

## UNIT 7. FOCUS ON YOUTH

### LESSON 31. YOUTH PROBLEMS

*Цілі:* вдосконалювати навички усного мовлення й читання; розвивати культуру спілкування й мовленнєву реакцію учнів; виховувати толерантне ставлення до інших і загальну культуру учнів.

#### *Procedure*

##### *1. Warm-up*

Do teenagers in your country have problems with drugs or alcohol? What is the difference between a habit and an addiction? (with a habit you are in control of your choices, with an addiction you are not in control of your choices)

##### *2. Reading and writing*

###### *Work in pairs*

Read the article and make some notes as for youth problems in Britain. Then compare it with the situation in Ukraine. Are there any differences and similarities?

School, lessons, games, clubs, homework. A bell rings. But one day young boys and girls will be at school for the last time. And then they are confronted with difficulties. They must make a decision: to enter a university or try to find a job.

In Britain life used to be fun for teenagers. They have money to spend, and free time to spend it in. But for many young people life is harder now. Jobs are difficult to find. There is not so much money around. Things are more expensive, and it's hard to find a place to live. Teachers say that students work harder than they used to. They are less interested in politics and more interested in passing exams. They know that good exam results may get them better jobs.

Three-quarters of young people do more or less what their parents did. They do their best at school, find some kind of work

in the end, and get marry in their early twenties. They get on well with their parents, and enjoy family life. They eat fish and chips, watch football on TV, go to the pub. Most young people worry more about money than their parents did twenty years ago. They try to spend less and to save more.

For some, the answer to unemployment is to leave home and look for work in one of Britain's cities. Every day hundreds of young people arrive in London from other parts of Britain, looking for jobs. Some find work and stay. Others don't find it and go home again, or join the army of unemployed in London.

One of the main problems of young people is drugs. This is a relatively new problem but it is becoming more and more dangerous. Million young people today are using drugs, and most of them will die. Usually they want just to try it, then again and again... and after year may be two years they will die. It is true. Because there are no medicine to help you. That's why never do it, if you do — it goes bad, very bad.

People of almost every age are susceptible to this pernicious disease but it hits the youth the hardest. Its name is unemployment. The percentage of unemployed youth in the total number of the jobless is high. In many developing countries the situation is more serious. Unless the economic situation in the world changes, youth unemployment will mount.

There are many youth organisations in Britain, which unite young men on different principles. There are some informal organisations, for example: skinheads, hippies, panks and so on. Now there exists the problem of misunderstanding between different youth groups.

They also face the problem how to spend their free time. They can do it in different ways. Some of teenagers spend their free time in different night clubs. Other young people spend their free time in the streets.

### 3. Listening

Listen to the surveys, summarize the article and compare with the situation in our country.

## TEENAGERS AND DRUGS

Two separate surveys suggest that Britain's teenagers are amongst the heaviest drug-users and drinkers in Europe. The British government has introduced a number of measures to tackle the use and supply of drugs, particularly among young people.

The European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs interviewed 15 and 16-year olds in 35 countries. 26 % of boys and 29 % of girls in the UK had indulged in binge drinking at least three times in the previous month. For the purpose of the study, binge drinking was classed as having more than five alcoholic drinks in a row. In the same survey, 42 % of boys and 35 % of girls admitted they had tried illegal drugs at least once.

According to another survey, by the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, two in five 15-year-olds in the UK have tried cannabis. This number is higher than anywhere else in Europe. The UK has also the joint highest number of young cocaine users, alongside Spain.

The British government has recently unveiled new plans to fight the problem of drug abuse in the United Kingdom, also among teenagers. According to the new proposals, young offenders will have to attend drug treatment as part of community service. British police will be able to give people blood tests for drugs when they arrest them, not just when they charge them with an offence. Dealers working near a school or using children to help sell drugs will face tougher penalties.

But schools also try to fight the problem of drug use themselves. At the beginning of 2005 a British state school has introduced for the first time random drug testing. Students from a school in Kent will have mouth swabs taken to detect drug use. Each week 20 names will be selected by computer and the swabs sent off to a drug testing laboratory. Results will be available three days later. The school's head teacher says that no child will be tested

against his or her wishes. Children who test positive will not be expelled from the school, but those who sell drugs will.

#### *4. Speaking*

Do ex. 3, p. 217.

#### *5. Summary*

There are many problems society faces nowadays and any problem can be considered from two points of view: if it is right or wrong. But it is dangerous to discuss social attitudes in such a way. Scan the situations given below and discuss in your groups what you feel to be right or wrong in them.

- TV greatly affects the minds of the young people, it doesn't aim at bringing up patriots of their motherland. Is it right or wrong?
- A young man, a person of age, doesn't agree to serve in the army, to defend his motherland, in a word. Is it right or wrong taking into consideration that the constitution proclaims it a sacred duty of any obedient citizen?
- People with higher education are paid less than those who don't have good education at all. Is it wrong?
- A gang of young criminals places a bomb in a large store. In their phone call to the police they say that they will explore the bomb unless they are paid 50 million. Is it right to use violence to get what you want?

#### *6. Homework*

Write a short paragraph upon any problem above.

## UNIT 7. FOCUS ON YOUTH

### LESSON 32. ROLE OF YOUTH IN SOCIETY

*Цілі:* вдосконалювати лексичні навички й навички читання; вдосконалювати навички аудіювання й говоріння; розвивати логічне мислення; виховувати толерантне ставлення до інших.

#### *Procedure*

##### *1. Warm-up*

What are responsibilities of youth in society?

Share ideas as for this problem with your partner, make up statements from the table below and add some of your own.

Youth	is responsible can should (be) shouldn't (be)	Improve reduce	to build the nation
			to make the society good and noble
			the community and culture of society
			with a number of crime
			careless
			drunken youth
			indifferent youth
			reckless youth
			to identify the value of time
			punctual for doing every work
			stick to high ideals
			to maintain discipline

			to do every work with tolerance
			think before action
			create original thinking
			to defend freedom and democracy

## 2. Grammar practice

Do ex. 1, p. 219.

## 3. Reading and speaking

Do ex. 4, p. 217.

## 4. Reading and writing

Read the Net-page and leave your comments. Express your opinion as for this problem.

### ROLE OF YOUTH IN SOCIETY

Youth are back bone to the nation. They can change the future of the society with their well-being and courageous behavior. They are here to show us that which we have not been willing to look at within ourselves. Unfortunately today we find the youth those who are more interested in other places witch are not useful to them as well as nation. They choose to spend their days doing drugs and playing video games. They spend their nights partying and living it up, so to speak. More and more young men of this age group are sitting at home in front of their televisions playing games all day instead of bettering themselves or going to work. They have no vision and if they do have dreams they do not have the drive to make any attempt at achieving them.

We must get control of this. We must motivate our youth. We must teach responsibility and goal setting. I fear if we do not we will soon be supporting an entire generation of homeless and needlessly on welfare families. Things have to change, with our

schools, with the older generation being good role models, with the older generation being mentors, and with the youth who are right now doing nothing

Those of you are in age of teen. You have a choice. You can allow yourselves to stay your course and do nothing or you can rise above what the cynics around you expect and go get educated or get jobs. Show the older generation they are wrong about you. Let them know you have intelligence and skills. Show yourself what you are made of. You might be surprised at how proud of yourself you become with even the smallest of accomplishments. I can tell you that nothing can happen if you do not try bad or good. You will not become rich overnight either way but at least if you make an effort, then you have begun your journey to your dreams. Key role of youth in society is to renew, refresh and maintain a civilization.

### *5. Grammar practice*

Do ex. 2, p. 220.

### *6. Listening and reading*

Listen and fill in the gaps.

Come on everybody. Get up and do something. December the 5th is International Volunteer Day. This (1)... important day was started by the United Nations in 1985. Its (2)... is twofold: first, to thank volunteers around the world for giving their time to help others; and second, to (3)... other people to do voluntary work. Without volunteers, many people around the world would be (4)... off. In fact, the whole world would be a (5)... place. Volunteers help other people and help animals, the countryside, the environment and many (6) ... things that are so important to us. The UN urges governments around the world to (7)... measures to (8)... awareness of the important contribution of volunteering.

There are thousands of volunteer organizations around the world. Some of them are very (9) ... . Perhaps everyone has heard of VSO (Voluntary Services Overseas), the Peace Corps, and Muslim Aid. A search on the Internet will (10)... much give you a

volunteer (11) ... on anything or anyone you want to help. You don't need to (12) ... a worldwide group to be a volunteer. Most voluntary work that takes place around the globe is by individuals helping their neighbours. We have probably all (13) ... out of our way to help someone (14)... fortunate. The great thing about voluntary work is that it makes you (15)... like a better person. So please, on this International Volunteer Day, think about how you can help, and (16)... your services.

Key: 1 highly, 2 aim, 3 encourage, 4 worse, 5 darker, 6 more, 7 take, 8 heighten, 9 famous, 10 pretty, 11 group, 12 join, 13 gone, 14 less, 15 feel, 16 offer.

### *7. Speaking*

- 1) What is volunteer work?
- 2) What is your definition of volunteer work?
- 3) What is the dictionary definition of volunteer?
- 4) Why do people volunteer?
- 5) Would you like to work as a volunteer?
- 6) Have you ever done any volunteer work?
- 7) Is volunteering worth the time it takes?
- 8) What are volunteer activities that people do?

### *8. Summary*

Name as many activities as you can which depend on active participation of youth in life of any country.

### *9. Homework*

Ex. 4, p. 221.