**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.**

1. An *encouraging ободряющий* \_\_ or *optimistic оптимистичный* \_ story makes you feel hopeful.
2. An *amusing забавный* \_\_ story makes you smile and laugh.
3. An\_\_\_\_ *inspiring вдохновляющий* \_\_\_\_\_ story shows you how much people can achieve.
4. A *quirky* *причудливый* \_\_\_\_story shows you how strange people and things can be.
5. An\_\_\_\_ *appealing привлекательный* \_ or *charming очаровательный* \_\_ 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\_\_ *Large blue butterfly was instincted*\_, but they were wrong because \_\_\_\_it was found in certain fields \_\_. As a result in the future we will see \_\_\_them I the British countryside this summer\_\_.
3. Researchers believe they have found \_a cure for cold\_. When people took \_\_zinc\_\_, the result was that \_people who take zinc supplements recovered from their cold one day earlier than those who took nothing \_.
4. The world`s largest \_chocolate maker\_ say they have invented \_chocolate which can slow the aging process of your skin. But doctors say \_that chocolate and good skin are incompatible things.
5. Costa Rica is \_the happiest nation\_ because it has \_the best talents of human well being \_(???). Countries like \_Latin American counties took 9 of the top 10 places\_ on the other hand develop countries as the US\_are much further down in the list\_.

**Which story did you find the most optimistic? 2 Quirky? 3 Inspiring? 1**

**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’.

It was said 30 years ago that the large blue butterfly was a common species

1. People said: ‘Hunters caused the butterfly to die out’.

It was said that hunters had caused the butterfly to die out

1. In the past people thought: ‘Costa Rica is a poor country’.

It was thought in the past that Costa Rica was a poor country

1. Scientists claim: ‘Taking zinc helps if you have a cold’.

It is claimed that taking zinc helps if you have a cold

1. They said: ‘None of the previous experiments has been conclusive’.

It was said that none of the previous experiments had been conclusive

1. Experts claimed: ‘Eating the new chocolate will improve your health’.

It was claimed that eating the new chocolate would improve our health

1. But people know: ‘Eating too much chocolate is actually bad for you’.

But it is known that eating too much chocolate is actually bad for us

1. **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.**
2. It is believed that the chewing gum prevents you from crying when you peel onions.
3. It is said that Google‘s name originally came from ‘Googol’, meaning a number with 100 zeros.
4. It is known that laughing regularly increases life expectancy by up to 10 years.
5. In 2008 it was reported that air pollution in the US had fallen by 40% since 1980.
6. It has recently been claimed that scientist studying the Zebra fish discovered a way for the human heart to heal itself.
7. In 2011 it was reported that a man, whose house had been crushed by a huge rock in the New Zealand earthquake, sold the rock for $10, 000.