



# CHILD LABOR



Scan to review worksheet

Expemo code:  
19MA-E6XE-94MQ



1

## Warm up

Discuss the questions in pairs or small groups.

1. What comes to your mind when you see the word "child labor"?
2. Do you think companies do enough to make sure their products are not made by children?
3. Are you aware of anyone under the age of 18 who makes money from social media?
4. Do you think it is right for parents to upload photographs and videos of their children onto social media without their consent?
5. How do you think children can be financially taken advantage of online?
6. Should it be the responsibility of the law, or of social media companies, to protect young people who use online platforms?

2

## Focus on vocabulary

Part A: Match the vocabulary with the correct definition.

- |                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| 1. <u>campaigner</u> (n)   | a. using something or someone as a way of getting help, especially in a difficult situation         |
| 2. <u>lucrative</u> (adj.) | b. ignore a law, rule or official authority   |
| 3. <u>exploitation</u> (n) | c. the point at which something starts  |
| 4. <u>safeguard</u> (v)    | d. protects something from harm   |
| 5. <u>recourse</u> (n)     | e. a person who takes part in organized activities that are intended to change something in society |
| 6. <u>threshold</u> (n)    | f. producing a lot of money   |
| 7. <u>bypass</u> (v)       | g. the use of something in order to get an advantage from it  |



**Part B: Complete the sentences with the missing words from Part A. You may need to change the form of the word.**

1. Judge Moore said that the case met the legal \_\_\_\_\_ for the five-day jail sentence.
2. There are many \_\_\_\_\_ built into the system to prevent criminal activity.
3. By illegal methods, the boss won a \_\_\_\_\_ contract for the company.
4. Many people nowadays try to \_\_\_\_\_ certain laws relating to tax.
5. He could not afford a lawyer, so he had no legal \_\_\_\_\_ available.
6. More and more people are victims of \_\_\_\_\_ online.
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ was arrested for protesting against the government.

**3****Listening for gist**

Listen to the podcast discussion and choose the correct option.



1. Bridget Riley believes that...
  - a. social media companies should be banned.
  - b. social media companies should be regulated.
  - c. social media companies should not employ children.
2. Social media agencies...
  - a. can make a lot of money from families online.
  - b. always try to exploit young people online.
  - c. discourage parents from working with their children.
3. User generated content by children...
  - a. is safeguarded by complicated UK laws.
  - b. is easy for social media companies to steal.
  - c. is not protected by current UK labor laws.



## 4 Listening for comprehension

Listen again and decide if the following information is true (T), false (F), or not given (NG).

1. The number of kidfluencers is on the rise. \_\_\_\_\_
2. All children's commercialised social media accounts are run by their parents. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Some families are able to live entirely off money generated from their social media platforms. \_\_\_\_\_
4. The law surrounding children and social media is vague. \_\_\_\_\_
5. The host thinks that some children can be taken advantage of. \_\_\_\_\_
6. A report by the UK government called for children to have more protection from threats to their privacy. \_\_\_\_\_
7. Children are unable to have casual partnerships with brands. \_\_\_\_\_



## 5 Scanning for vocabulary

Scan the article on page four and find words which mean the same as the following.

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ : illnesses, typically minor ones (n, para. 1)
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ : making a problem, bad situation, or negative feeling worse (v, para. 1)
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ : putting someone or something in an unpleasant position or place (v, para. 2)
- d. \_\_\_\_\_ : exposed to the possibility of being harmed (adj., para. 2)
- e. \_\_\_\_\_ : distinctive smells, especially unpleasant ones (n, para. 3)
- f. \_\_\_\_\_ : an action that a law or rule does not allow (n, para. 3)
- g. \_\_\_\_\_ : to have torn or cut into thin pieces (v, para. 4)
- h. \_\_\_\_\_ : an amount of things that are supplied or provided (n, para. 5)



# Child Labor in Türkiye

## Children say they are ill from work recycling plastic

1. Children as young as nine are working in plastic waste recycling centers in Türkiye. a) \_\_\_\_\_ Workers including children told researchers they were suffering from respiratory problems, severe headaches and skin ailments. In a new report, Human Rights Watch accused the Turkish government of exacerbating the health and environmental impact on the workers by failing to enforce laws that require strict licensing and regular inspections of recycling centers.
2. b) \_\_\_\_\_ The EU, the biggest plastic waste exporter to Türkiye between 2017 and 2021, and the UK, the largest single plastic exporter during the same period, were also contributing "significantly" to health and environmental rights abuses in Türkiye, the report said. Krista Shennum, the report's lead researcher, said: "The government of Türkiye is failing to implement its laws. Equally, Europe's wealthiest countries are sending their trash to Türkiye, consigning some of Türkiye's most vulnerable communities, including children, refugees and migrants, to serious environmental and health risks," she said.
3. In Türkiye, it is illegal for anyone under 18 to work in hazardous waste facilities, including in plastic recycling centers. c) \_\_\_\_\_ Yet HRW, which interviewed 64 people in Adana and Istanbul, including 26 who now work or have previously worked in plastic recycling plants, found a third had either begun the work as children or were children when interviewed. Some workers said they had seen imported foreign waste, but HRW did not identify the source of the plastic waste.

Residents in nearby communities said intense odors and pollution from plastic recycling prevented them from opening windows or spending time outside. Many facilities were "dangerously close" to homes, schools or hospitals, in contravention of Turkish laws and environmental regulations, the report found.

4. As it is recycled, plastic waste is shredded and melted at high temperatures, a process that releases air pollutants and toxins. d) \_\_\_\_\_ Scientists have also linked exposure to these toxins to an increased risk of cancer, neurological impacts and harm to the reproductive system. A spokesperson for the European Commission acknowledged that "our waste is our responsibility" and said much stricter measures to monitor its exports had been proposed recently. The measures did not include a blanket ban, which would be inconsistent with international trade rules, the spokesperson said.
5. A spokesperson for the UK's Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs said: "The United Kingdom should handle more of its waste at home... Those found to be exporting waste in contravention of legal requirements can face a two-year jail term and an unlimited fine." e) \_\_\_\_\_ Citing a response by Türkiye's ministry of labor and social security to the HRW report, they commented: "Turkish labor laws prohibit all forms of child labor in accordance with international norms. The ministry also carries out in-depth studies to support the legislative provisions on the ground."

Sources: *The Guardian*, *BBC*





## 6 Reading for context

Read the following extracts from the article on page five and decide which gaps (a-f) they should go in. Write numbers/letters where appropriate. You do not need to use all of the extracts.

1. Without adequate protection, this can contribute to asthma, difficulty breathing and eye irritation. → \_\_\_\_\_
2. A spokesperson for the Turkish embassy in London said that waste-recycling facilities were "frequently inspected throughout the year". → \_\_\_\_\_
3. As a result, no one was able to leave the main center until it was too late. → \_\_\_\_\_
4. After China banned plastic waste imports in 2018, the EU's plastic waste exports to Türkiye skyrocketed. → \_\_\_\_\_
5. Despite this, many countries have decided to no longer trade with Türkiye. → \_\_\_\_\_
6. Exposure to such waste is especially damaging to children's health. → \_\_\_\_\_
7. According to Human Rights Watch, this puts them at risk of developing serious and lifelong health conditions. → \_\_\_\_\_

## 7 Focus on grammar

**Inverted third conditional.**

**The third conditional refers to an impossible condition and its probable result in the past.**

**Normally, when we use the third conditional, we use the following structure:**

If + past perfect, would/wouldn't have + past participle

*For example: If I had studied harder, I would have passed the exam*



However, we can use inversion to express the same idea. Here, the subject and the verb are reversed.

We often use this in formal sentences. Look at this example, taken from the previous exercise:

"Had they complained, they would have been severely punished."

To invert the third conditional, use this structure:

Had + subject + past participle, would have + past participle

For example: *Had I arrived sooner, I wouldn't have missed the train*

**\*Note:** When we invert the third conditional, we cannot contract "had not" to "hadn't".

Now, form sentences with the inverted third conditional using the words in brackets. You may have to alter the tense:

1. (the car/be) \_\_\_\_\_ cheaper, I would have bought it.
2. I would have taken the job, (I/am/offer/it) \_\_\_\_\_.
3. (you/work) \_\_\_\_\_ harder, you might have passed the exam.
4. (it/snowed) \_\_\_\_\_, I wouldn't have come to work.
5. He would have arrived on time, (he/leave/earlier) \_\_\_\_\_.
6. (I/buy/present) \_\_\_\_\_, had I remembered your birthday.
7. You would not have gone to jail, (you/stole/car) \_\_\_\_\_.
8. (you/apologize) \_\_\_\_\_, I would not have been so upset.
9. Would you have gone on the roller coaster, (you/go/theme park) \_\_\_\_\_?
10. (I/am) \_\_\_\_\_ taller, I would have played basketball.



## 8

**Optional extension/Homework: exam style - reading**

Read the text and choose the correct answer from the options below.

**Historic child labor and the first labor laws**

Following the start of the Industrial Revolution in Britain in the late 18th century, there was a rapid increase in the \_\_\_\_\_<sup>1</sup> of child labor. Children as young as four were employed in production factories and mines working long hours in dangerous, often \_\_\_\_\_<sup>2</sup> conditions. In coal mines, children would work in tunnels too narrow and low for adults.

Many children were forced to work in very poor conditions for much lower pay than their elders, usually 10–20% of an adult male's \_\_\_\_\_<sup>3</sup>. Extremely long hours were normal, with some child coal miners working from 4 a.m. until 5 p.m. Many children developed lung cancer and other diseases. Had they complained, they would have been severely punished. Death before the age of 25 was \_\_\_\_\_<sup>4</sup> for child workers.

Workhouses would sell orphans and abandoned children as "pauper apprentices," working without wages in \_\_\_\_\_<sup>5</sup> for food and accommodation. In 1800, there were 20,000 apprentices working in cotton mills. The apprentices were particularly \_\_\_\_\_<sup>6</sup> to bad treatment, industrial accidents, bad health from overwork, and diseases.

The first laws in response to the abuses experienced by child laborers did not even attempt to \_\_\_\_\_<sup>7</sup> child labor, but only improve working conditions for some child workers. It was not until 1819 that an Act to limit the hours of work and \_\_\_\_\_<sup>8</sup> up a minimum age for children working in cotton mills was introduced.

- |                 |            |                 |               |
|-----------------|------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. a. advantage | b. demise  | c. exploitation | d. punishment |
| 2. a. murderous | b. killing | c. fatal        | d. deathly    |
| 3. a. account   | b. debt    | c. savings      | d. wage       |
| 4. a. normality | b. common  | c. bizarre      | d. ordinary   |
| 5. a. spite     | b. case    | c. exchange     | d. connection |
| 6. a. weak      | b. open    | c. vulnerable   | d. accepting  |
| 7. a. finish    | b. cease   | c. conclusion   | d. ban        |
| 8. a. pick      | b. set     | c. take         | d. give       |





### 9 Talking point

In pairs or small groups, discuss the following questions.

1. Should countries be able to export their trash to other countries?
2. If the report is accurate, who do you think is responsible for the existence of child labor in Türkiye?
3. Do you think there are any situations where children should be allowed to work?

### 10 Homework: writing

To what extent do you agree with the statement below? Write at least 250 words and explain your position.

It is the responsibility of social media companies to stop the exploitation of children online.

You should:

- write at least 250 words,
- check your grammar, spelling and punctuation.

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