**Good news stories**

**Vocabulary: the feel-good factor**

1. **News programmes often like to end with a good news story. Look at the adjectives that describe how this type of story can make people feel and match each one to its definition.**

*amusing appealing charming encouraging inspiring optimistic quirky*

1. An \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ story makes you feel hopeful.
2. An\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ story makes you smile and laugh.
3. An\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ story shows you how much people can achieve.
4. A\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ story shows you how strange people and things can be.
5. An\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ story delights or pleases you.

1. **Think of an example of a good news story you have heard recently. Be ready to tell it in class using one of the adjectives from ex. I. Be brief.**

*Example: “I saw a really inspiring local news story on TV about a five-year-old boy who raised money for his sick sister by cycling round the park”.*

**Listening**

1. **Listen to four good news stories from the TV news and complete these summaries.**
2. People thought that the\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, but they were wrong because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. As a result in the future we will see \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
3. Researchers believe they have found \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. When people took \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the result was that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
4. The world`s largest \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ say they have invented \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. But doctors say \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
5. Costa Rica is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ because it has \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Countries like \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on the other hand \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Which story did you find the most optimistic? Quirky? Inspiring?**

**Grammar: passive reporting verbs**

1. **Transform the sentences into passive reporting sentences using *it*.**

*Example: People report: ‘Large blue butterflies are everywhere now’.*

*It is reported that large blue butterflies are everywhere now.*

1. 30 years ago people said: ‘The large blue butterfly is a common species’.
2. People said: ‘Hunters caused the butterfly to die out’.
3. In the past people thought: ‘Costa Rica is a poor country’.
4. Scientists claim: ‘Taking zinc helps if you have a cold’.
5. They said: ‘None of the previous experiments has been conclusive’.
6. Experts claimed: ‘Eating the new chocolate will improve your health’.
7. But people know: ‘Eating too much chocolate is actually bad for you’.
8. **Look at these other news items and facts and make sentences using the passive reporting verbs given. Try to guess whether each one is true or not.**
9. It / believe / the chewing gum when you peel onions / prevent / you from crying.
10. It / say / Google‘s name originally / come / from ‘Googol’, meaning a number with 100 zeros.
11. It / know / that laughing regularly / increase / life expectancy by up to 10 years.
12. In 2008 it / report / that air pollution in the US / fall / by 40% since 1980.
13. It / claim / recently that scientist studying the Zebra fish / discover / a way for the human heart to heal itself.
14. In 2011 it / report / that a man whose house had been crushed by a huge rock in the New Zealand earthquake / sell / the rock for $10, 000.