

Unit 5: Global mobility

1

Reading: The misery of illegal aliens

Read the text below, then choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) for questions 1–5. Put a cross (☒) in the correct box. The first one (0) has been done for you.

The misery of illegal aliens

Ever since the gap between industrialised and developing countries has become so wide, there has been an increase in illegal immigration into the countries that are economically better off. It could be argued that travelling to or staying in another state illegally is a mistake to begin with, since it leaves the immigrants with a lot of problems. However, thousands of people have little to no chance to be accepted as a legal immigrant or to be given a visa for economic reasons. This forces many of them to use alternative ways which might be illegal, but at least seems to provide them with the chance to achieve their ultimate goal of leaving their home country and settling down in a country which might offer a job and even a small, regular income.

Apart from the seemingly ample benefits, many so-called illegal aliens face a whole myriad of problems once they arrive at their destination. Not only do they live in fear of being discovered and deported back to their country of origin, in the most extreme cases there is even the danger of being imprisoned. Reoccurring illegal migrating activities may lead to serious legal charges. Furthermore, on a daily basis, there are all kinds of difficulties, especially when dealing with the authorities.

Unlike normal citizens, illegal immigrants have trouble obtaining any type of legal document or performing legal actions, such as getting a local driver's licence or registering a car in their name. Since they do not exist in a legal sense, small obstacles in their way towards a better existence and standard of living can easily become insurmountable difficulties. Another very real consequence of having no permit to stay in a country is the fact that illegal aliens are often subject to exploitation.

Due to their problematic status, there is little to no protection against people who are trying to use illegal immigrants to their own advantage. If they manage to find accommodation, for example, there is no guarantee that the landlord will treat them in a fair way. They might be thrown out without a warning or be forced to pay much higher rent than usual. Although local people often argue that the problem lies in the language barrier or the difference in culture, the underlying fact is a different one. Illegal immigrants are dependent on the mercy of other people and have no possibility to take any legal action towards people who exploit them or treat them inappropriately.

Apart from possible mistreatment, there is another major drawback to crossing borders illegally. After their initial arrival many illegal immigrants become aware of the fact that they might have robbed themselves of any way to ever return to their home country in a legal way. The reason for that is the problem of obtaining a permit to stay once you have entered the country illegally. Most countries are determined to withhold such benefits from persons who never had an official permission to immigrate, which prevents many illegal immigrants from applying for a visa in the first place. Thus, illegal immigrants might never be able to leave their chosen destination again. Without proof of being a legal immigrant, they would be stopped at the border or at any airport when trying to travel and would be taken in for questioning. Most likely they would never be allowed to return after facing the usual consequence of being deported back to their home country. Since most people refrain from facing such a risk, they do not travel outside of their new home country.

Finally, employment and health care are also very problematic for those people. Naturally, nobody will be able to employ them officially, so they are stuck with low-skill jobs that are commonly badly paid. Most well-paid jobs require legal documents and proof of education, which are hard to get in this situation. Without a work permit, however, there will be no health benefits that typically come with employment. Since the majority of people do not make enough money to afford private insurance, this usually results in little or no health care. Living every day in fear of falling ill is reality for many illegal immigrants.

0 Illegal immigration is high in countries which

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| A | offer better economic circumstances. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| B | are developing into rich nations. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| C | are politically rather stable. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| D | offer easy ways of immigration. | <input type="checkbox"/> |

- 1 Most of these immigrants make the decision to enter another country illegally because
 - A they have no income in their home country.
 - B they expect a higher living standard.
 - C they have run out of alternative ways.
 - D they believe they have no legal chance.

- 2 Illegal immigrants may be put into jail if
 - A they are to be deported back to their country of origin.
 - B they are found to immigrate without permission repeatedly.
 - C they are forced to deal with the authorities.
 - D they are involved in other criminal activities.

- 3 Because of their illegal situation, many immigrants
 - A lose their driver's licence.
 - B cannot buy a new car.
 - C depend on other people's trust.
 - D cannot get a new passport.

- 4 Often such immigrants run into problems with landlords because
 - A they cannot pay the rent.
 - B they do not speak the local language.
 - C they cannot take others to court.
 - D they misunderstand the local culture.

- 5 Illegal immigrants' fear to apply for an official visa is caused by
 - A the government's refusal to grant them.
 - B the restrictions on travelling back home.
 - C the threat of deportation through border control.
 - D the costs for such an official document.

2 Language: Review – Describing strong feelings

Find eleven words and one three-word expression describing strong feelings. Write them in the spaces below.

Words go: →←↓↑

d	e	i	f	i	r	r	o	h	a	m	a	b	c
d	e	u	g	i	r	t	n	i	a	y	g	r	y
e	l	l	i	a	o	a	r	a	d	s	i	a	d
a	z	r	a	e	u	r	x	a	e	t	e	r	e
i	s	o	l	a	t	e	d	i	t	i	a	a	i
a	a	l	a	p	o	i	a	a	a	f	g	d	f
k	c	z	k	a	f	e	g	r	i	i	a	e	i
a	b	a	g	a	p	p	a	l	l	e	d	t	t
i	a	l	a	a	l	a	x	a	i	d	a	h	r
a	f	a	e	r	a	k	a	a	m	a	l	g	o
a	f	i	l	g	c	l	c	y	u	p	r	i	m
r	l	a	x	a	e	e	a	a	h	a	c	l	y
g	e	a	c	a	z	t	h	r	i	l	l	e	d
e	d	e	t	a	n	i	c	s	a	f	a	d	i

- a _____
- b _____
- d _____
- f _____
- ho _____
- hu _____
- in _____
- is _____
- mo _____
- my _____
- o _____
- _____

3 Complete the sentences with two expressions of similar meaning.

- 1 I didn't know anyone at the conference, so I felt quite _____ / _____ .
- 2 I'm always _____ / _____ by science programmes. They're so interesting.
- 3 The children were completely out of control. We were _____ / _____ by their behaviour.
- 4 I couldn't understand him at all. I was completely _____ / _____ by his words.
- 5 I felt absolutely _____ / _____ when I spilled coffee on her white carpet.
- 6 We were _____ / _____ to be back in touch after so many years.

4 Language extension

Match 1–8 with a–h.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3 When I saw the huge dogs running towards me, 4 I thought she'd moved to another country. 5 When I was promoted, my salary almost doubled. 6 My teenage son came home after midnight last night. 7 He gave an amazingly detailed explanation. 8 I didn't understand their customs very well, so 9 The last train left just as I arrived at the station. 10 When a taxi finally stopped for me, | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a I was desperate. How would I get home? b I was impressed with his knowledge. c at first I felt quite awkward. d I was completely petrified. e I was so thankful! It was a cold day. f I was furious with him! g I was ecstatic, as you can imagine! h I was astonished to see her here. |
|--|--|

5 Match the adjectives from exercise 4 with their meanings.

- 1 extremely angry: _____
- 2 pleased and grateful: _____
- 3 embarrassed and not relaxed: _____
- 4 very surprised: _____
- 5 without hope: _____
- 6 extremely frightened: _____
- 7 admiring and respectful: _____
- 8 extremely happy: _____

6 Listening: The DNA Journey

Go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tyaEQEmt5Is> and watch video *The DNA Journey* by momondo, in which they asked 67 people from all over the world to take a DNA test. While watching, answer the questions (1–6) below.

- 1 How do the people feel about their home country?
- 2 What other countries and nationalities do the people name that they have an aversion to?
- 3 How does DNA work?
- 4 What do the participants expect from the DNA test?
- 5 How do they react to the results of the DNA test?
- 6 What does the French woman suggest?

Key

exercise 1, Reading: The misery of illegal aliens

1 D, 2 B, 3 D, 4 C, 5 A

exercise 2

d	e	i	f	i	r	r	o	h	a	m	a	b	c
d	e	u	g	i	r	t	n	i	a	y	g	r	y
e	l	l	i	a	o	a	r	a	d	s	i	a	d
a	z	r	a	e	u	r	x	a	e	t	e	r	e
i	s	o	l	a	t	e	d	i	t	i	a	a	i
a	a	l	a	p	o	i	a	a	a	f	g	d	f
k	c	z	k	a	f	e	g	r	i	i	a	e	i
a	b	a	g	a	p	p	a	l	l	e	d	t	t
i	a	l	a	a	l	a	x	a	i	d	a	h	r
a	f	a	e	r	a	k	a	a	m	a	l	g	o
a	f	i	l	g	c	l	c	y	u	p	r	i	m
r	l	a	x	a	e	e	a	a	h	a	c	l	y
g	e	a	c	a	z	t	h	r	i	l	l	e	d
e	d	e	t	a	n	i	c	s	a	f	a	d	i

appalled, baffled, delighted, fascinated, horrified, humiliated, intrigued, isolated, mortified, mystified, out of place, thrilled

exercise 3

1 out of place/isolated, 2 fascinated/intrigued, 3 appalled/horrified, 4 baffled/mystified, 5 humiliated/mortified, 6 thrilled / delighted

exercise 4

1 d, 2 h, 3 g, 4 f, 5 b, 6 c, 7 a, 8 e

exercise 5

1 furious, 2 thankful, 3 awkward, 4 astonished, 5 desperate, 6 petrified, 7 impressed, 8 ecstatic

exercise 6, Listening and viewing: The DNA Journey

- 1 They are proud and patriotic; they think they are from the best country in the world and feel that they are more important than people from other countries.
- 2 Germany/Germans, India/Indians and Pakistan/Pakistani, Turkey/Turkish, France/French
- 3 You get half from mum, and half from dad, so 50% from each of them, and they get 50% from their parents, and so on. The participants need to spit in a tube. The spit is then analyzed to identify the ancestors.
- 4 They expect that their feeling of being 100% English, French, Begali, Iraqi, Cuban, Icelandic, Kurdish, etc. is going to be confirmed.
- 5 They are nervous, surprised, amazed, doubting, overwhelmed, emotional, moved to tears, etc. when they find out that they have ancestors in various countries all over the world.
- 6 She suggests that such a DNA test should be compulsory as she believes there wouldn't be so much racism in the world if people knew their true heritage. This would make people rethink notions of pure race.