Local and global issues

1. Listen to the bulletin of world news on the radio and choose the correct answer (A, B or C). Listen again to check.

1. _____: **Where was the announcement made about the host nation for the 2012 Olympics?**
   A. Paris *B. Singapore* *C. London*
2. _____: **Which cities were in the race?**
   A. London, Paris, Madrid, New York, Moscow *C. London, Paris, Madrid, Singapore, Moscow*
   B. London, Paris, Munich, New York, Moscow
3. _____: **What were the new Estonian President's election promises?**
   A. investment in Estonian industry *C. spend more money on hospitals*
   B. privatise Estonian industry and schools
4. _____: **What share of the vote did he win?**
   A. 62% *B. 82%* *C. 72%*
5. _____: **What wind speeds did the hurricanes produce?**
   A. 180 kilometres per hour *B. 180 metres per hour* *C. 180 miles per hour*
6. _____: **When did the government issue an evacuation order?**
   A. it hasn't yet *B. many days ago* *C. very recently*
7. _____: **How old is Manchester United's new player?**
   A. 17 *B. 18* *C. 19*
8. _____: **What will he miss about Brazil?**
   A. sun and food *B. food and beaches* *C. sun and beaches*
9. _____: **How long has Chi Chi lived in captivity?**
   A. a couple of years *B. nearly ten years* *C. more than ten years*

2. Read each situation. Decide which social issue is being described. Use each term once. There are 2 extra terms.

1. In Pakistan, journalists are not allowed to publish articles that criticise the government. Some websites are blocked, and films or books may be removed if officials disagree with their content. People can get into trouble for expressing certain opinions publicly.

Social issue: _____

2. The Nowak family leaves South Africa because there are very few job opportunities and they hope to build a better life elsewhere. After arriving in America, they have to learn a new language, find work and adapt to unfamiliar traditions. Their children also start attending a new school.

Social issue: _____

3. Hassan is treated differently because of his skin colour. Some classmates make offensive comments and exclude the student from group activities. Although the student was born and raised in the same country as everyone else, others continue to judge him because of his ethnic background.

Social issue: _____

4. A large factory closes because the company moves production to another country. Hundreds of local workers suddenly lose their jobs and some of them struggle to find new employment. Families in the area begin to worry about paying their bills.

Social issue: _____

5. After losing his job and being unable to pay the rent, Oliver has to leave his flat. For several months, he sleeps in shelters or sometimes outside. Without a permanent address, finding a new job becomes even more difficult.

Social issue: _____

6. Isabella regularly receives insulting messages from other students. At school, the same group laughs at her, calls her names and deliberately leaves her out of activities. She becomes afraid of going to school and stops spending time with her classmates.

Social issue: _____

7. In parts of Somalia, several seasons of poor rainfall destroy crops and leave many animals without enough food or water. As food prices rise, some families can no longer afford regular meals. Humanitarian organisations begin providing emergency food and clean water to the affected communities.

Social issue: _____

8. Rasmus lives in Estonia and he wears trainers designed by an American company, made in Vietnam and ordered from a German online shop. He listens to Korean music and watches British series online. Products, culture and ideas now move between countries more quickly than ever before.

Social issue: _____

3. Read each situation and complete the collocation with one missing word.
Use the context to help you decide which word is needed. Use each word only once.

1. Thousands of people _____ on a demonstration in the city centre to demand better working conditions and higher salaries. The event remained peaceful, and police closed several streets for safety.
2. Before the local elections, one political party held a _____ in the main square where several speakers addressed a large crowd. The candidates used the event to explain their plans and gain public support.
3. Local residents decided to _____ against the building of a new factory near their homes because they were worried about pollution. They also shared information online to encourage more people to join them.
4. A group of students walked through the streets shouting _____ about climate change and demanding action from politicians. Their voices attracted the attention of people nearby and state media.
5. Local teenagers and adults decided to _____ a protest outside the town hall when the government announced plans to close the town's only youth centre.
6. More than 20,000 people signed a _____ asking the government to protect a local forest from development. The document was later delivered to local officials.
7. In a democracy, citizens have the right to _____ in elections and choose the people who will represent them. Taking part in this process gives people a voice in important political decisions.
8. During the march, protesters were _____ up placards with messages such as Protect Our Planet and Act Now. The signs could be seen clearly by people passing through the city centre.
9. After several years of working in the community, Marta decided to _____ for election for the local council. She wanted to represent local residents and improve public services in the area.
10. Many celebrities are _____ a campaign that encourages young people to speak openly about mental health. They use social media to raise awareness and reach a wider audience.

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