

“Japan's population” @ <http://www.youtube.com/ESL4free>

Japan's population — getting older
 \ 1 birth rate

} 2 - 1.156 m babies
 3 - 127.8 m people - the 4
 5 - 105 m people

Government action: focus on

6 care & 7 8

Cultural Problems:

Man willing to work hard & lose 9
 but unwilling to stay at home with babies.

DIFFICULT WORDS AND EXPRESSIONS IN THE LISTENING

Acutely aware: realize very strongly

Adoption: the passing (into law); making a law

Ageing: getting older

Birth-rate: the rate at which people are born

Bureaucratic machine: the government which makes complex rules & regulations

Day-care: looking after children during the day

Demographics: study of the characteristics of people (especially ages)

Hesitation: slowness or pausing to do something

Lamenting: regretting; feeling sad about

Norms: standard ways of doing things

Obligation: requirement to do something

Obstacles: things that get in the way of something

Paternity leave: a holiday granted to fathers because of the birth of a child

Reluctant: unwilling & therefore slow to do something

Sea change: a very great change

Time bomb: a great change that will occur after some time

Wound into action: slowly began to act