How Mongolia is helping its nomads adapt to big city life

Level 2 • Upper intermediate

KEY

1 Warmer

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

2 Key words

1. scattered
2. plot
3. shack
4. insulating
5. herders
6. nomadic
7. settlement
8. livestock
9. slum
10. pride
11. shelter
12. core

3 Comprehension check

1. T
2. T
3. F – Mongolia is the least densely populated country in the world.
4. F – Extremely cold temperatures and no central heating leads people to burn large amounts of coal. This makes Ulaanbaatar one of the most polluted cities in the world.
5. F – The new Ger Innovation Hub is a large community space where the families of nomadic herders can meet and attend workshops.
6. T

4 Collocations

1. confined space
2. job prospects
3. running water
4. contemporary version
5. wooden framework
6. buffer zone
7. community ties

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.

6 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.