

Title:	A Minister for Loneliness	Level:
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Text:	<p>Sonoe brought up the recent story of the British government appointing a Minister for Loneliness.</p> <p>Loneliness is a situation that many of us will likely experience at some point in our lives, particularly in older age if a partner dies.</p> <p>Now, it has been recognised as a serious and growing problem, and is being addressed at the highest level.</p> <p>The first Member of Parliament to hold the role, Tracey Crouch, will work with the government body set up to tackle the problem and businesses and charities.</p>
Discussion:	A Guardian newspaper writer recently said "feeling lonely is of our own making: we simply need to get out more." Do you agree or disagree?
Words and usage:	<p>'...ness'</p> <p>This is a suffix used for forming abstract nouns, particularly denoting quality and state. For example, kindness, thoughtfulness, darkness.</p>
Resources:	<p>https://translate.weblio.jp</p> <p>Oxford Dictionaries. http://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com</p> <p>The British Council website. https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org</p>
Practice idea:	Ask people you know what they think they will be doing in 10, 20 and 30 years from now, and how they think they would cope with loneliness if it hit.
Listening link:	<p>A Minister for Loneliness</p> 
Quiz Me! Conversation card:	<p>Card number F6 below is from Which pack 2, available at englishbooks.jp, Amazon and Rakuten</p>  <p>Do you prefer to travel with a group or make your own plans?</p> <p>quizme.jp</p>