

Huge migrant caravan heads to USA

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A caravan of more than 7,000 migrants is embarking on a thousand-kilometre journey through Mexico, aiming for the border with the USA. The migrants are mainly from Honduras and are hoping to find a

better life in the U.S. Parents with young children are fleeing violence and a lack of job opportunities in their home countries. A reporter described the caravan as being "a river of people". They are battling hot weather, a lack of food and exhaustion in their epic flight. The Washington Post reported that there were many in the caravan who were recently deported from the U.S. after having lived there illegally for decades. They are desperate to be reunited with their children still living in the U.S.

The U.S. government has made it clear that it will stick to the law regarding any applications for asylum. It will turn away all migrants who don't apply for asylum in Mexico first. There has been a "zero-tolerance" policy towards migrants to deter people from attempting to enter the country illegally. There was public outcry earlier this year after U.S. authorities separated migrant children from their parents at the border. U.S. President Donald Trump tweeted: "Sadly, it looks like Mexico's police and military are unable to stop the caravan heading to...the United States. Criminals and unknown Middle Easterners are mixed in." He has vowed to reduce or cut off foreign aid to Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador.

Sources: cbsnews / bbc.com / thehill.com

Writing

A world without borders is better than a world with borders. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

caravan / migrants / border / a better life / violence / job opportunities / hot weather / the law / asylum / zero tolerance / public outcry / military / criminals / foreign aid

True / False

- a) Migrants are walking over 7,000km to get to the USA. T / F
- b) Migrants are trying to get away from violence in their own countries. T / F
- c) A reporter said people had difficulty crossing a river. T / F
- d) Many of the migrants have children living in the USA. T / F
- e) The USA said the migrants must apply for asylum in Mexico. T / F
- f) The US said it will introduce a zero-tolerance policy towards migrants. T / F
- g) Donald Trump said Mexican police are successfully stopping the caravan. T / F
- h) Donald Trump has cut off foreign aid to Honduras. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------|
| 1. embarking | a. adhere |
| 2. mainly | b. fatigue |
| 3. fleeing | c. anonymous |
| 4. exhaustion | d. escaping |
| 5. deported | e. discourage |
| 6. stick | f. unlawfully |
| 7. deter | g. starting |
| 8. illegally | h. stop |
| 9. unknown | i. expelled |
| 10. cut off | j. largely |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you know about the migrant caravan?
- b) What would it be like to be a migrant?
- c) What do you think will happen to the migrants at the border?
- d) Why are there so many migrants around the world?
- e) Should the world have no borders?
- f) What issues does your country have with migrants?
- g) What three adjectives best describe this story?
- h) Should the migrants be reunited with their children in the USA?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. aiming for the border | a. outcry earlier this year |
| 2. young children are fleeing | b. with their children |
| 3. described the caravan as being | c. to the law |
| 4. recently deported | d. violence |
| 5. They are desperate to be reunited | e. policy towards migrants |
| 6. made it clear that it will stick | f. from the U.S. |
| 7. It will turn | g. with the USA |
| 8. There has been a "zero-tolerance" | h. off foreign aid |
| 9. There was public | i. "a river of people" |
| 10. reduce or cut | j. away all migrants |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- What do you know about political asylum?
- What is the difference between economic migrants and asylum seekers?
- Should there be zero tolerance towards migrants?
- How do you think this story will end?
- Do you think "criminals and Middle Easterners" are in the caravan?
- What do you think of President Trump vowing to cut aid?
- What questions would you like to ask one of the migrants?

Spelling

- embarking on a 1,000-kilometre yjrenuo
- young children are lgneefi violence
- a lack of food and oshnaxuiet
- recently pdeeotdr from the U.S.
- They are atspredee
- be deuntrei with their children
- applications for aulyms
- a "zero-oaceenlrt" policy
- public roytuc earlier this year
- Mexico's police and amltyrii
- imacsiran and unknown Middle Easterners
- He has oewvd to reduce or cut off foreign aid

Answers – Synonym Match

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

Role Play

Role A – Homesickness

You think homesickness is the biggest problem of migrating across countries. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their problems aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the smallest problem of these (and why): lack of food, safety or fatigue.

Role B – Lack of Food

You think a lack of food is the biggest problem of migrating across countries. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their problems aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the smallest problem of these (and why): homesickness, safety or fatigue.

Role C – Safety

You think safety is the biggest problem of migrating across countries. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their problems aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the smallest problem of these (and why): lack of food, homesickness or fatigue.

Role D – Fatigue

You think fatigue is the biggest problem of migrating across countries. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their problems aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the smallest problem of these (and why): lack of food, safety or homesickness.

Speaking – Migration

Rank these with your partner. Put the biggest problems of a 1,000-km migration at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|------------|-----------------|
| • Safety | • Homesickness |
| • Blisters | • Lack of food |
| • Stress | • Lack of water |
| • Fatigue | • Intimidation |

Answers – True False

a	T	b	T	c	F	d	T	e	T	f	F	g	F	h	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.