



SEARCHING FOR A BETTER LIFE



Scan to review worksheet

Expemo code:
19MA-D6XB-SGS4



1

Warm up

Look at the photos and answer the questions.



1. Why do people need to leave their country?
2. Do you think there should be a difference in the treatment of someone who must leave and someone who wants to leave?
3. To your knowledge, what laws apply to people who are coming into a country because of war or for economic reasons?



2 Focus on vocabulary

Part A: Match the vocabulary to the definitions.

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| 1. justifiable (adj.) | a. the parts of a sea or an ocean that are near a country's coast and are legally under its control |
| 2. minority (n) | b. in a way that lasts for a long time or for all time in the future; in a way that exists all the time |
| 3. authorities (n) | c. the people or an organization that have the power to make decisions or that have a particular area of responsibility in a country or region |
| 4. territorial waters (n) | d. without thinking or reviewing |
| 5. permanently (adv.) | e. done for a good reason and is therefore acceptable |
| 6. automatically (adv.) | f. a small group within a country or community that is different because of religion, race, language, etc. |
| 7. shelter (n) | g. the fact of having a place to live or stay, considered as a basic human need |

Part B: Now complete the following sentences with a word from Part A.

1. We will not lodge an appeal for you _____. You must tell us to do so.
2. The _____ of the UK and France meet in the English Channel.
3. He has decided to remain in the UK _____. He does not want to return to Hong Kong.
4. The _____ will ask for your official documents at the border.
5. Food, _____, and clothing are the most basic needs of all humans.
6. Although her actions were not legal, she claims they were _____ given the situation.
7. They are members of a religious _____, and they have faced many difficulties in their home country.

3 Listening for definitions

You are going to listen to an interview with a legal expert on human rights law. Complete the sentences with suitable words.



human rights

migrants

refugees

1. The law of _____ is concerned with people's safety and how they are treated by governments.
2. _____ must leave their home country in order to be safe.
3. _____ choose to leave their countries for better opportunities.



4

Listening comprehension

Listen again and choose the correct information.

1. A person who leaves their country because _____ is not considered a migrant.
 - a. of war
 - b. it is poor
 - c. they lack food

2. According to the expert, most migrants leave their countries because of _____.
 - a. religion
 - b. legal problems
 - c. economic difficulties

3. _____ applies to refugees.
 - a. International law
 - b. The law of migrants
 - c. European Union law

4. The jurisdiction of a country _____ its territorial waters.
 - a. does not extend to
 - b. applies in
 - c. is only enforced in

5. _____ should be allowed into a country to make their claim to stay in that country.
 - a. Only refugees
 - b. Only migrants
 - c. Both refugees and migrants





5

Grammar: gerunds and infinitives

Look at the sentences and rules below and complete the task.

Gerunds are the present participle (-ing) form of a verb. They are often used as subjects, or they follow some verbs as the object of the verb.

- **Leaving** one's country is never an easy decision.
- My clients do not regret **leaving** their country. They feel they had no choice.

Note that: the following verbs: *regret, dislike, miss, justify, risk, suggest, support, recommend,* and *understand* are followed by gerunds.

Infinitives consist of "to + verb". They are not typically used as subjects. They follow some verbs as the object of the verb.

- They hope **to make** a new home in the US, but they are struggling **to find** a way to get there.

Note that: the following verbs: *agree, choose, consent, afford, arrange, decide, need, intend, prepare, wait, want,* and *refuse* are followed by infinitives.

There is no way to tell if a verb is followed by a gerund or an infinitive. These lists have to be memorized.

Now, complete the sentences with either the gerund or the infinitive of the verb in parentheses.

1. If you decide _____ (lodge) an appeal, you should do so before the end of the week.
2. The authorities' actions justified _____ (pursue) legal action.
3. We suggest _____ (contact) an attorney for legal advice.
4. My client agreed _____ (leave) the country after her claim was rejected.
5. _____ (travel) in a small boat with dozens of other migrants is terrible for anyone.
6. The people on the boat refused _____ (say) where they had come from until they were on land.



6 Legal vocabulary

Part A: Complete the chart with the correct forms for the different parts of speech.

verb	noun	adjective
X	territory	_____ 1
_____ 2	government	governmental/ _____ 3
vary	_____ 4	varying/ _____ 5
_____ 6	immigrant/ _____ 7	X

Part B Now use one word from each line in the chart in the sentences.

1. International law _____ the treatment of refugees.
2. The _____ waters of the UK and France meet in the English Channel.
3. Many people have strong opinions about laws affecting _____, specifically the number of _____ allowed into the country.
4. The cost for handling a case like yours _____. I need more information before I can give you an amount.





7

Predicting content

Quickly read the first two paragraphs of the article about the rights of migrants (page seven). Which two topics do you expect to read about in the other paragraphs? Then read the entire article to check your predictions.

1. The rights of migrants using land borders to cross into countries
2. The actions taken when migrants traveling by boat reach the waters of another country
3. The reasons why some countries believe it is ethical to turn migrants away
4. The language found in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
5. A comparison of different laws that apply to migrants on the seas

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Finding vocabulary

Scan the article again and find words or phrases that mean the same as the following.

1. _____ an area of a subject or situation that is not clear or does not fit into a particular group and is therefore difficult to define or deal with (para. 1)
2. _____ prevented or banned from doing something (para. 2)
3. _____ on or in a ship, a plane, or a train (para. 2)
4. _____ moral principles that control or influence a person's behavior (para. 3)
5. _____ the situation of being forced to do something because of a law, or because it is your duty, etc. (para. 4)
6. _____ in a way that is limited or not broad (para. 5)
7. _____ a journey from one place to another by ship (para. 5)
8. _____ a good or true reason for saying, doing, or believing something (para. 5)





In search of a better life

What are the rights of migrants?

1. When people are forced to leave their homes, they may cross the borders into other countries over land. In these situations, the jurisdiction is clear as the borders between countries are typically recognized internationally. However, some migrants may have to head to the seas to make their way to safety in another country. In these situations, the borders are not as clear because there is a gray area of jurisdiction in international waters.
2. In this situation, international treaties govern but do not necessarily indicate the specific action that needs to be taken. As a result, the treatment of boats carrying migrants and refugees varies, with some nations turning these boats away from their waters and others allowing them to pass into their jurisdiction. For example, in the United Kingdom, the Home Secretary has directed authorities to turn away migrant boats from British waters while the French government has stated that the authorities are barred from stopping boats unless those on board are in need of help.
3. Although many may speculate about the ethics of such behavior as well as the true reasons for turning migrant boats away, some legal experts point to interpretation of the language of the laws governing the seas as the basis for these differences, specifically the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (LOSC) and the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue (SAR).
4. Those who are in favor of turning boats away recognize that under the LOSC, every country requires its ships to provide "assistance to any person found at sea in danger of being lost." However, the way that is done is left up to the countries themselves. Evidence provided by legal experts in the UK states that under the SAR, the UK is responsible for arranging delivery of people in an unsafe boat to a place of safety and that there is no obligation under international law for the UK to allow migrants into the UK just because they are on the unsafe boats. They claim that it is acceptable for the migrants to be taken to France given that France is a safe country. Furthermore, France is a European Union member, so it is required by Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union to respect human rights by accepting these migrants.
5. In addition, these legal experts also interpret the language of the LOSC narrowly to justify turning away migrant boats from entering the UK. They admit that the LOSC does include a duty to rescue anyone in danger. However, they focus on the language that "ships of all states are able to enjoy 'innocent passage' through a state's territorial waters," claiming that 'innocent' status does not extend to those boats unloading people as this is against immigration laws. They further claim that the LOSC allows a country to take "necessary steps" to prevent the passage of those boats whose passage is not innocent. The argument they make is that illegal activity is increasingly involved in these passages since organized criminal gangs play a central role and profit from them.
6. As one British Conservative Member of Parliament, Mr. Tim Loughton, has said, "The occupants of those boats are committing two crimes. One is trying to enter the UK illegally, and the second is paying money to organized crime, both of which provide grounds for those boats... and the occupants... (to be) returned to France." Although Mr. Lawton mentions that the physical safety of migrants should be considered, this interpretation of the law and "innocent passage" does not reflect the ethical issues many legal experts point to. As a result, there are different opinions on whether this point of view is the correct one.

Sources: *The Conversation, Committees.Parliament.uk*

Note:

LOSC – An agreement between countries about how the world's international waters should be governed.

SAR – An agreement between countries about how ships and people should be helped when they are in danger in international waters.



9

Reading comprehension

Read the text again. Decide if the sentences are *True* or *False*. Correct the *False* sentences.

1. The British and French governments treat migrant boats differently because they do not follow international law.

2. The French authorities are allowed to stop migrant boats if the people on board are in danger.

3. Although some legal experts want to turn migrant boats away, they realize the LOSC requires ships from their country to help migrant boats in danger.

4. Legal experts who don't want to allow migrants into the country believe they should be allowed in if their boats are unsafe.

5. A narrow reading of the LOSC requires a country to allow migrants on unsafe boats into a country.

6. The meaning of "innocent passage" is agreed upon by all legal experts.

7. Based on the information in the article, the French government has a narrow reading of the language of the LOSC, but the British government does not.

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Talking point

In pairs or small groups, discuss the following questions.

1. Do you think there should be a legal difference between migrants and refugees? Why?
2. Mr. Tim Loughton says, "*The occupants of those boats are committing two crimes. One is trying to enter the UK illegally, and the second is paying money to organized crime, both of which provide grounds for those boats... and the occupants... (to be) returned to France.*" - Do you agree with this opinion? Why or why not?