



Advanced Level **Retirement age may be extended to 85**

Workers may soon see a major change in the length of their working lives. An American expert on society and work said yesterday that the age at which people retire might one day be 85 instead of 65. This means the idea of early retirement may disappear completely. Stanford University biologist Shripad Tuljapurkar told scientists at a convention in the USA that modern medicine and technology will mean people will live to be much older than now. He said this would greatly reshape our image and reality of work. He added economies would not be able to support so many retired people.

Professor Tuljapurkar believes that most people living in today's industrialized societies will live to be 100. He said once scientists unlock the key to the gene that makes us age, society will change dramatically. "Some people believe we are on the brink of being able to extend human lifespan significantly...We have doubled human lifespan in the last century", he said. He has warned that many workers will discover their pension companies do not have enough money to fund their retirement. He added that dreams of early retirement will remain just dreams.

TRUE / FALSE: Look at the article's headline and guess whether these sentences are true or false:

- a. The retirement age may soon be 85 for university majors.
- b. The idea of early retirement may one day completely disappear.
- c. We will soon be living much longer lives.
- d. Modern economies can support any number of retired people.
- e. Many people in the developed world could live to be beyond 100.
- f. Geneticists will lock the key to ageing.
- g. We have doubled human lifespan in the past century.
- h. Dreams of early retirement will remain just dreams.

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SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article:

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| a. major | conference |
| b. expert | stay |
| c. instead of | developed |
| d. convention | greatly |
| e. reshape | rather than |
| f. industrialized | pay for |
| g. unlock | significant |
| h. dramatically | change |
| i. fund | figure out |
| j. Remain | specialist |

PHRASE MATCH: Match the following phrases from the article (sometimes more than one combination is possible):

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| a. see a major change in the | to be much older than now |
| b. the idea of early retirement | lifespan in the last century |
| c. people will live | support so many retired people |
| d. greatly reshape our | length of their working lives |
| e. economies would not be able to | the brink of... |
| f. most people living in | fund their retirement |
| g. once scientists unlock the key | today's industrialized societies |
| h. we are on | may disappear completely |
| i. We have doubled human | to the gene that makes us age |
| j. have enough money to | image and reality of work |