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Denmark starts world's first food fat tax

MANY FLASH AND ONLINE ACTIVITIES FOR THIS LESSON, PLUS A LISTENING, AT:

http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1110/111002-food_fat_tax.html

IN THIS LESSON:

The Reading / Tapescript	2
Phrase Match	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
Multiple Choice	5
Spelling	6
Put the Text Back Together	7
Scrambled Sentences	8
Discussion	9
Writing	10
Homework	11

ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

2nd October, 2011

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1110/111002-food_fat_tax.html

Denmark has introduced the world's first tax on fatty food. Danish shoppers will now have to pay extra when they buy foods that are high in the cholesterol-packed fat. The new tax is at a rate of \$2.87 per kilo of saturated fat. This means 250 grams of butter will go up in price from \$2.78 to \$3.25 and the cost of a packet of potato chips will rise by 15 cents. Milk, cheese, pizza, meat and oil will also cost more. Many shoppers tried to buy this food before the prices went up.

The new tax will help people eat less fatty food. Around 10 per cent of Danes are overweight but the government wants to reduce this number. Doctors say four per cent of deaths in Denmark are because of saturated fats. Other European countries are looking at Denmark's fat tax to see if it works. Britain has obesity rates of over 20 per cent, the highest in Europe. British doctors say taxing food that is high in fat will help cut the number of people who die from heart attacks.

PHRASE MATCH

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1110/111002-food_fat_tax.html

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. the world's first tax | a. pay extra |
| 2. shoppers will now have to | b. potato chips |
| 3. at a rate | c. on fatty food |
| 4. go up | d. went up |
| 5. a packet of | e. in price |
| 6. before the prices | f. of \$2.87 per kilo |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. The new tax will help people | a. rates |
| 2. Around 10% of Danes are | b. heart attacks |
| 3. saturated | c. eat less |
| 4. obesity | d. fats |
| 5. taxing food that | e. overweight |
| 6. people who die from | f. is high in fat |

LISTENING GAP FILL

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1110/111002-food_fat_tax.html

Denmark has introduced the world's _____ food. Danish shoppers will now _____ when they buy foods that are high in the cholesterol-packed fat. The new _____ \$2.87 per kilo of saturated fat. This means 250 grams of butter will _____ from \$2.78 to \$3.25 and the _____ of potato chips will rise by 15 cents. Milk, cheese, pizza, meat and oil will also cost more. Many shoppers _____ food before the prices went up.

The new tax _____ less fatty food. Around 10 per cent of Danes are overweight but the government wants to _____. Doctors say four per cent of deaths in Denmark are because of _____. Other European countries are looking at Denmark's fat tax _____. Britain has obesity rates of over 20 per cent, _____ Europe. British doctors say taxing food that is high in fat _____ number of people who die from heart attacks.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1110/111002-food_fat_tax.html

Denmark has introduced the world's first tax (1) _____ fatty food. Danish shoppers will now have to pay extra when they buy foods that are (2) _____ in the cholesterol-packed fat. The new tax is at a rate (3) _____ \$2.87 per kilo of saturated fat. This means 250 grams of butter will go up in price from \$2.78 to \$3.25 and the (4) _____ of a packet of potato chips will rise (5) _____ 15 cents. Milk, cheese, pizza, meat and oil will also cost more. Many shoppers tried to buy this food before the prices (6) _____ up.

The new tax will help people eat (7) _____ fatty food. Around 10 per cent of Danes are overweight but the government wants to reduce (8) _____ number. Doctors say four per cent (9) _____ deaths in Denmark are because of saturated fats. Other European countries are looking at Denmark's fat tax to (10) _____ if it works. Britain has obesity rates of over 20 per cent, the highest in Europe. British doctors say (11) _____ food that is high in fat will help cut the number of people who die from (12) _____ attacks.

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | |
|-----|-------------|-----------|------------|
| 1. | (a) in | (b) on | (c) to |
| 2. | (a) high | (b) deep | (c) wide |
| 3. | (a) to | (b) so | (c) of |
| 4. | (a) sell | (b) cost | (c) label |
| 5. | (a) by | (b) of | (c) from |
| 6. | (a) went | (b) gone | (c) have |
| 7. | (a) less | (b) small | (c) few |
| 8. | (a) them | (b) this | (c) these |
| 9. | (a) by | (b) to | (c) of |
| 10. | (a) look | (b) see | (c) stare |
| 11. | (a) tax | (b) taxes | (c) taxing |
| 12. | (a) stomach | (b) brain | (c) heart |

SPELLING

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1110/111002-food_fat_tax.html

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. the rldws'o first tax
2. afytt food
3. pay taerx
4. cholesterol-cpeakd fat
5. a pkcate of potato chips
6. before the cripes went up

Paragraph 2

7. urodna 10 per cent of Danes
8. cdeuer this number
9. hoetr European countries
10. obesity strea
11. British odstcro
12. heart tkaasct

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1110/111002-food_fat_tax.html

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () at Denmark's fat tax to see if it works. Britain has obesity
- () rise by 15 cents. Milk, cheese, pizza, meat and oil will also cost more. Many
- () overweight but the government wants to reduce this number. Doctors say four per cent
- () of deaths in Denmark are because of saturated fats. Other European countries are looking
- () The new tax will help people eat less fatty food. Around 10 per cent of Danes are
- () up in price from \$2.78 to \$3.25 and the cost of a packet of potato chips will
- () is at a rate of \$2.87 per kilo of saturated fat. This means 250 grams of butter will go
- () rates of over 20 per cent, the highest in Europe. British doctors say taxing
- () shoppers tried to buy this food before the prices went up.
- () food that is high in fat will help cut the number of people who die from heart attacks.
- () have to pay extra when they buy foods that are high in the cholesterol-packed fat. The new tax
- (**1**) Denmark has introduced the world's first tax on fatty food. Danish shoppers will now

WORD JUMBLE

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1110/111002-food_fat_tax.html

With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. tax first world's The food fatty on.

2. now will Shoppers extra pay to have.

3. new \$2.87 tax is at per a kilo rate of The

4. will rise The cost of a packet of potato chips.

5. food buy tried Many this to shoppers.

6. help The people new eat tax less will.

7. reduce to wants government The number this.

8. looking are Countries tax fat Denmark's at.

9. over cent has of per Britain rates 20 obesity.

10. from of die attacks number who heart The people.

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. _____

WRITING

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1110/111002-food_fat_tax.html

Write about fatty food for 10 minutes. Show your partner your paper. Correct each other's work.

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. FATTY FOOD: Search the Internet and find more information about fatty food. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about fatty food. Include imaginary interviews with a food expert and people who love fatty food. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

4. 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.

5. LETTER: Write a letter to a food expert. Ask him/her three questions about fatty food. Give him/her three of your opinions on it. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Your partner will answer the questions you asked.