

Social Tensions

Vocabulary activities

Match each newspaper headline in the box with the first line of its accompanying story below.

Use the words in **bold** to help you.

- A. ILLEGAL ALIENS TO BE EXPELLED
- B. ETHNIC MINORITIES 'LIVING BELOW POVERTY LEVEL'
- C. HOMELESS SQUATTERS EVICTED
- D. INSTITUTIONAL RACISM STILL A PROBLEM
- E. INTERNALLY DISPLACED IN NEW GENOCIDE HORROR
- F. EXTREMISTS ACCUSED OF PROMPTING HOSTILITY
- G. UNREST, RIOTS AND ANARCHY CONTINUE
- H. REBELS VICTORIOUS IN LATEST POWER STRUGGLE
- I. DISCRIMINATION AND EXPLOITATION A MAJOR PROBLEM IN BRITISH INDUSTRY
- J. DISSIDENTS ASK AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT FOR POLITICAL ASYLUM

1. Officers from the Thames Valley Police Force swooped on a house in Kidlington earlier this morning and forcibly removed a family who had been staying there illegally since they lost their home in August.
2. Almost 50% of factory workers in national companies claim they have received bad treatment or have been taken advantage of because of their class, religion, race, language, colour or sex, it has been revealed.
3. The UN has accused the government of Zarlavia of further atrocities committed in the west of the country, where hundreds of migrants are reported to have been killed by security forces.
4. Opponents of the government in Yugaria have asked to stay in Sydney because the political situation in their own country is making it unsafe for them to return.
5. The police have once again been accused of discriminating against minority groups, despite their reassurances earlier this year that they had reformed their practices.
6. Neo-Nazi groups in Paris were today condemned for inciting violence against non-whites in the centre of the city.
7. A shocking survey has revealed that almost 30% of Asian and African racial groups living in London are suffering financial hardship.
8. Following further devaluation of the Malovian dollar, violence has once again erupted on the streets of the capital.
9. Groups fighting against the government of George Malikes in Livatia have succeeded in capturing and occupying the parliament building.
10. The Government has ordered the immediate deportation of over 200 immigrants who entered the country without passports or visas last year.

- Task 2: Match the words and expressions in the first box with a word or expression in the second box which is either the closest in meaning or which is normally associated with it.

☐ Ethnic cleansing

☐ Prejudice

☐ Civil rights

☐ Harassment

☐ Rebel

☐ Picket line

☐ Poverty-stricken

☐ Refugee

☐ Outcast

☐ Reject (noun)

☐ Non-conformist

☐ Blackleg

☐ Human rights

☐ Destitute

☐ Discrimination

☐ Displaced person

☐ Intimidation

☐ Racial purging

Task 3: Look at this news programme and complete the gaps with one of the words or expressions from Task 1 and 2. In some cases, more than one answer may be possible. You may need to change the form of some of the verbs

Good evening. Here is the news.

Neo-Nazis and other 1_____ have been held responsible for a wave of 2_____ in the Bratislava Republic. The United Nations estimates that over 20,000 people have been murdered there in the last six months. 3_____ who have escaped from the country have asked the British government to grant them 4_____, as they fear for their safety if they have to return.

The government are to deport 500 5_____ whose visas have expired. Angry members of the opposition have accused the government of 6_____, as most of the deportees are of African origin. Meanwhile, the police have been accused of 7_____, after Asian families in Bradford complained they had been pestered and worried by officers following a series of robberies in the city.

8_____ leaders in the USA have held a demonstration in Washington against the death penalty. They have called for a total abolition of capital punishment, claiming that it is contrary to basic 9_____ principles outlined in the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights.

10_____ fighting the government of President Stanislaw have taken control of the television station in the centre of the capital. This follows a long-standing 11_____ between Mr Stanislaw and the principal opposition party which has seriously weakened his power.

A spokesman for the 12_____ community in London has presented a petition to the government asking them to provide housing for everyone. He argues that the government's refusal to raise the minimum wage rate has resulted in thousands living in 13_____, with not enough money to pay for somewhere to live. Meanwhile, the Metropolitan Police evicted several 14_____ who took over a house in the city centre last week and refused to leave until the government took positive action.

A recent survey reveals that at least 30% of public companies have been accused of 15_____ and 16_____ in the past year. The main offender is Anglo-Amalgamated Telecommunications, a Bristol-based company. Their employees, many of them Asian women, claim they have received bad treatment or been taken advantage of by the company.

And finally, the Cardiff police are preparing for angry scenes at the Welsh International Computers factory tomorrow when 17_____, anxious to return to work after six months on strike, will attempt to break through the picket line. A senior officer has expressed his concern that there will be 18_____ and people will get hurt as a result.