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Level 4

Belgium to allow euthanasia for children

16th February, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1402/140216-euthanasia-4.html>

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Please try the harder Level 5 and the 26-page Level 6 (harder).

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1402/140216-euthanasia-4.html>

Belgium became the first country to pass a law to allow euthanasia for dying children. There were 86 votes for the bill, 44 against, and 12 no-votes. The controversial law is only for children in great pain. There are several rules before any euthanasia can happen. The child must be mentally aware, and ask for it. An adult must agree, and a medical team must write a psychological report. There must also be no treatment that would reduce the child's suffering.

The law has many opponents. They call it immoral and say children are not mature enough to decide such things. A man shouted "murderers" at the lawmakers. A Christian newspaper said: "In the 21st century, when parents...worry that children are growing up too quickly, [this will] hand kids one more responsibility." Children aren't old enough to drive or vote, so to decide when it's time to die "is one step too far". Many doctors said medicine could reduce pain.

Sources: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-26181615>
<http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Europe/2014/0213/Slippery-slope-Belgium-moves-to-extend-euthanasia-rights-to-children>
http://www.deredactie.be/cm/vrtnieuws.english/Politics/140213_Euthansie_vote

MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1402/140216-euthanasia-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| 1. the first country to pass | a. report |
| 2. allow euthanasia for | b. child's suffering |
| 3. The controversial law is only for children | c. a law |
| 4. The child must be mentally | d. in great pain |
| 5. write a psychological | e. dying children |
| 6. reduce the | f. aware |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. The law has many | a. immoral |
| 2. They call it | b. too far |
| 3. not mature enough | c. reduce pain |
| 4. this will hand kids | d. opponents |
| 5. one step | e. one more responsibility |
| 6. medicine could | f. to decide such things |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1402/140216-euthanasia-4.html>

Belgium became the first country (1) _____ allow euthanasia for dying children. There were 86 (2) _____, 44 against, and 12 no-votes. The (3) _____ is only for children in great pain. There are several rules before any euthanasia can happen. The child must (4) _____, and ask for it. An adult must agree, and a medical team must write a (5) _____. There must also be no treatment (6) _____ the child's suffering.

The law has (7) _____. They call it immoral and say children are not (8) _____ decide such things. A man shouted "murderers" at the lawmakers. A Christian newspaper said: "In the 21st century, when parents...worry that children (9) _____ quickly, [this will] (10) _____ responsibility." Children aren't (11) _____ or vote, so to decide when it's time to die "is one step too far". Many doctors said medicine (12) _____.

EUTHANASIA SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1402/140216-euthanasia-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about euthanasia in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)

