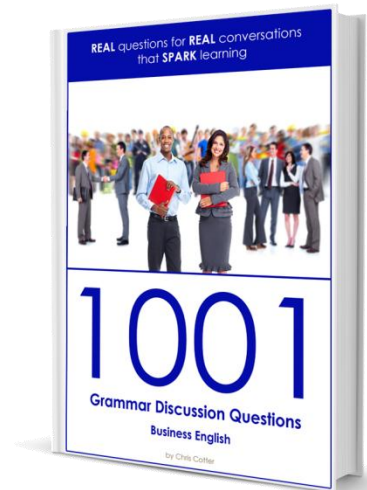
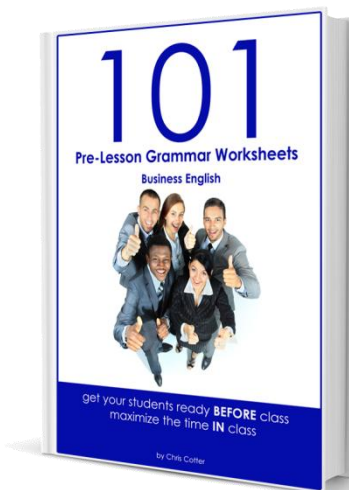
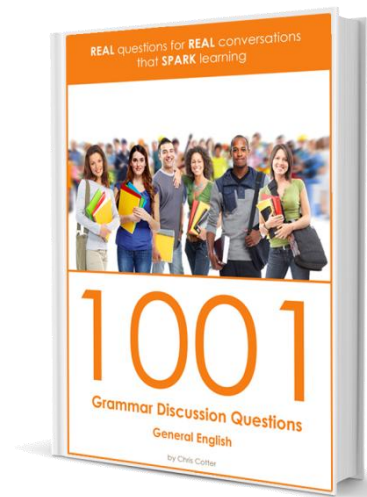
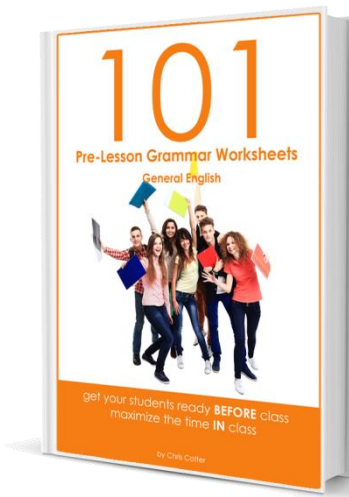
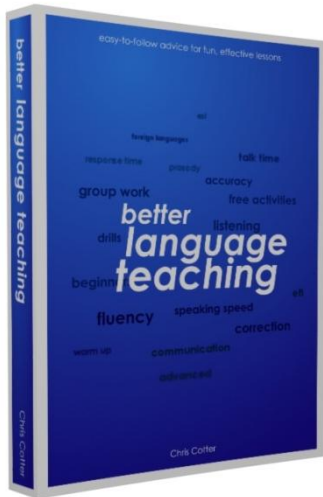


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## the ARTICLE (for teachers)

### The Shorter Lives of Men Explained

Women live longer than men. It's true in most countries, and has been a known fact since the 18th century. Studies to discover the possible reasons have been done, and there are many possible explanations. Some reasons include work habits, stress, diet, and bad genes. But a new idea suggests something different. Men have shorter life spans because attracting a partner takes a lot of energy, which reduces the number of years a man lives.

Daniel Kruger at the University of Michigan suggests that many animals advertise their suitability to females. For example, some animals butt heads. Other animals have beautiful feathers. Human males compete for money, property, and social status. If a man has money and social status, they show their ability to provide food, clothes, education, and so on for a future family.

But what about men with less money or power?

Another study explained that young, single men often take risks. They are also more aggressive and hold back their emotions. These actions have the same effect as money and social status.

Both studies conclude that women carefully select a partner, because of the survival and success of their children. All of the energy which is used to impress women means shorter life spans for men.

**Teacher's Notes:**

\* Underlined words in red typeface are the answers.

## the Article (for students)

Listen and fill in the missing sentences. Compare your answers with a partner, and then listen once more.

### The Shorter Lives of Men Explained

Women live longer than men. It's true in most countries, and has been a known fact since the 18th century. a) \_\_\_\_\_, and there are many possible explanations. Some reasons include work habits, stress, diet, and bad genes. But a new idea suggests something different. Men have shorter life spans because attracting a partner takes a lot of energy, which reduces the number of years a man lives.

b) \_\_\_\_\_. For example, some animals butt heads. Other animals have beautiful feathers. Human males compete for money, property, and social status. If a man has money and social status, they show their ability to provide food, clothes, education, and so on for a future family.

But what about men with less money or power?

Another study explained that young, single men often take risks. They are also more aggressive and hold back their emotions. These actions have the same effect as money and social status.

c) \_\_\_\_\_, because of the survival and success of their children. All of the energy which is used to impress women means shorter life spans for men.

**Sentence #1:**

**Sentence #2:**

**Sentence #3:**

# The Shorter Lives of Men Explained

## Lower-Intermediate - Listening

### STEP ONE

**Define:** What does "life span" mean? Can you use it in a sentence? Can you give examples?

### STEP TWO

**Questions:** Read as much of the article as you can in two minutes. Guess the answers to the questions below, then listen to your teacher read the article. Try to confirm your answers.

- |    |   |
|----|---|
| a. | According to past studies, what are some reasons men have shorter life spans? |
| b. | What do the two recent studies mentioned in the article say?                  |
| c. | How are human males like animals and birds?                                   |
| d. | How do younger men compete with older, richer men?                            |
| e. | Why do women carefully choose a partner?                                      |

### STEP THREE

**Fill in the Blanks:** Listen to the article again. Fill in the blanks with the missing sentences.

### STEP FOUR

**Vocabulary:** Circle any other unknown words/phrases in the article. In pairs/groups, use your dictionaries to understand these words. Write an example sentence for each one.

### STEP FIVE

**Discuss:** Talk about the following questions in pairs/groups. Remember to support your answers and ask more questions with your partner.

- |    |  |
|----|--|
| a. | Did you like this article? Why/not?                                      |
| b. | Do you agree with the article's findings? Why/not?                       |
| c. | Were you surprised by the article's findings? Why/not?                   |
| d. | The lifespan of women has been decreasing recently. Why do you think so? |