

Multiculturalism and Globalisation

ACTIVITY A – Read the text below and decide which answer A, B, C, or D, best fits each gap.
Circle the right option.

Stirring the Melting Pot:

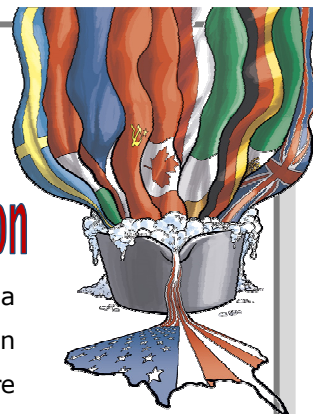
How globalisation through cities heats up cultural aggression

By 2050, 70% of the world's 9 billion people ...¹ in cities. Globalisation is creating a series of melting pots around the world. These are places where ancient cultures can build ...² each other or collide. New York, London, Sydney and Melbourne: these are places of liberty and 'free speech'. But these are also places of ...³ cultural tension.

This kind of tension is demonstrated in many forms. Aggressive comments whispered or filmed on the train. Astronomical suicide rates among teens. The phrase 'I'm not racist, but...' and 'shock jocks' spreading cultural ignorance through the airwaves.

People direct ...⁴ towards that foreigner who prays to an unknown god or 'stole' an Aussie job to make the ...⁵ clothes they buy. But are these people in the vocal minority, or outspoken representatives of the majority?

Globalisation unites diverse cultures under one shared flag, encourages once oppressed groups to ...⁶ and blurs the borders between micro-communities. This makes it is easy for underlying prejudice to simmer and erupt. When a 'minority' group causes the melting pot to spill over, the city's western middle-class, news media spins a story ...⁷ for the highest ratings, exacerbating this ...⁸.



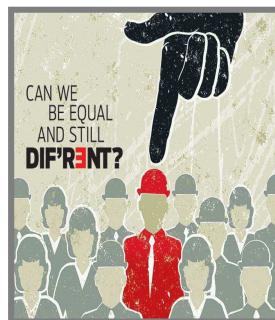
<http://vibewire.org/2013/06/>

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|----|----------------------|--------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. | a. are going to live | b. will live | c. are living | d. live |
| 2. | a. beside | b. besides | c. each side | d. on the side |
| 3. | a. heating | b. heat | c. heated | d. heater |
| 4. | a. hates | b. hatred | c. hated | d. hating |
| 5. | a. priceless | b. pricing | c. under-priced | d. overpriced |
| 6. | a. speak up | b. speak out | c. speak for | d. speak with |
| 7. | a. hidden | b. unplanned | c. unsuitable | d. tailored |
| 8. | a. pride | b. animosity | c. prejudice | d. privilege |

ACTIVITY B –You are going to read a text about globalisation and multiculturalism. Use the words in the box on the right to form a word that fits in the gap on the same line. Write it there.

Trends of Globalisation and Emerging Models of Multiculturalism

A viable alternative model of multiculturalism is seemingly **(9)**_____ in the United Kingdom. Here, multiculturalism allowed spaces for the assertion of cultural rights of minorities to such an extent that the cultural rights of the Western civilisation are compromised.



Recently, Dr Rowan Williams, the Archbishop of Canterbury, proposed that the U. K. incorporate the Sharia in its legal system so that the Muslims in that country do not have to choose between their cultural right and their right as citizens. This model is similar to the **(10)**_____ legal model that India inherits from its **(11)**_____ past. This model may be **(12)**_____ as in India but generates considerable cultural tensions as it arouses patriotic fervour of the cultures that have been 'othered' in the process (that is, from the **(13)**_____ of the members of such cultures, treated in an **(14)**_____ manner) besides providing grist to their mills of cultural phobias. A right wing cultural 'backlash' from the 'othered' cultures would result in sharpening cultural identities and transforming them into assertions of self-determination that may undermine our accepted notions of nation state and **(15)**_____. Such a model of multiculturalism proves to be counterproductive because it only aggravates cultural tensions and **(16)**_____.

The French have adopted a **(17)**_____ of British multiculturalism. The state is strictly defined as a space that is neutral to all religions, including Roman Catholicism that is **(18)**_____ in France.

<http://e08.cgpublisher.com/proposals/80/index.html> (adapted and abridged)

emerge

plural
colonies
work

perceive
fair

citizen

secure
vary

dominate

ACTIVITY C – You are going to read an article about being an American. For questions **19–26**, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

What is an American?



When I asked my father this question, he laughed and shook his head. **I have a knack for** asking the hard ones. But as our nation struggles with the issue of illegal immigration, we don't bother to ask **this** of ourselves.

The first time this question occurred to me was while I was watching "American Idol" a few years ago. A beautiful Russian performer was struggling to get her **green card**. The judges loved her but rejected her all the same. My mother said it was because they wanted an American idol. I blinked and asked her, "What's more American than an immigrant?" She sighed.

Every single American citizen is an immigrant, even Native Americans, who came across the Bering Strait thousands of years ago. Homo sapiens originated in Africa, and every other place we settled we were strangers, right? But the United States is unique because it once welcomed all immigrants. The majority of Americans have ancestors who came over barely a hundred years ago. My earliest family immigrated scarcely three generations ago. And so we must ask ourselves: is it right to deny entrance to people who, like our ancestors, want to make a new home and are willing to work for the opportunities we have?

If you really think about it, the people who risk life and limb to come to our country have a higher opinion of U.S. ideals than a lot of us do. Their ancestors have lived in the same place for hundreds of years, perhaps more. Can you imagine the courage it takes to leave all that behind?

Furthermore, we owe immigrants a lot. For example, our fresh produce is cultivated by migrant workers, a harvest picked in shame. I believe the very least we can do is grant them citizenship, minimum wage, and schooling for their children. In addition to some of the more skilled jobs immigrants do, we take many advantages for granted – aisles of produce, janitors at fast-food restaurants – that are made possible by the people some scorn and wish to remove from our country.

Some say if we let everyone in, we won't have room. We're the third-largest country on the planet. There's room, and immigration is happening regardless. Let's screen for criminals but let others in. After all, can't we share Thanksgiving with the laborers who have more than earned their wages?

<http://www.teenink.com>

19- What does the phrase '**I have a knack for**' in lines 1 and 2 mean?

- a) she is particularly good at
- b) she is particularly bad at
- c) she is curious about
- d) she is not particularly skilled

20- Why did the judges of American Idol reject the Russian performer?

- a) They rejected the Russian performer because she wanted to be an American Idol.
- b) They rejected the Russian performer because she was an illegal immigrant.
- c) They rejected the Russian performer because she was not American.
- d) They rejected the Russian performer because didn't stand for the American ideals.

21- What does '**this**' refer to in line 3?

- a) illegal immigration
- b) what is an American
- c) our nation's struggle
- d) the hard ones

22- What is a green card?

- a) A document you must have to visit the USA.
- b) A card whose colour is green.
- c) A card you get when you become an American citizen.
- d) A document that allows a person to live and work in the USA.

23- Why does the author wonder about the right to deny entrance to those who want to live in the USA?

- a) Because free movement is a Human Right.
- b) Because all Americans have immigrant ancestors.
- c) Because America has always refused illegal immigration.
- d) Because emigration is part of American history.

24- Americans should be thankful because ...

- a) immigrants provide them with the basic goods.
- b) immigrants only earn the minimum wage.
- c) most immigrants work at fast-food restaurants.
- d) some immigrants take for granted their American citizenship.

25- It requires a lot of courage to leave one's own country

...

- a) when we don't speak the host country language.
- b) when we are unable to understand the host country's ideals.
- c) when all our relatives live there.
- d) when our ancestors have always refused that.

26- Americans want to close their doors because...

- a) the USA is only the third biggest country in the world.
- b) they do not respect American festivities like Thanksgiving.
- c) they look at immigrants as if they were criminals.
- d) there is not enough space for everybody.

Key:

- 1- b;
- 2- a;
- 3- c;
- 4- b;
- 5- d;
- 6- a;
- 7- d;
- 8- c
- 9- emerging;
- 10- pluralist;
- 11- colonial;
- 12- workable;
- 13- perception;
- 14- unfair;
- 15- citizenship;
- 16- insecurities;
- 17- variant;
- 18- Dominant
- 19- A;
- 20- C;
- 21- B;
- 22- D;
- 23- B;
- 24- A;
- 25- C;
- 26- D