

VOCABULARY

SOCIETY

1 Complete the conversation with the words in the box.

housing unemployment sanitation healthcare
network media evasion poverty

- A: Have you seen the news? The ¹ figures have gone up. There are now 2 million people without jobs. And the government is cutting the ² budget, so we'll have to wait longer to get an appointment with the doctor.
- B: Well, it's not as bad as some other countries, where there is real ³. You know, where people have no money and children are dying of hunger.
- A: I suppose we do have enough to eat and decent ⁴ so we don't have diseases like cholera. But I can't stand the corruption here. Another politician has been accused of tax ⁵. I don't know why he can't pay like the rest of us!
- B: You're right. And did you see the report on the latest ⁶ situation? There aren't enough houses for people living in the city but they can't build outside the metropolitan area because they haven't got the rail ⁷ to enable everyone to get to work.
- A: They never seem to plan in advance! What's more, the ⁸ manipulate the information according to the political party they support, so I never know who to believe.
- B: I know. Perhaps you shouldn't watch TV anymore!

2 Match descriptions 1–6 with issues a)–h). There are two extra issues.

- Even though we live in a developed country, there are still families who cannot afford to feed their children. Schools are providing free meals in these cases but we also need to look at their housing situation.
- Several blogs and websites have been blocked and people who want to make their voice heard have to use illegal means. There have also been arrests of those who openly criticised the government.
- Security has been increased in airports, stations and public buildings after the recent events and the government has called on citizens to immediately report anything suspicious they might see.
- The project involves creating a filter which can be manufactured cheaply, providing a sustainable solution to the problem of diseases caused by bacteria in the untreated water supply.
- This crime affects everyone. If the authorities don't have money to provide essential services, then we all suffer and it is unfair that some people cheat the system.
- Since the factory closed, the job situation has become critical in the area. Many young people are leaving to find work in other places and those who cannot because they have family commitments are struggling to make ends meet.

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| a) child poverty | e) freedom of speech |
| b) unemployment | f) tax evasion |
| c) terrorist threats | g) power cuts |
| d) access to sanitation and clean water | h) healthcare |

FUNCTION

EXPRESSING YOUR OPINION

3 A 5.3 Listen and match conversations 1–6 with photos A–F.



B Complete the words in the extracts from the recording. The first letter of each word is given. Listen again and check your answers.

- A: Yes, but I'm not c_____ that's the best solution. I think they should improve the public transport.
B: That's a good p_____.
- A: What s_____ we do about all this vandalism?
B: I s_____ they should put security cameras in.
- A: If you a_____ me, people who drop litter should be fined.
B: You may be r_____.
- B: Shouldn't s_____ give him a blanket?
A: It s_____ to me they should provide more homeless shelters.
- A: They've increased security at the station.
B: As I s_____ it, that won't stop terrorists. They only check suitcases.
A: T_____ a fair point.
- A: I f_____ that there are more important issues than worrying about animals.
B: I'm not s_____ about that. We have to protect nature.