



Transcript:

Where to turn to in an economic crisis?

Philosophy. This Italian town set up a trail to encourage people to **ponder** life.

It includes a chair that **utters** words of wisdom.

This bar owner in Corigliano d'Otranto serves up drinks and cards with questions like: "Why have I been born?"

The local philosopher's helping hand is very much **in demand**.

Corigliano's seminars attracted some 1,000 people. The idea might **catch on** in other towns.

Vocabulary:

philosophy

rational investigation of reality and existence

ponder

reflect

utters

says

in demand

sought after

catch on

become popular or fashionable

Watch the video online: Life's big questions? <http://bbc.in/QyAOu4>

Exercise:

Use one of the words or phrases below to complete each of these sentences from BBC news reports.

Note that you may have to change the form of a word to complete the sentence correctly.

philosophy/ ponder/ utters/ in demand/ catch on

1. Scooters were so much _____ that there were waiting lists to buy one and many sold at high premiums.

2. Dolphins should be treated as non-human "persons", with their rights to life and liberty respected, scientists meeting in Canada have been told. Experts in _____, conservation and animal behaviour want support for a Declaration of Rights for Cetaceans.

3. As well as feeding themselves, all the families working on the allotment hand over a chunk of their produce to others in need. The fruits and vegetables are passed on to what Greeks have dubbed a "social supermarket". It is an idea _____ all over Greece.

4. When I fell into my Glasgow taxi at six in the morning on Monday to catch my flight to Dublin, I was wet, tired, cold and really just wanted to be left alone. The taxi driver sensed my grump and never _____ a word.

5. What would John Maynard Keynes, one of the most influential economists of the 20th Century, have made of the current economic situation, _____ philosopher John Gray.

Answers:

1. Scooters were so much **in demand** that there were waiting lists to buy one and many sold at high premiums.

Source: Italy's Vespa scooter returns to Indian roads

<http://bbc.in/Ib7J7P>

2. Dolphins should be treated as non-human "persons", with their rights to life and liberty respected, scientists meeting in Canada have been told. Experts in **philosophy**, conservation and animal behaviour want support for a Declaration of Rights for Cetaceans.

Source: Dolphins deserve same rights as humans, say scientists

<http://bbc.in/yaqns4>

3. As well as feeding themselves, all the families working on the allotment hand over a chunk of their produce to others in need. The fruits and vegetables are passed on to what Greeks have dubbed a "social supermarket". It is an idea **catching on** all over Greece.

Source: Ingenuity and allotments provide relief in Greece

<http://bbc.in/JPYZ2I>

4. When I fell into my Glasgow taxi at six in the morning on Monday to catch my flight to Dublin, I was wet, tired, cold and really just wanted to be left alone. The taxi driver sensed my grump and never **uttered** a word.

Source: Taxi for the home nations?

<http://bbc.in/UiWoX6>

5. What would John Maynard Keynes, one of the most influential economists of the 20th Century, have made of the current economic situation, **ponders** philosopher John Gray.

Source: A Point of View: What would Keynes do?

<http://bbc.in/Pvw2vN>