A2-B1 English Worksheet

Does Living in a Wealthy Country Make You Happier?

The Happy Passports Index 2026

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Article

Can living in a wealthy country make you happier? The Happy Passports Index 2026 compared 50 countries. It measured how satisfied people feel, the freedom they have, passport power, income and safety. Finland came first, followed by Iceland and Denmark.

The results were sometimes surprising. Singapore has a powerful passport and high incomes but finished tenth. New Zealand came eighth despite its lower income ranking. Researchers suggest that having choices in everyday life can matter as much as wealth. A high salary does not guarantee happiness.

Some people prefer a busy, costly city, while others want a quieter home. Feeling safe, spending time with family and enjoying friendships may be more important than expensive things. The index compares countries, not individuals, so it cannot decide where anyone should live. A good life depends on personal values.

True/False

Decide if each statement is True (T) or False (F).

No.	Statement	T / F
1	The index examined fifty different countries.	
2	The ranking considered passport travel access and nothing else.	
3	Singapore finished among the top three countries.	
4	Finland, Iceland and Denmark occupied the first three places.	
5	New Zealand did better overall than it did for income.	
6	Researchers proved that a high salary makes everyone happier.	
7	Family and friendships are mentioned as possible sources of happiness.	
8	The article claims the index can choose the perfect home for each person.	

Synonym Match

Match each word (1-10) to a synonym (A-J).

Words (1-10)	Synonyms (A-J)
1. wealthy	A. expensive
2. satisfied	B. strong
3. freedom	C. secure
4. surprising	D. favour
5. powerful	E. liberty
6. choices	F. rich
7. prefer	G. unexpected
8. costly	H. content
9. safe	I. significant
10. important	J. options

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Use the New Language

Choose 5 words from Synonym Match and write your own sentences.

No.	Your sentence
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	

Discussion Questions

Student A	Student B
1. What usually makes you happy each day?	1. Can people be happy in a poorer country?
2. Where would you like to live for one year?	2. Can high pay still leave someone unhappy?
3. What do you like most about your city?	3. Money, freedom or family: what matters most?
4. Have you ever wanted to live abroad?	4. Should governments measure happiness?
5. Would you choose high pay or more free time?	5. What makes a country a good place to live?
6. Is good weather important where you live?	6. Can moving abroad solve personal problems?
7. What would you miss about your home country?	7. Do cultures define happiness differently?
8. Which would you choose: money, time or travel?	8. What else should a country ranking measure?

Answer Key

True/False 1=T, 2=F, 3=F, 4=T, 5=T, 6=F, 7=T, 8=F

Synonym Match 1=F, 2=H, 3=E, 4=G, 5=B, 6=J, 7=D, 8=A, 9=C, 10=I

Example Sentences With the Words

No.	Example sentence
1	Some wealthy countries also have high living costs.
2	She feels satisfied with her life in a small town.
3	Many people value the freedom to choose their own career.
4	The most surprising result was not the highest score.
5	A powerful passport can make international travel easier.
6	People have different choices about where to settle.
7	I prefer living near my friends to living in a large city.
8	Rent can be costly in popular capital cities.
9	He wants to feel safe when travelling alone.
10	Good public transport is important to many residents.