

EFL ENGLISH DAILY



[Keywords](#)



[Summer Babies](#)

1, daughter-in-law

2, be **seen** as

3, imagine

4, physical

5, handicap

6, effect

7, earn

8, factors

9, parenting

10, statistics

In discussion with a Thursday group last week, one student talked about her daughter-in-law who had given birth in April. The family was glad that it had happened after April 2nd, the start of the new school year, as being born just before the start is seen as a disadvantage in Japan. The reason for this is that a child born in March could be nearly one year younger than other children in the same grade. Imagine the difference an extra year's physical and mental growth could make at this age.

In Europe, the school year starts in September. Research by Cambridge Assessment, an exam board in the UK, has



shown that by the end of elementary school Autumn-born children are 12% ahead in development. Being born in the summer can be a real handicap.



Comprehension

- 1, Which time of year is birth viewed as a disadvantage?
- 2, What did research find about that?
- 3, How long can this effect last?
- 4, Can it affect earning potential in adult life?
- 5, What other factors may be important?
- 6, Are only normal people affected?

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This effect can last throughout the child's school years even into university life. In addition, it can mean they earn less as working adults. There are other factors to consider, too, such as the quality of parenting and the place where a child grows up according to statistics. Also, more top sports stars are born closer to the start of the school year in September.



Conversation

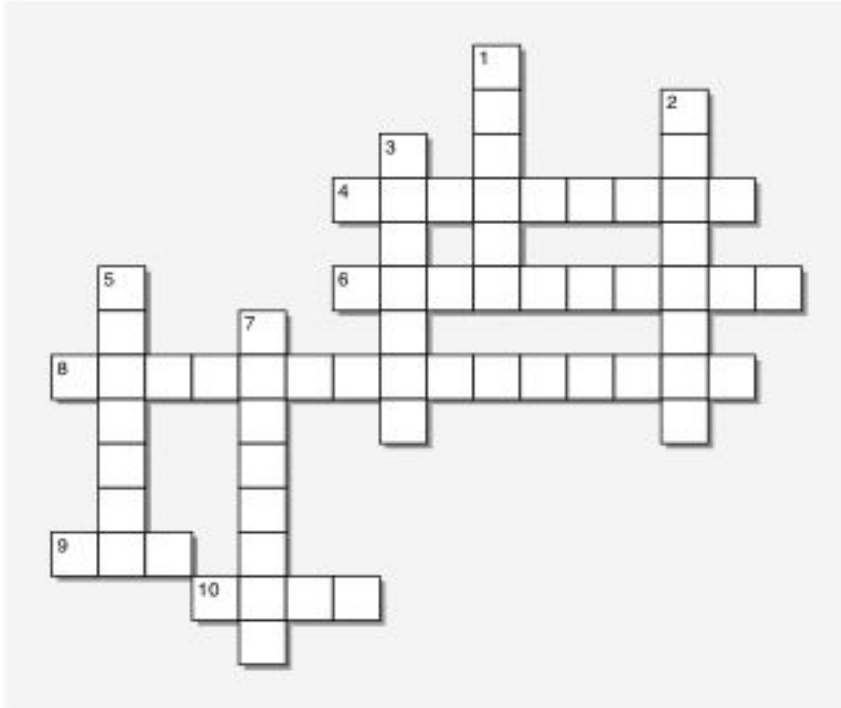
- 1, Which month were you born in?
- 2, What are the good points about the season you were born in?
- 3, What were your best subjects at school?
- 4, Who was your best teacher?
- 5, What factors helped you when you were growing up?
- 6, What was the hardest thing you learnt as a child?

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Crossword (using the Keywords on page 1)



Across

- 4. Raising a child.
- 6. Information collected to analyze a situation.
- 8. The name for a woman that a son marries.
- 9. To have an opinion of a person or thing....
- 10. To get money by doing work.

Down

- 1. The result of something that happens.
- 2. A problem that affects performance.
- 3. Things which affect a situation.
- 5. To form a picture in your head of something.
- 7. Something that has shape, size and weight.

Your chance to write....

If you could go to school again, what would you change?

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