

How Mongolia is helping its nomads adapt to big city life

Level 3 • Advanced

KEY

1 Warmer

1. Ulaanbaatar
2. yurt (*ger* in Mongolian)
3. Genghis Kahn

2 Key words

1. tendrils
2. insulating
3. herders
4. sprawling
5. exacerbated
6. plummet
7. fringe
8. striking
9. buffer
10. cladding
11. arduous
12. prudent

3 Comprehension check

1. There has been a reduction in the number of animals, and there is the promise of better jobs, education and healthcare.
2. The *ger* districts do not have running water, good sewerage or waste disposal systems. The *gers* do not have central heating so they are contributing to the high levels of pollution in the city by burning large amounts of fossil fuels during the extremely cold winters.
3. They often find it difficult to adapt to living in a small permanent space in close proximity to their new neighbours.
4. It offers a place for former nomadic people to meet and interact and to attend workshops. It gives them a place to go that is larger than their own *ger*, and it aims to give them a sense of pride and to bolster their self-respect.

4 Collocations

1. d – a business that is a combination of a public and private company and puts its profits back into the business or community
2. h – a small area where you do not have much room to move about
3. f – a type of city layout where streets run at right angles to each other, forming a grid
4. j – the chances of finding employment
5. i – a large flat area of land without trees in south-eastern Europe or Asia
6. a – a group of people who live or work together
7. c – a traditional Russian toy made out of wooden dolls that are inserted one into another
8. b – without fixed boundaries or uses
9. e – meetings between small groups of people
10. g – close relationships or connections between the people who live in the same area

5 Talking about the article

Teacher's note: You could have the students do this task in pairs and tick off each key word or collocation as they use it. Students should try not to refer to the article while doing this task.

7 Webquest

Teacher's note: This task could easily be set as group work or homework. If you'd like the students to hold short presentations, you could divide the headings between the students. That way, you end up with one longer presentation, instead of many short ones that would likely become repetitive.