

Conversation 1

A: Crime is just out of (1)_____. You can't pick up a newspaper without there being four or five crime stories on the (2)_____ page.

B: In my opinion, all this crime is a symptom of the whole breakdown in (3)_____. What is the world coming to?

A: Well, there's not a whole lot anyone can do about (4)_____, is there?

B: Actually, there is something we can do about crime.

A: You think so?

B: Absolutely. We should provide more (5)_____ for local police, and we should be careful not to tempt criminals.

Don't (6)_____ wear a lot of jewelry on the street. Better safe than (7)_____.

A: That's true. You're so practical.

B: Thank you.

Conversation 2 [A = German]

A: Have you been reading about that Marburg (8)_____?

B: You bet I have. I'm checking the news sites like a hundred times a day to see what's happening. I think I'm getting a little obsessed. I just can't stop (9)_____ about it.

A: Well, I don't think that's crazy. It *is* pretty horrendous. Thousands of people are already (10)_____ and they say it's even more contagious than the flu or Ebola. However, there *is* some good news: I've heard they're working on a (11)_____ and that there might be one next year.

B: Well that's good. But you couldn't get me to get on a plane right now. You're just a sitting (12)_____ if someone with Marburg gets on. The ventilation systems of planes (13)_____ the air, and then everyone breathes it in. Very scary.

Conversation 3

A: I don't know about you, but I'm getting a little freaked out about (14)_____. I mean, I'm really scared. Every single day some new group pops up. You never know where they're going to strike.

B: True. These attacks are happening everywhere now.

A: Yeah. What is going (15)_____ with this world? It's crazy.

B: Right. But what are you going to do about it? It's just part of life these days.

A: That's one way to look at it, but I feel it's gotten so bad that I don't like to be in crowded places. I keep thinking something bad is going to happen, like a (16)_____.

B: Well, that's no way to live. I think you just got to keep living and hope for the (17)_____. It is what it is.

A: You're probably right. I guess I'm going a little overboard.