

Lesson 91

He lives on the streets.

Target: Having a conversation about homelessness.

Vocabulary

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Homelessness



Related vocabulary

- | | | |
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| - a bum / drifter / hobo / vagrant / transient | - to busk | - to live on the streets |
| - to be down & out | - to beg | - a homeless shelter |
| - domestic violence | - to be homeless | - a residence / dwelling |
| - abuse | - to be desolate | - government housing |
| - a soup kitchen | - to be abandoned | - an eviction / to evict... |
| - to be on welfare / the welfare system | - to be destitute | - a foreclosure / to foreclose on... |
| - to be chronically unemployed | - to be adequate | - squatting / to squat / a squatter |

Conversation

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1 Use the questions below to have a conversation with your partner about the topic

Partner #1: Questions

1. What movies do you know about people being homeless? e.g. The pursuit of happiness / Will Smith
2. What do you know about being homeless?
3. What's the homelessness problem in Japan like? How is it being solved?
4. Why / How do people become homeless? Why do children run away from home?
5. Are nomads the same as bums / hobos / drifters? Why / Why not?
6. What problems do homeless people face?
7. What is PTSD and how is it related to homelessness?
8. What are the eviction laws / tenants rights in your country
9. What different types of abuse do you know? e.g. substance abuse
10. How do you feel about squatting? Would you do it if you were homeless?

Partner #2: Questions

1. Do you give money to homeless people on the street who are begging? If so, what kind of people do you give your money to: young, old, disabled, people playing an instrument?
2. What should the government do to people who are chronically unemployed?
3. How long do you think people should be allowed to stay on welfare for?
4. What are the different types / degrees of homelessness?
5. Do you or does anyone you know volunteer at a soup kitchen or a homeless shelter?
6. Have you had any run-ins or negative experiences with homeless people?
7. What necessary things do most homeless people lack?
8. What would you do if the bank foreclosed on your house?
9. What kind of support does the government provide for the homeless?

2 Complete one or more of the situations below

1. **Role play:** Partner #1: You are the new employee at the homeless shelter. Get to know everyone.
Partner #2: You are the boss. Show the new guy around, and explain some people's stories.
2. **Interview:** Interview a homeless man who has turned his life around.
3. **Speech:** If you were put in charge of solving the world's homeless problem, what would you do & why?
4. **Debate:** You think the homeless should be given support, but your partner doesn't agree.