

MIGRANTS DIE AT SEA

Nov 28, 2021

WARM-UP QUESTIONS • *Discuss the following questions with your partner(s).*

1. How do you feel about the place you live? Is it safe enough? Is the future bright or not?
2. Read the headline above. Have you heard this news story? If so, say what you know. If not, can you guess what it's about?

VOCABULARY • *Match the following vocabulary words with a description. Use a dictionary if you need to.*

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| 1. Migrant | a) protection given to people that have left their country because they were in danger |
| 2. Asylum | b) to say strongly that something is wrong |
| 3. Drown | c) a person that left their home because of war, famine, political persecution, natural disaster, etc. |
| 4. Inflatable | d) without much hope and willing to do almost anything to get what is needed |
| 5. Hypothermia | e) a person that goes to another place to find work or a better life |
| 6. Condemn | f) a person that moves things or people secretly and illegally |
| 7. Smuggler | g) able to be filled with air |
| 8. Desperate | h) to say something or someone is responsible for something bad |
| 9. Refugee | i) to die due to being unable to breathe in water |
| 10. Blame | j) the condition of a person's body temperature being too low |

LISTEN • *Listen to the audio track on eslnewsstories.com or to a reader of the text. Try to fill in the missing words. Then check your answers with the full text.*

Twenty-seven migrants died in the _____ between France and England this week. The people, from war-damaged countries to the east and south of Europe, were going to _____ the United Kingdom illegally and claim asylum. The number of people claiming asylum in the UK this year (25700) is already much _____ than that of last year (8469).

The migrants drowned when their inflatable boat failed. Such boats are often overcrowded and unsuitable for the rough _____ between Europe and Britain. Two migrants suffering from hypothermia were rescued from the ocean.

The governments of France and Britain condemned _____ of people smugglers for causing the tragedy. Smugglers organize crossings and charge desperate refugees large amounts of _____. France arrested four people that they believe are connected to the failed crossing.

The two countries promised to work together better to _____ future deaths. In the past, Britain has blamed France for not stopping the refugees while they are in France, and France has blamed Britain for not doing more to stop illegal refugees from _____ in Britain. Both countries agree they need to do more.

WORD FORMS • Fill in different forms for the vocabulary from the article. Use a dictionary if you need to. Where there is an **x**, the word is uncommon, has a different meaning, or doesn't exist. Sometimes there are multiple possible answers, and sometimes the adjective form is a past or present participle.

VERB	ADJECTIVE	ADVERB	NOUN
		x	migrant/migration
drown		x	drowning
	inflatable		
condemn		x	
		x	smuggler/smuggling
x	desperate		
blame		x	

Twenty-seven migrants died in the ocean between France and England this week. The people, from war-damaged countries to the east and south of Europe, were going to enter the United Kingdom illegally and claim asylum. The number of people claiming asylum in the UK this year (25700) is already much higher than that of last year (8469).

The migrants drowned when their inflatable boat failed. Such boats are often overcrowded and unsuitable for the rough waters between Europe and Britain. Two migrants suffering from hypothermia were rescued from the ocean.

The governments of France and Britain condemned gangs of people smugglers for causing the tragedy. Smugglers organize crossings and charge desperate refugees large amounts of money. France arrested four people that they believe are connected to the failed crossing.

The two countries promised to work together better to prevent future deaths. In the past, Britain has blamed France for not stopping the refugees while they are in France, and France has blamed Britain for not doing more to stop illegal refugees from working in Britain. Both countries agree they need to do more.

Sources: ft.com, reuters.com, bbc.com, apnews.com
 For source links, see the article on ESLNewsStories.com

COMPREHENSION • *Decide if the following are true (T) or false (F), and then discuss your answers with your partner(s).*

1. Refugees are trying to get to the UK. (T / F)
2. War in France has made people want to leave. (T / F)
3. People try to cross the sea in inflatable boats. (T / F)
4. The refugees receive money from people smugglers. (T / F)
5. France and Britain are refusing to work together. (T / F)

COMPLETE • *Re-order the following sentences. You should capitalize certain words and add punctuation.*

1. in / ocean / drowned / refugees / the / twenty-seven
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2. claim / asylum / the / wanted / migrants / to
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DISCUSSION • *Discuss the following questions with your partner(s). Try to speak in sentences and ask follow-up questions.*

1. Have you ever considered moving to another country? Why or why not? Where would you go?
2. Does your country encourage the immigration of people from other countries? Why or why not?
3. Does your country accept many refugees? Should each country accept a certain number of refugees? Why or why not?
4. Where are most of the refugees in the world coming from? Which countries are they usually going to?
5. Can you swim? When did you learn? If you can't swim, would you like to learn?
6. Have you been on a boat in the ocean? Did you feel safe? What could go wrong in that situation?
7. If there was a war or a natural disaster in your region, where could you go to be safe?
8. Can you understand why some people travel a long way in search of a better life?
9. Is it okay for a country to not let a person enter?
10. What should countries like Britain and France do to prevent future tragedies?

VOCABULARY: 1-e, 2-a, 3-i, 4-g, 5-j, 6-b, 7-f, 8-d, 9-c, 10-h

WORD FORMS: migrate, migrant, drowned, inflate, inflatingly, inflation, condemned, condemnation, smuggle, smuggled, desperately, desperation, blamed, blame

COMPREHENSION: 1-T, 2-F, 3-T, 4-F, 5-F.

COMPLETE: 1. Twenty-seven refugees drowned in the ocean. 2. The migrants wanted to claim asylum.