

Overview

Watch the video podcast. Whose opinions about money do you agree with most?

1 Read the text below about Val's life in London. Then watch the video podcast from 0:10-0:26 and fill in the missing words.



I like ¹ _____ in London but it can be ² _____ expensive. Today I'm ³ _____ to people about money and ⁴ _____. Do you ⁵ _____ money makes you happy?

2 Look at the people below and read the things they say about money. Then watch the video podcast from 0:27-1:31 and match the people to the statements.



A Winston



B Tracey



C Nick



D Glucia



E Elena



F Florence



G David

- 1 lack of money makes people unhappy
- 2 I think money can't make you happy at the end of the day.
- 3 fundamentally, happiness doesn't come from just having money
- 4 money can enhance happiness but happiness is about family, friends, ...
- 5 money won't give you happiness directly but I think it could give you a little help
- 6 it can enable you to do more things which could make you a happier person
- 7 money will probably contribute to my happiness

C

3A What things are more important than money? Look at the possible responses to the question in the box below. Then watch the video podcast from 1:33-2:31 and tick (✓) the answers you hear. There are FIVE extra words and phrases.

having a large family	hearing your child laugh	world peace
love	contentment	doing well at school
feeling at ease with other people	security	a good job
the environment	health	friends
a nurturing environment	having a stable family	

3B Now use some of the phrases from the box to complete what the speakers say.



Elena

1 Your family, your _____, having good _____ and feeling satisfied with what you're doing in your life and I think money can't give you that.



Nick

2 _____; having a stable family; feeling at ease with yourself; _____.



Tracey

3 _____ is more important than money. I think family is really important and having, like, _____ to grow up in.

4 *Should wealthy people be taxed more to support the poor?* Watch the video podcast from 2:35-3:24 and write true (T) or false (F) next to each statement.



A Winston

He thinks rich people should pay more tax than poorer people. T



B Nick

He thinks everyone should pay the same tax.



C Elena

She thinks poorer people need to work harder.



D David

He doesn't think you should definitely tax the rich to help the poor.



E Glucia

She thinks the difference between the rich and the poor is too big.

Glossary: tax = an amount of money you must pay to the government according to your income that is used to pay for public services; wealthy = rich

5 Choose the correct word in the brackets to complete the sentences below. Watch the video podcast from 2:35-3:24 and check your answers.



Winston

1 Depending on how rich they are: I think the _____ (richer / poorer) they are, the _____ (less / more) they should pay.



Nick

2 Yes, _____ (definitely / undoubtedly). I'm a _____ (firm / strong) believer in a progressive system of taxation.



Elena

3 I _____ (think / believe) that some people just come from a much more _____ (disadvantaged / wealthy) background and they need an extra push and some extra money to be able to get ahead.



David

4 I would _____ (be / stop) _____ (short / careful) at saying 'Yes you should tax the rich,' though 'to pay for the poor'.

Glossary: progressive tax system = a tax system where the richer you are, the more tax you pay ; crucial = extremely important

The way we speak

6 The people in the pictures below talk about things that are more important to them than money. Read what they say and complete their responses with the phrases from the box. Then watch the video podcast from 1:35-2:31 again and check your answers.

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Florence

I believe that health is ¹ much more ² _____ than money.



David

Being able to ³ _____ your particular set of circumstances: feel ⁴ _____. If you're a family man, being able to spend time with the family: money is there, but it's the family itself that ⁵ _____ the difference.



Winston

I believe family is more important than money. Family can ⁶ _____ your life: your parents, your siblings, your children. Hearing your child laugh on a bad day will ⁷ _____ your ⁸ _____: it does for me.

Personalisation

7 Write a short paragraph giving your opinion on money and happiness. Try to use some of the language you've heard in the video podcasts.

BBC LINK

Many of us believe that winning the lottery could solve a lot of our day-to-day problems, but would it really make you happy?

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/magazine/8517946.stm>

BBC

