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## **Level 5**

### **Swiss vote no to free monthly income for all**

**8th June, 2016**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1606/160608-basic-income-5.html>

## **Contents**

The Reading	2
Phrase Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
No Spaces	5
Survey	6
Writing and Speaking	7
Writing	8

**Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.**

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1606/160608-basic-income-5.html>

Swiss voters have rejected a proposal to introduce a guaranteed basic monthly income for all citizens. Almost 77 per cent of voters opposed the plan in a referendum. The idea was for a minimum salary for those who have been a citizen for five years, whether they worked or not. The monthly amount could be around \$2,500. Supporters of the idea argued that it was necessary to replace Switzerland's social welfare system. A spokesperson said it would help fight poverty and inequality. He added that it would give more money to people who earned less than the minimum wage.

Supporters argued that because work was becoming more automated, there were fewer jobs available. Che Wagner from the campaign group Basic Income Switzerland said the income would not be money for nothing. He said: "In Switzerland, over 50 per cent of total work that is done is unpaid. It's care work. It's at home. It's in different communities, so that work would be more valued with a basic income." Opponents said it would cause immigration problems. The Swiss People's Party said: "You would have billions of people who would try to move into Switzerland."

Sources: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-36454060>  
<http://money.cnn.com/2016/06/05/news/economy/switzerland-basic-income-referendum/>  
[http://www.expatica.com/ch/news/Swiss-say-no-thanks-to-basic-income-for-all\\_696861.html](http://www.expatica.com/ch/news/Swiss-say-no-thanks-to-basic-income-for-all_696861.html)

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1606/160608-basic-income-5.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                       |                      |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. a guaranteed basic                 | a. for five years    |
| 2. opposed the plan in                | b. welfare system    |
| 3. those who have been a citizen      | c. and inequality    |
| 4. The monthly amount could           | d. monthly income    |
| 5. Supporters of the idea argued that | e. minimum wage      |
| 6. replace Switzerland's social       | f. a referendum      |
| 7. help fight poverty                 | g. be around \$2,500 |
| 8. people who earned less than the    | h. it was necessary  |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                     |                   |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. work was becoming more           | a. nothing        |
| 2. there were fewer                 | b. group          |
| 3. campaign                         | c. problems       |
| 4. money for                        | d. basic income   |
| 5. care                             | e. people         |
| 6. work would be more valued with a | f. automated      |
| 7. it would cause immigration       | g. work           |
| 8. billions of                      | h. jobs available |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1606/160608-basic-income-5.html>

Swiss voters have (1) \_\_\_\_\_ to introduce a guaranteed basic monthly income (2) \_\_\_\_\_. Almost 77 per cent of voters opposed the plan in a referendum. The idea was for (3) \_\_\_\_\_ those who have been a citizen for five years, whether they worked or not. The (4) \_\_\_\_\_ could be around \$2,500. Supporters of the idea argued that it was necessary to replace Switzerland's (5) \_\_\_\_\_ system. A spokesperson said it would help fight poverty and inequality. He added that it would give more money to people who (6) \_\_\_\_\_ the minimum wage.

Supporters argued that because work was becoming (7) \_\_\_\_\_, there were fewer jobs available. Che Wagner from (8) \_\_\_\_\_ Basic Income Switzerland said the income would not be (9) \_\_\_\_\_. He said: "In Switzerland, over 50 per cent of total work that is done is unpaid. It's care work. It's at home. It's in different communities, so that work would (10) \_\_\_\_\_ with a basic income." Opponents said it (11) \_\_\_\_\_ problems. The Swiss People's Party said: "You would have billions of people who would (12) \_\_\_\_\_ Switzerland."

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1606/160608-basic-income-5.html>

Swiss voters have rejected a proposal to introduce a guaranteed basic monthly income for all citizens. Almost 77 percent of voters opposed the plan in a referendum. The idea was for a minimum salary for those who have been a citizen for five years, whether they worked or not. The monthly amount could be around \$2,500. Supporters of the idea argued that it was necessary to replace Switzerland's social welfare system. A spokesperson said it would help fight poverty and inequality. He added that it would give more money to people who earned less than the minimum wage. Supporters argued that because work was becoming more automated, there were fewer jobs available. Che Wagner from the campaign group Basic Income Switzerland said the income would not be money for nothing. He said: "In Switzerland, over 50 percent of total work that is done is unpaid. It's scare work. It's at home. It's in different communities, so that work would be more valued with a basic income." Opponents said it would cause immigration problems. The Swiss People's Party said: "You would have billions of people who would try to move into Switzerland."

# MONTHLY SALARY SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1606/160608-basic-income-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about monthly salary 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.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

*Swiss vote no to free monthly income for all – 8th June, 2016*  
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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

