

Happiness

Level

Pre-intermediate and above

Tasks

- Discussing what makes you happy
- Guessing the missing countries in a set of survey results on happiness
- Reading an article about happiness
- Identifying the opposites of words taken from the article
- Completing a questionnaire and discussing the results

How to use the lesson

- 1 Write the word 'happiness' on the board and tell students that the lesson will be looking at 'what makes people happy'. If appropriate, brainstorm a list of things that make people happy and write them on the board. Hand out the worksheet and tell students to choose three things from the list and compare them with a partner.
- 2 Ask students to read the list of countries and complete the table of survey results. They then check their answers by scanning paragraph two of the article.

Answers

% of people who feel 'very happy':

(1) Australia (2) USA

% of people who feel 'very unhappy':

(1) Hungary (2) Russia

- 3 Ask students to read the whole article. Were they surprised at any of the survey results? Deal with any new or useful vocabulary such as: *attitudes / values / behaviours / unemployed / wealthy*.
- 4 Ask students to write down the opposites of the words from the article. Encourage them to use negative prefixes.

Answers

(a) *dissatisfied* (b) *insecurity* (c) *uninteresting / boring* (d) *employment* (e) *unconfident* (f) *poorer*

- 5 Ask students to complete the survey and then discuss and justify their answers in small groups. Monitor the discussions. After the discussions, ask each group to report their findings to the class. Finally, give students any useful language feedback.

Related websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

<http://www.gfknop.co.uk/>

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/4436482.stm>

http://www.nationmaster.com/graph-T/lif_hap_lev_ver_hap

<http://www.tourism.australia.com/NewsCentre.asp?sub=0315&al=1916>