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Law says visit old relatives or pay a fine

31st December, 2012

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1212/121231-relatives.html>

Contents

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

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THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1212/121231-relatives.html>

China has passed a new law that says people must visit their older relatives. This means older parents or grandparents can sue their kids and grandkids for not visiting them. The new law will start on July 1, 2013. It is part of a new campaign called the Protection of the Rights and Interests of the Elderly. China says it is so the country's aging population is not left alone. There have been many stories recently in China's newspapers of old people dying alone because their children do not visit them. More than half of China's elderly live alone. Even though the law says children have to visit their older relatives "often," it does not say how often "often" is. It also does not say how much the fine is for not visiting often.

China is becoming an aging society because of its one child per family policy. In 1978, the Chinese government told all couples they could have only one child. Some families could have two or more, such as those living in the countryside, ethnic minorities, or people who had twins. The Xinhua news agency said that at the end of 2011, almost 14 per cent of China's population was over 60 years old. That's more than 184 million people. This number is increasing because of China's rapid economic development. More and more young people are leaving the countryside to work in China's cities. Their parents are left alone and have to look after themselves. There are very few homes for the aged in the countryside.

Sources: <http://www.chinapost.com.tw/china/national-news/2012/12/30/365692/China-law.htm>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-china-20860264>

WARM-UPS

1. OLD PEOPLE: Walk around the class and talk to other students about old people. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

new law / visit / older relatives / grandparents / campaign / alone / aging population / one child / family / countryside / ethnic minorities / twins / economic development

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

3. FAMILY LAWS: What new ones can you think of? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners and share what you wrote. Change and share again.

Laws about...	Law	Why?	Fine
Husbands / Wives			
Siblings			
Parents / Children			
Children / Parents			
Cousins			
Whole family			

4. FAMILY: Students A **strongly** believe family is the most important thing in the world; Students B **strongly** believe it isn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. GRANDPARENTS: What's best about them? Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often.

- their love
- their wisdom
- their stories
- their photographs
- their presents
- their humour
- their calm
- their view on life

6. RELATIVES: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word 'relatives'. Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1212/121231-relatives.html>

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

- a. A law in China means parents can get money from kids who don't visit. T / F
- b. The new law started on Christmas Day. T / F
- c. China is worried about the number of old people being left alone. T / F
- d. The law says children must visit older relatives at least once a month. T / F
- e. China's one child per family policy started in the 1970s. T / F
- f. There were no couples in China who could have more than one child. T / F
- g. 60 per cent of China's population is over the age of 14. T / F
- h. The article says there aren't many homes for the elderly in rural China. T / F

2. SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article.

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 1. passed | a. penalty |
| 2. law | b. strategy |
| 3. campaign | c. aged |
| 4. elderly | d. fast |
| 5. fine | e. partners |
| 6. couples | f. legalized |
| 7. increasing | g. growth |
| 8. rapid | h. care for |
| 9. development | i. getting bigger |
| 10. look after | j. rule |

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

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. China has passed | a. "often" is |
| 2. aging | b. development |
| 3. More than half of China's | c. the fine is |
| 4. it does not say how often | d. family policy |
| 5. It also does not say how much | e. population |
| 6. its one child per | f. in the countryside |
| 7. ethnic | g. a new law |
| 8. rapid economic | h. after themselves |
| 9. look | i. elderly live alone |
| 10. very few homes for the aged | j. minorities |

GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1212/121231-relatives.html>

China has (1) _____ a new law that says people must visit their older relatives. This means older parents or grandparents can (2) _____ their kids and grandkids for not visiting them. The new law will start on July 1, 2013. It is part of a new (3) _____ called the Protection of the Rights and Interests of the Elderly. China says it is so the country's (4) _____ population is not left alone. There have been many stories recently in China's newspapers of old people dying (5) _____ because their children do not visit them. More than half of China's (6) _____ live alone. Even though the law says children have to visit their older relatives "often," it does not say how (7) _____ "often" is. It also does not say how much the (8) _____ is for not visiting often.

campaign

often

passed

alone

sue

fine

aging

elderly

China is becoming an aging (9) _____ because of its one child per family policy. In 1978, the Chinese government told all (10) _____ they could have only one child. Some families could have two or more, such as those living in the countryside, (11) _____ minorities, or people who had (12) _____. The Xinhua news (13) _____ said that at the end of 2011, almost 14 per cent of China's population was over 60 years old. That's more than 184 million people. This number is (14) _____ because of China's rapid economic development. More and more young people are leaving the countryside to work in China's cities. Their parents are (15) _____ alone and have to look after themselves. There are very (16) _____ homes for the aged in the countryside.

left

twins

ethnic

increasing

society

few

couples

agency

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1212/121231-relatives.html>

- 1) China has _____
 - a. passed a new law
 - b. past a new law
 - c. pasted a new law
 - d. pass ten new laws
- 2) grandparents _____ kids
 - a. can sew their
 - b. can see their
 - c. can say their
 - d. can sue their
- 3) the country's aging population _____
 - a. is not right alone
 - b. is not left alone
 - c. is not left lonely
 - d. is not let alone
- 4) it does not say _____
 - a. how often "often" is
 - b. that often "often" is
 - c. how much "often" is
 - d. how often "often" isn't
- 5) say how much _____ not visiting often
 - a. the finest for
 - b. the find is for
 - c. the fine is for
 - d. the fine is four
- 6) China is becoming an aging society because _____ family policy.
 - a. of it swan child per
 - b. of bits one child per
 - c. of its one child for
 - d. of its one child per
- 7) those living in the countryside, _____, or people who had twins.
 - a. ethnic mine authorities
 - b. ethnic minorities
 - c. earth knit minorities
 - d. ethnic mine or rarities
- 8) at the end of 2011, _____ China's population was over 60 years old.
 - a. almost 14 per cent of
 - b. a must 14 per cent of
 - c. almost 40 per cent of
 - d. almost 14 per cent from
- 9) Their parents _____ have to look after themselves.
 - a. alone are left and
 - b. left alone and are
 - c. are let alone and
 - d. are left lonely and
- 10) There are very few homes _____ the countryside.
 - a. four three aged in
 - b. for the age heading
 - c. for the aged in
 - d. from the aged in

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1212/121231-relatives.html>

China has passed a new law that says people (1) _____ relatives. This means older parents or grandparents (2) _____ grandkids for not visiting them. The new law will start on July 1, 2013. It is (3) _____ campaign called the Protection of the Rights and Interests of the Elderly. China (4) _____ country's aging population is not left alone. There have been many stories recently in China's newspapers of old people dying alone because their children do not visit them. (5) _____ China's elderly live alone. Even though the law says children have to visit their older relatives "often," it does not say (6) _____. It also does not say how much the fine is for not visiting often.

China is becoming an aging society because (7) _____ family policy. In 1978, the Chinese government told all couples they could have only one child. Some families could have two or more, (8) _____ in the countryside, ethnic minorities, or people who had twins. The Xinhua news agency said (9) _____ 2011, almost 14 per cent of China's population was over 60 years old. That's more than 184 million people. This number (10) _____ China's rapid economic development. More and more young people are leaving the countryside to work in China's cities. Their parents (11) _____ have to look after themselves. There are very few (12) _____ in the countryside.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1212/121231-relatives.html>

1. What can parents do to children who do not visit them?

2. When does the new law start?

3. What stories have recently been in Chinese newspapers?

4. How many of China's old people live alone?

5. How much is the fine for not visiting old people?

6. When did China's one child policy start?

7. How many children could you have if you lived in the countryside?

8. How much of China's population is over 60?

9. What are many of China's young leaving?

10. What aren't there many of in the countryside?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1212/121231-relatives.html>

1. What did China pass?
 - a) a group of students
 - b) an opportunity
 - c) a new law
 - d) a test
2. What can parents do to children if they don't visit?
 - a) sue them
 - b) see them
 - c) sew them
 - d) ban them
3. What kind of stories have recently been in Chinese newspapers?
 - a) old people dying alone
 - b) old people hitting their children
 - c) children hitting old people
 - d) the government helping old people
4. How often should children visit their old parents?
 - a) once a month
 - b) often
 - c) as much as possible
 - d) every day
5. How much is the fine for not visiting parents?
 - a) a week in prison
 - b) 200 hours of helping the old people
 - c) \$500
 - d) it doesn't say
6. When did the one child per family policy start in China?
 - a) 1968
 - b) 1978
 - c) 1988
 - d) 1998
7. What kind of minorities could have more than one child?
 - a) ethnic
 - b) religious
 - c) English-speaking
 - d) the rich and wealthy
8. How much of Chinese society is over the age of 60?
 - a) 44%
 - b) 40%
 - c) 14%
 - d) 4%
9. What are more and more young people are leaving?
 - a) city life
 - b) the dishes
 - c) their jobs
 - d) the countryside
10. Where are there very few homes for the aged?
 - a) the countryside
 - b) the city
 - c) Beijing
 - d) everywhere

ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1212/121231-relatives.html>

Role A – Old parent

You are so happy with the new law. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell the young people they have lost respect for old people. You think young people should go to prison for not visiting their old relatives. You think young people should live with their parents or visit them every day.

Role B – Young person A

You do not like the new law. Tell the others three reasons why. You think respect for old person should not be automatic. There should be no fine or penalty for not visiting old people. The government should look after old people. That would really help the economy.

Role C – Young person B

You think the new law is great. You are shocked at young people who do not visit the aged. Tell Student A three reasons why (s)he is a bad child. You think the elderly are national treasures. Tell the others three reasons why. The young should visit the old daily, or get a \$1,000 fine.

Role D – Government

You think the new law will make society better. Tell the others three reasons why. You are worried more old people will die earlier and alone. You hate young people who don't visit the elderly. Tell the others three reasons why. The next law is for the elderly to live with their children.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1212/121231-relatives.html>

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

visit	relative
--------------	-----------------

- 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">• passed• campaign• left• recently• even• fine	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• aging• couples• twins• 60• rapid• homes
---	--

OLD PEOPLE SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1212/121231-relatives.html>

Write five GOOD questions about old people 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.

OLD PEOPLE DISCUSSION

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

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'elderly'?
- c) Are the elderly looked after well in your country?
- d) What do you think it is like to be 70 or 80 years old?
- e) How often should children visit their older parents?
- f) Why is this law needed?
- g) Has society broken if old people are dying alone?
- h) What do you learn from the old people around you?
- i) Do you think you'll be alone in your old age?
- j) How much should the fine be for not visiting old people?

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OLD PEOPLE DISCUSSION

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

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) What do you think of the elderly?
- c) What do you think the elderly worry about?
- d) What do you think of a law that says you must visit your aging parents?
- e) What are the good and bad things about being old?
- f) What do you think of China's one child per family policy?
- g) What are the problems of an aging society?
- h) Should the government build more care homes for the elderly?
- i) What questions would you like to ask an elderly person about this law?
- j) What do you think their answers would be?

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. _____

MULTIPLE CHOICE - LANGUAGE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1212/121231-relatives.html>

China has (1) _____ a new law that says people must visit their older relatives. This means older parents or grandparents can (2) _____ their kids and grandkids for not visiting them. The new law will start on July 1, 2013. It is (3) _____ of a new campaign called the Protection of the Rights and Interests of the Elderly. China says it is so the country's (4) _____ population is not left alone. There have been many stories recently in China's newspapers of old people dying alone because their children do not visit them. More than half of China's elderly live (5) _____. Even though the law says children have to visit their older relatives "often," it does not say how often "often" is. It also does not say how much the (6) _____ is for not visiting often.

China is becoming an aging society because of its one child per family (7) _____. In 1978, the Chinese government told all (8) _____ they could have only one child. Some families could have two or more, such as those living in the countryside, ethnic (9) _____, or people who had twins. The Xinhua news agency said that at the end of 2011, almost 14 per cent of China's population was over 60 years old. That's more than 184 million people. This number is (10) _____ because of China's rapid economic development. More and (11) _____ young people are leaving the countryside to work in China's cities. Their parents are left alone and have to look (12) _____ themselves. There are very few homes for the aged in the countryside.

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) past | (b) passed | (c) pasted | (d) parsed |
| 2. | (a) share | (b) sue | (c) say | (d) see |
| 3. | (a) party | (b) partners | (c) parted | (d) part |
| 4. | (a) raging | (b) aging | (c) paging | (d) waging |
| 5. | (a) lonely | (b) alone | (c) lonesome | (d) loner |
| 6. | (a) good | (b) fine | (c) OK | (d) well |
| 7. | (a) icy | (b) nursery | (c) policy | (d) births |
| 8. | (a) coupes | (b) couplets | (c) couples | (d) coupons |
| 9. | (a) races | (b) minors | (c) cultures | (d) minorities |
| 10. | (a) increasing | (b) increased | (c) increases | (d) increase |
| 11. | (a) more | (b) many | (c) most | (d) much |
| 12. | (a) past | (b) before | (c) after | (d) later |

SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1212/121231-relatives.html>

Paragraph 1

1. grandparents can seu their kids
2. part of a new macignap
3. rnseestti of the elderly
4. the country's gngai population
5. many stories ernyectl in China's newspapers
6. Even htuogh

Paragraph 2

7. one child per family ypcoli
8. all lsoepcu
9. ethnic iionetism
10. This number is niarcsigne
11. rapid economic oemtdenpely
12. leaving the nctoisrdyeu

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1212/121231-relatives.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () countryside, ethnic minorities, or people who had twins. The Xinhua news agency said that at the end
- () all couples they could have only one child. Some families could have two or more, such as those living in the
- () recently in China's newspapers of old people dying alone because their children do not visit them. More than
- () Elderly. China says it is so the country's aging population is not left alone. There have been many stories
- () of 2011, almost 14 per cent of China's population was over 60 years old. That's more than 184 million
- () half of China's elderly live alone. Even though the law says children have to visit their older relatives
- () more young people are leaving the countryside to work in China's cities. Their parents are left
- () start on July 1, 2013. It is part of a new campaign called the Protection of the Rights and Interests of the
- () China is becoming an aging society because of its one child per family policy. In 1978, the Chinese government told
- () alone and have to look after themselves. There are very few homes for the aged in the countryside.
- () people. This number is increasing because of China's rapid economic development. More and
- () "often," it does not say how often "often" is. It also does not say how much the fine is for not visiting often.
- () or grandparents can sue their kids and grandkids for not visiting them. The new law will
- (**1**) China has passed a new law that says people must visit their older relatives. This means older parents

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1212/121231-relatives.html>

1. law new A relatives older their visit must people says that

2. grandkids visiting Sue and not kids for them their.

3. not is population aging country's the so is It alone left

4. China's More elderly than live half alone of.

5. say how much the fine is It also does not.

6. is aging becoming China society an.

7. more or two have could families Some.

8. Almost was 145 over of 60 China's population.

9. More young leaving more are countryside and people the.

10. homes few very are There countryside the in aged the for.

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1212/121231-relatives.html>

China has *passed* / *past* a new law that says people must visit their older relatives. This *means* / *meant* older parents or grandparents can *use* / *sue* their kids and grandkids for not *visiting* / *visit* them. The new law will start on July 1, 2013. It is part of a new campaign *calls* / *called* the Protection of the Rights and Interests of the Elderly. China says it is *such* / *so* the country's aging population is not left *alone* / *loneliness*. There have been many stories *recent* / *recently* in China's newspapers of old people dying alone because their children do not visit them. More than half of China's elderly live alone. Even *though* / *through* the law says children have to visit their older relatives "often," it does not say how often "often" is. It also does not say how much the *fine* / *well* is for not visiting often.

China is becoming an *aging* / *ageless* society because of its one child per family *policy* / *police*. In 1978, the Chinese government told all couples they could have only one child. Some families could have two or *most* / *more*, such as *those* / *them* living in the countryside, ethnic *minority* / *minorities*, or people who had twins. The Xinhua news agency said that at the end of 2011, *most* / *almost* 14 per cent of China's population was over 60 years old. That's more than 184 million people. This number is *increasing* / *increases* because of China's *rapid* / *rapidly* economic development. More and more young people are *leaving* / *living* the countryside to work in China's cities. Their parents are *right* / *left* alone and have to look after themselves. There are very few homes for the aged in the countryside.

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 <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1212/121231-relatives.html>

Ch_n_ h_s p_ss_d _ n_w l_w th_t s_ys p__pl_ m_st
v_s_t th__r _ld_r r_l_t_v_s. Th_s m__ns _ld_r p_r_nts
_r gr_ndp_r_nts c_n s__ th__r k_ds _nd gr_ndk_ds f_r
n_t v_s_t_ng th_m. Th_ n_w l_w w_ll st_rt _n J_ly 1,
2013. _t _s p_rt _f _ n_w c_mp__gn c_ll_d th_
Pr_t_ct__n _f th_ R_ghts _nd _nt_r_sts _f th_ _ld_rly.
Ch_n_ s_ys _t_s s_ th_ c__ntry's _g_ng p_p_l_t__n_s
n_t l_ft _l_n_. Th_r_ h_v_ b__n m_ny st_r__s r_c_ntly
_n Ch_n_'s n_wsp_p_rs _f _ld p__pl_ dy_ng _l_n_
b_c__s_ th__r ch_ldr_n d_n_t v_s_t th_m. M_r_ th_n
h_lf _f Ch_n_'s _ld_rly l_v_ _l_n_. _v_n th__gh th_ l_w
s_ys ch_ldr_n h_v_ t_ v_s_t th__r _ld_r r_l_t_v_s
"_ft_n," _t d__s n_t s_y h_w _ft_n "_ft_n" _s. _t_l_s_
d__s n_t s_y h_w m_ch th_ f_n_ _s f_r n_t v_s_t_ng
_ft_n.

Ch_n_ _s b_c_m_ng _n _g_ng s_c__ty b_c__s_ _f ts
n ch_ld p_r f_m_ly p_l_cy. _n 1978, th_ Ch_n_s_
g_v_rnm_nt t_ld _ll c__pl_s th_y c__ld h_v_ _nly _n_
ch_ld. S_m_ f_m_l__s c__ld h_v_ tw__ _r m_r_, s_ch_s
th_s l_v_ng _n th_ c__ntrys_d_, _thn c_m_n_r_t__s,
_r p__pl_ wh_ h_d tw_ns. Th_ X_nh__ n_ws _g_ncy
s__d th_t _t th_ _nd _f 2011, _lm_st 14 p_r_c_nt _f
Ch_n_'s p_p_l_t__n w_s _v_r 60 y__rs _ld. Th_t's m_r_
th_n 184 m_ll__n p__pl_. Th_s n_mb_r _s _ncr__s_ng
b_c__s_ _f Ch_n_'s r_p_d _c_n_m_c d_v_l_pm_nt.
M_r_ _nd m_r_ y__ng p__pl_ _r_ l__v_ng th_
c__ntrys_d_ t_w_rk _n Ch_n_'s c_t__s. Th__r p_r_nts
r l_ft _l_n_ _nd h_v_ t_ l__k _ft_r th_ms_lv_s.
Th_r_ _r_ v_ry f_w h_m_s f_r th_ _g_d _n th_
c__ntrys_d_.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1212/121231-relatives.html>

china has passed a new law that says people must visit their older relatives this means older parents or grandparents can sue their kids and grandkids for not visiting them the new law will start on july 1 2013 it is part of a new campaign called the protection of the rights and interests of the elderly china says it is so the country's aging population is not left alone there have been many stories recently in china's newspapers of old people dying alone because their children do not visit them more than half of china's elderly live alone even though the law says children have to visit their older relatives "often" it does not say how often "often" is it also does not say how much the fine is for not visiting often

china is becoming an aging society because of its one child per family policy in 1978 the chinese government told all couples they could have only one child some families could have two or more such as those living in the countryside ethnic minorities or people who had twins the xinhua news agency said that at the end of 2011 almost 14 per cent of china's population was over 60 years old that's more than 184 million people this number is increasing because of china's rapid economic development more and more young people are leaving the countryside to work in china's cities their parents are left alone and have to look after themselves there are very few homes for the aged in the countryside

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1212/121231-relatives.html>

China has passed a new law that says people must visit their older relatives. This means older parents or grandparents can sue their kids and grandkids for not visiting them. The new law will start on July 1, 2013. It is part of a new campaign called the Protection of the Rights and Interests of the Elderly. China says it is so the country's aging population is not left alone. There have been many stories recently in China's newspapers of old people dying alone because their children do not visit them. More than half of China's elderly live alone. Even though the law says children have to visit their older relatives "often," it does not say how often "often" is. It also does not say how much the fine is for not visiting often. China is becoming an aging society because of its one child per family policy. In 1978, the Chinese government told all couples they could have only one child. Some families could have two or more, such as those living in the countryside, ethnic minorities, or people who had twins. The Xinhua news agency said that at the end of 2011, almost 14 percent of China's population was over 60 years old. That's more than 184 million people. This number is increasing because of China's rapid economic development. More and more young people are leaving the countryside to work in China's cities. Their parents are left alone and have to look after themselves. There are very few homes for the aged in the countryside.

FREE WRITING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1212/121231-relatives.html>

Write about **old people** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner’s paper.

Lined writing area consisting of 20 horizontal lines.

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 old people. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. CARE: Make a poster about how we should care for old people. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. LAW: Write a magazine article about the new law in China that says you must visit your older relatives. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against it.

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 a lawyer. Ask him/her three questions about the new law in China. Give him/her three of your opinions on it. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

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

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 1. passed | a. legalized |
| 2. law | b. rule |
| 3. campaign | c. strategy |
| 4. elderly | d. aged |
| 5. fine | e. penalty |
| 6. couples | f. partners |
| 7. increasing | g. getting bigger |
| 8. rapid | h. fast |
| 9. development | i. growth |
| 10. look after | j. care for |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. They can sue them
2. July 1, 2013
3. Stories of old people dying alone
4. More than half
5. It didn't say
6. 1978
7. Two or more
8. 14%
9. The countryside
10. Homes for the aged

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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