



ENGLISH ASTIR

STEPPINGSTONE TO 7.0

Vocabulary

Global issues and opportunities

General Nouns





1 With your teacher: describe each of the photographs. Then discuss the questions below.



- Describe your reaction to each photograph.
- What global issues are presented in the photographs?
- Do you think any of the photographs present opportunities? Give reasons and examples.
- Do you think problems and difficult situations can present us with opportunities?



2 Match each sentence 1-8 with a sentence a-h. Use the adjectives and nouns to help you identify the connection.

- 1 I lost my wallet last week
 - 2 My parents and my brother came to my graduation.
 - 3 After leaving college, I found myself with lots of free time and money.
 - 4 Both sides refuse to talk to each other.
 - 5 Access to too much information can overwhelm as well as help people.
 - 6 I was offered a scholarship to go to university.
 - 7 The number of cars sold fell.
 - 8 All participants at the meeting agreed on the necessary action.
- a It was too good an opportunity to miss.
 - b It was a rather awkward situation.
 - c Some think it is a growing problem, while for others it opens up many possibilities.
 - d It caused a company crisis.
 - e It was a very special occasion.
 - f It was an annoying incident, which I reported to the police.
 - g These were the perfect circumstances to write my first novel.
 - h It was a good outcome.



3 Look again at the sentences in exercise 2. Which nouns are general?

Example: opportunity



4 Which noun in exercise 2 completes both the gaps below?

Computer waste is a serious world _____. It is now accumulating everywhere. The _____, however, can be solved by ...



With your teacher, discuss the reasons for your answer.



5 Match each group of adjectives 1-10 with a noun a-j that collocates with all the adjectives in the group.

- 1 growing/serious/insurmountable
- 2 golden/excellent/perfect
- 3 main/likely/probable
- 4 ideal/dangerous/difficult
- 5 imaginative/effective/perfect
- 6 memorable/festive/state
- 7 significant/political/current
- 8 adverse/unfavorable/trying
- 9 burning/controversial/major
- 10 favorable/false/good

- a cause
- b problem
- c opportunity
- d event
- e issue
- f occasion
- g situation
- h solution
- i impression
- j circumstances



6 Complete sentences 1-8 with a word from the box below. Make any necessary changes.

issue incident outcome problem
possibility impression cause event

- 1 I would like to describe an amusing _____ that happened at work.
- 2 There is a faint _____ that the plan will succeed.
- 3 The most likely _____ of overcrowding in cities is a rise in birth rates.
- 4 A series of significant _____ occurred in the early part of the 19th century, which changed the face of transport forever.
- 5 Instead of being seen as a serious _____, the situation should be thought of as a golden opportunity.
- 6 Energy costs have been a burning _____ over the 6 last few decades.
- 7 The natural forest made a profound _____ on me.
- 8 The _____ of the talks was not totally unexpected.



7 With your teacher. Choose one or more of the following situations and describe what happened to your teacher:

- **an event that made a profound impression on you**
- **a serious problem you solved**
- **a golden opportunity you seized**

Useful expressions

I'm going to talk about ...

I'd like to describe ...

What I'd like to describe is ...

It was ..., because ...

Another reason is ...



Review

1 Circle the four adjectives below which are in the wrong place and write the correct noun.

a burning issue a serious problem a profound opportunity a state occasion
faint circumstances an imaginative solution a difficult situation a major cause
a trying possibility a golden impression an unexpected outcome

2 Add an adjective or a noun from exercise 1 to complete each blank space. You may have to use a singular or plural noun.

- 1 The gathering of representatives from various countries lasted through the night, but the _____ of their discussion was not totally _____.
- 2 There is a _____ that there will be perfect weather for the occasion.
- 3 Some people think that overcrowding in cities is to blame for a rise in crime, but this is less likely _____ than many others.
- 4 Advances in technology are changing the world for many people. While this is a _____ which is welcome in many cases, it is at times _____ for governments and people to deal with.
- 5 What would you say is the most insurmountable _____ facing people in their daily lives today?
- 6 I'd like to talk about a news item on the TV which made an _____ on me that was so _____ it made me want to change my career.
- 7 Deforestation is a major issue in the world today. Do you think there are any _____ to this problem that can be _____?

