

“Reading Series 2 - Fruit Flies” @ <http://www.youtube.com/ESL4free>

- The best heading for this paragraph is..**
- A. The Problems of Old Age.**
 - B. The Value of Young and Old Living Together.**
 - C. Surviving Dangers in a Changing world.**
 - D. The Benefits of Social Interaction.**

Reading Text - Fruit Flies:

Social interaction with younger members of the species might confer physiological benefits on those who are older and might be a factor in the treatment of age-dependent diseases in humans. Some evidence for this comes from the behavior of a mutated short-living version of fruit flies (Sod flies) that were forced to live together with younger non-mutant flies and older mutant fruit flies kept with younger mutant flies. Mutant flies raised with the younger control flies lived twice as long as mutants housed with other mutants. Mutants housed with their younger, longer-lived relatives also had improved physical responses and better survived environmental stresses compared to fruit flies that remained among the other group.

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SOME WORDS AND EXPRESSIONS IN THE TEXT

Confer: provide, offer.
Control flies: group of flies that have not been treated or changed during an experiment for comparison with those that have.

Environmental stresses: pressure or trauma caused by the surrounding environment.
Mutant: something that has been changed genetically.
Mutated: changed or transformed genetically (often in a negative way).