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Obesity drug for unborn babies

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

http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1204/120403-obesity_drug.html

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ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

3rd April, 2012

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1204/120403-obesity_drug.html

Doctors in the U.K. are giving overweight pregnant women drugs to lower the chance of obesity in their baby. It is part of a trial in four cities. Women who are “dangerously overweight” have the choice of taking the drug. Professor Jane Norman of Edinburgh University said: “Many women feel perfectly healthy but there is very good evidence that women who are obese have an increased risk of pregnancy problems. Their babies are at risk and we'd like to reduce that risk.”

More than 15 per cent of pregnant women in the UK are obese. This increases the risk of the baby dying before it is born, or of having health problems after birth. Research shows that overweight babies are twice as likely to become obese adults. The trial has made many health experts angry. They say the answer is not a pill for the baby. Rather, doctors should tell overweight mothers to exercise and eat healthily. Dr Norman agrees, but she said women who start their pregnancy overweight need more help.

PHRASE MATCH

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1204/120403-obesity_drug.html

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. lower the chance | a. trial |
| 2. part of a | b. taking the drug |
| 3. have the choice of | c. risk |
| 4. feel perfectly | d. of obesity |
| 5. an increased risk of | e. healthy |
| 6. reduce that | f. pregnancy problems |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| 1. This increases the | a. experts |
| 2. having health problems | b. risk |
| 3. twice | c. more help |
| 4. health | d. after birth |
| 5. exercise and | e. as likely |
| 6. need | f. eat healthily |

LISTENING GAP FILL

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1204/120403-obesity_drug.html

Doctors in the U.K. are _____ pregnant women drugs to lower the _____ in their baby. It is part of a trial in four cities. Women who are “dangerously overweight” have the _____ the drug. Professor Jane Norman of Edinburgh University said: “Many women feel _____ but there is very good evidence that women who are obese have _____ of pregnancy problems. Their babies are at risk and we'd _____ that risk.”

More than 15 per cent of pregnant women in the UK are obese. This _____ of the baby dying before it is born, or of having health problems after birth. Research shows that overweight babies are _____ to become obese adults. The trial has made _____ angry. They say the answer is _____ the baby. Rather, doctors should tell overweight mothers to _____ healthily. Dr Norman agrees, but she said women who start their pregnancy overweight _____.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1204/120403-obesity_drug.html

Doctors in the U.K. are (1) _____ overweight pregnant women drugs to lower the chance of obesity in their baby. It is part of a (2) _____ in four cities. Women who are "(3) _____ overweight" have the choice of taking the drug. Professor Jane Norman of Edinburgh University said: "Many women (4) _____ perfectly healthy but there is very good evidence that women who are obese have an (5) _____ risk of pregnancy problems. Their babies are at risk and we'd like to reduce (6) _____ risk."

More than 15 per cent of pregnant women in the UK are obese. This increases the risk (7) _____ the baby dying before it is born, or of having health problems (8) _____ birth. Research shows that overweight babies are twice (9) _____ likely to become obese adults. The trial has made many health experts angry. They say the answer is not a (10) _____ for the baby. Rather, doctors should tell overweight mothers to exercise and eat (11) _____. Dr Norman (12) _____, but she said women who start their pregnancy overweight need more help.

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | |
|-----|---------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. | (a) taking | (b) giving | (c) checking |
| 2. | (a) trial | (b) trail | (c) retail |
| 3. | (a) dangers | (b) endangered | (c) dangerously |
| 4. | (a) heel | (b) peel | (c) feel |
| 5. | (a) increased | (b) up | (c) higher |
| 6. | (a) those | (b) them | (c) that |
| 7. | (a) by | (b) of | (c) at |
| 8. | (a) after | (b) later | (c) finish |
| 9. | (a) at | (b) as | (c) am |
| 10. | (a) disc | (b) plant | (c) pill |
| 11. | (a) health | (b) healthily | (c) healthier |
| 12. | (a) agrees | (b) thinks | (c) says |

SPELLING

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1204/120403-obesity_drug.html

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. part of a itrla
2. have the iohecc
3. feel pyfcltree healthy
4. very good nvceeeid
5. pregnancy mlrpbose
6. ucerde that risk

Paragraph 2

7. This aniesreccs the risk
8. problems after hbirt
9. twice as lilkey
10. health sprtxee
11. the ersawn is not a pill
12. eat lhlytheia

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1204/120403-obesity_drug.html

Number these lines in the correct order.

- (**1**) Doctors in the U.K. are giving overweight pregnant women
- () of taking the drug. Professor Jane Norman of Edinburgh University said: "Many women feel perfectly
- () risk of pregnancy problems. Their babies are at risk and we'd like to reduce that risk."
- () More than 15 per cent of pregnant women in the UK are obese. This increases the risk of the
- () baby dying before it is born, or of having health problems after
- () pill for the baby. Rather, doctors should tell overweight mothers to exercise and eat
- () drugs to lower the chance of obesity in their baby. It is part of a
- () birth. Research shows that overweight babies are twice as likely to become obese
- () adults. The trial has made many health experts angry. They say the answer is not a
- () healthily. Dr Norman agrees, but she said women who start their pregnancy overweight need more help.
- () trial in four cities. Women who are "dangerously overweight" have the choice
- () healthy but there is very good evidence that women who are obese have an increased

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

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

1. to Drugs obesity of chance . the lower

2. of is in a part four trial It cities.

3. choice the Have drug the taking of.

4. Women an who increased are risk obese have.

5. We'd to that like reduce risk.

6. the increases baby the dying risk of This.

7. babies as become Overweight twice to are likely obese.

8. answer a the The not for is pill baby.

9. exercise to mothers overweight tell should Doctors.

10. pregnancy who their overweight Women start.

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. _____

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. OBESITY: Search the Internet and find more information about obesity. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about obesity in babies. Include an imaginary interview with an obese child and one of his/her parents. 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 an obesity expert. Ask him/her three questions about obesity. 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.