dignified senior life."
- () adopted a retirement age in 1935. It was set at 65. The USA Today website reported that in America, the retirement age
- () announced it will raise the retirement age for its citizens from 67 to 70 by the year 2040. In so
- () doing, Denmark's workers will have the world's longest wait before they can
- () expectancy. However, Jesper Rasmussen, a trade union leader in Denmark, expressed his consternation at the government's
- (**1**) Higher rates of longevity are pushing up ages of retirement. In line with this, the Danish government has just
- () living longer, and working longer." China has also announced an increase, to be rolled out over the next 15 years.
- () man worked to age 61, while the typical woman clocked out at 59. Americans are
- () move. He said: "Denmark has a healthy economy and yet the EU's highest retirement age". He
- () retire. Denmark said the new law was necessary to keep pace with increasing life
- () suit and incorporated their own ages for workers to retire with a state pension. The USA first
- () There is a precedent for the retirement age being 70. The world's first case
- () was also steadily creeping up. It wrote: "The upward trend is slow, but striking. In 1994, the average
- () was in Germany in 1881. It set the age at 70, before reducing it to 65 in 1916. Many countries followed

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2505/250526-rising-retirement-ages.html>

1. Rates longevity of up pushing are retirement ages .
2. It raise will for citizens the retirement age .
3. The wait longest retire world's before they can .
4. The was necessary to law pace keep new .
5. Lose senior dignified a to their life right .
6. There retirement for is a age the precedent .
7. Many suit their followed and incorporated countries own .
8. Ages retire workers pension for to with a .
9. The age steadily retirement up also creeping was .
10. Be next the 15 rolled years out over .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2505/250526-rising-retirement-ages.html>

Higher rates of longevity are *pushing* / *pulling* up ages of retirement. In line with this, the Danish government has *justly* / *just* announced it will raise the retirement age for its citizens from 67 to 70 by *a* / *the* year 2040. In so doing, Denmark's workers will have the world's longest wait *before* / *after* they can retire. Denmark said the new law was necessary to keep *space* / *pace* with increasing life *expectancy* / *expects*. However, Jesper Rasmussen, a trade union leader in Denmark, expressed his *consternation* / *conversation* at the government's *move* / *approve*. He said: "Denmark has a healthy economy and yet the EU's highest retirement age". He added: "A higher retirement age *means* / *meaning* that [workers will] lose their right to a *dignity* / *dignified* senior life."

There is a *precedent* / *president* for the retirement age being 70. The world's first case was in Germany in 1881. It set the age *by* / *at* 70, before reducing it to 65 in 1916. Many countries followed *dress* / *suit* and incorporated their own ages for workers to retire *of* / *with* a state pension. The USA first adopted a retirement age in 1935. It was set at 65. The USA Today website reported *what* / *that* in America, the retirement age was also *steadily* / *steady* creeping up. It wrote: "The upward *trendy* / *trend* is slow, but striking. In 1994, the average man worked *to* / *for* age 61, while the typical woman clocked *out* / *in* at 59. Americans are living longer, and working longer." China has also announced an increase, to be *strolled* / *rolled* out over the next 15 years.

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/2505/250526-rising-retirement-ages.html>

H_g_h_r r_t_s _f l_ng_v_ty _r_ p_sh_ng _p _g_s _f
r_t_r_m_nt. _n l_n_ w_th th_s, th_ D_n_sh g_v_rnm_nt
h_s j_st _nn__nc_d _t w_ll r_ss_ th_ r_t_r_m_nt _g_
f_r _ts c_t_z_ns fr_m 67 t_ 70 by th_ y__r 2040. _n
s_ d__ng, D_nm_rk's w_rk_rs w_ll h_v_ th_ w_rld's
l_ng_st w__t b_f_r_ th_y c_n r_t_r_. D_nm_rk s__d th_
n_w l_w w_s n_c_ss_ry t_ k__p p_c_ w_th _ncr__s_ng
l_f_ _xp_ct_ncy. H_w_v_r, J_sp_r R_sm_ss_n, _ tr_d_
_n__n l__d_r _n D_nm_rk, _xpr_ss_d h_s c_nst_rn_t__n
t th g_v_rnm_nt's m_v_. H_ s__d: "D_nm_rk h_s _
h__lthy _c_n_my _nd y_t th_ __'s h_g_h_st r_t_r_m_nt
g". H_ _dd_d: "_ h_g_h_r r_t_r_m_nt _g_ m__ns th_t
[w_rk_rs w_ll] l_s_ th__r r_ght t_ _ d_gn_f__d s_n__r
l_f_."

Th_r_ _s _ pr_c_d_nt f_r th_ r_t_r_m_nt _g_ b__ng
70. Th_ w_rld's f_rst c_s_ w_s _n G_rm_ny _n 1881.
_t s_t th_ _g_ _t 70, b_f_r_ r_d_c_ng _t t_ 65 _n
1916. M_ny c__ntr__s f_ll_w_d s__t _nd _ncrp_r_t_d
th__r _wn _g_s f_r w_rk_rs t_ r_t_r_ w_th _ st_t_
p_ns__n. Th_ _S_ f_rst _d_pt_d _ r_t_r_m_nt _g_ _n
1935. _t w_s s_t _t 65. Th_ _S_ T_d_y w_bs_t_
r_p_r_t_d th_t _n _m_r_c_, th_ r_t_r_m_nt _g_ w_s
ls st__d_ly cr__p_ng _p. _t wr_t_: "Th_ _pw_rd
tr_nd _s sl_w, b_t str_k_ng. _n 1994, th_ _v_r_g_
m_n w_rk_d t_ _g_ 61, wh_l_ th_ typ_c_l w_m_n
cl_ck_d __t _t 59. _m_r_c_ns _r_ l_v_ng l_ng_r, _nd
w_rk_ng l_ng_r." Ch_n_ h_s _ls_ _nn__nc_d _n
_ncr__s_, t_ b_ r_ll_d __t _v_r th_ n_xt 15 y__rs.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2505/250526-rising-retirement-ages.html>

higher rates of longevity are pushing up ages of retirement in line with this the danish government has just announced it will raise the retirement age for its citizens from 67 to 70 by the year 2040 in so doing denmarks workers will have the worlds longest wait before they can retire denmark said the new law was necessary to keep pace with increasing life expectancy however jesper rasmussen a trade union leader in denmark expressed his consternation at the governments move he said denmark has a healthy economy and yet the eus highest retirement age he added a higher retirement age means that workers will lose their right to a dignified senior life

there is a precedent for the retirement age being 70 the worlds first case was in germany in 1881 it set the age at 70 before reducing it to 65 in 1916 many countries followed suit and incorporated their own ages for workers to retire with a state pension the usa first adopted a retirement age in 1935 it was set at 65 the usa today website reported that in america the retirement age was also steadily creeping up it wrote the upward trend is slow but striking in 1994 the average man worked to age 61 while the typical woman clocked out at 59 americans are living longer and working longer china has also announced an increase to be rolled out over the next 15 years

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2505/250526-rising-retirement-ages.html>

Higherratesoflongevityarepushingupagesofretirement.Inlinewiththis,theDanishgovernmenthasjustannounceditwillraisetheretirementageforitscitizensfrom67to70bytheyear2040.Insodoing,Denmark'sworkerswillhavetheworld'slongestwaitbeforetheycanretire.Denmarksaidthenewlawwasnecessarytokeeppacewithincreasinglifeexpectancy.However,JesperRasmussen,atradeunionleaderinDenmark,expressedhisconsternationatthegovernment'smove.Hesaid:"DenmarkhasahealthyeconomyandyettheEU'shighestretirementage".Headded:"Ahigherretirementagemeansthat[workerswill]losetheirrighttoadignifiedseniorlife."Thereisaprecedentfortheretirementagebeing70.Theworld'sfirstcasewasinGermanyin1881.Itsettheageat70,beforereducingitto65in1916.Manycountriesfollowedsuitandincorporatedtheirownagesforworkerstoretirewithastatepension.TheUSAfirstadoptedaretirementagein1935.Itwassetat65.TheUSATodaywebsitereportedthatinAmerica,theretirementagewasalsosteadilycreepingup.Itwrote:"Theupwardtrendisslow,butstriking.In1994,theaveragemanworkedtoage61,whilethetypicalwomanclockedoutat59.Americansarelivinglonger,andworkinglonger."Chinahasalsoannouncedanincrease,toborolledoutoverthenext15years.

FREE WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2505/250526-rising-retirement-ages.html>

Write about **retirement ages** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.

[illegible]

ACADEMIC WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2505/250526-rising-retirement-ages.html>

The retirement age should be 60 for everyone. Discuss.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

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. RETIREMENT AGES: Make a poster about retirement ages. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. EARLY RETIREMENT: Write a magazine article about everyone in the world taking early retirement age. 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 retirement. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your ideas on what people should do in their retirement. 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. f 3. c 4. a 5. g 6. d 7. e
8. m 9. n 10. k 11. h 12. l 13. j 14. i

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- Higher rates of longevity
- 2040
- A trade union leader
- Its economy
- A dignified senior life
- In 1881
- In 1935
- It's steadily creeping up.
- At 59
- China

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

- Rates of longevity are pushing up retirement ages.
- It will raise the retirement age for citizens.
- The world's longest wait before they can retire.
- The new law was necessary to keep pace.
- Lose their right to a dignified senior life.
- There is a precedent for the retirement age.
- Many countries followed suit and incorporated their own.
- Ages for workers to retire with a pension.
- The retirement age was also steadily creeping up.
- Be rolled out over the next 15 years.

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 ;-)