


52 Talking about groups

Sometimes you may want to talk generally about groups of people or different nationalities. It is important that you know the correct way to do this.

 **New language** Using adjectives as nouns

Aa Vocabulary Countries and nationalities

 **New skill** Generalizing politely

52.1 KEY LANGUAGE NATIONALITY ADJECTIVES AS NOUNS

To make generalizations about people from a particular country, modify the nationality adjective. If the adjective ends in "-ch," "-sh," "-ese," or "-ss," you generally add "the." Most other nationalities take an "s," but not "the."

-CH / -SH / -ESE / -SS

Chinese design history is really fascinating.



The Chinese have invented many great things.

MOST OTHER NATIONALITIES

Australian rugby is very competitive.



Australians love to watch their team play.



52.2 FURTHER EXAMPLES NATIONALITY ADJECTIVES AS NOUNS



The Spanish



The Japanese



The British



Americans



Greeks



Russians



52.3 WRITE THE CORRECT NAMES FOR THE DIFFERENT GROUPS OF PEOPLE



German = Germans



1 Swiss = _____



2 Brazilian = _____



3 Swedish = _____



4 Indian = _____



5 French = _____



6 Korean = _____



7 Kenyan = _____



52.4 KEY LANGUAGE "THE" WITH ADJECTIVES FOR CERTAIN GROUPS

Some groups or classes of people are also referred to using nouns that have been formed from adjectives.



Rich people have bought most of the new houses in this town.



Almost all the houses here are owned by **the rich**.



52.5 FURTHER EXAMPLES "THE" WITH ADJECTIVES FOR CERTAIN GROUPS



Emergency treatment for **the injured** is essential.



The media sometimes portrays **the young** as lazy.



Many charities try to protect **the poor**.



The elderly often need the support of their families.



52.6 FILL IN THE GAPS USING THE WORDS IN THE PANEL

Not every country's government gives financial help to the unemployed.

- 1 The _____ are often without a house as a result of some very bad luck.
- 2 Often, the _____ are described as being addicted to gadgets and phones.
- 3 The _____ often give lots of money to charity, but we don't know about it.
- 4 Many countries have laws to ensure that the _____ can access public transportation.
- 5 After the accident, the _____ were all taken to a nearby hospital.
- 6 The _____ have often cared for others all their lives and deserve care in return.

~~unemployed~~

elderly

homeless

rich

young


injured

disabled






52.7 READ THE FORUM AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS




POSTED BY JEN AT 10:38AM

Who is responsible?


Sometimes I feel very sad for those people in my country who are unable to provide for themselves. Everything is about money, not about caring. How do you think your country treats vulnerable people in society?



Mi (Hanoi): The Vietnamese have many public and private hospitals to help the sick. We respect the elderly and do whatever we can to take care of them. Often, public transportation isn't easily accessible for the disabled, but usually people will offer help.



Pepe (Milan): Italians are very proud of how they care for the elderly. It would be very wrong for me to leave my mother or father in a difficult situation. They looked after me as I was growing up, and now it's my responsibility to look after them.



Simon (Oxford): As the young have to spend more and more time working to earn money for their own family's needs, it becomes harder to have time to spend with parents. But we still respect the elderly and often help pay for their care.

Jen thinks her country's citizens care more about money than people. True ☒ False ☐

1 Jen only wants to know how different people treat the sick. True ☐ False ☐

2 Pepe believes that Italians have no time to look after the elderly. True ☐ False ☐

3 Pepe thinks his parents should be able to look after themselves. True ☐ False ☐

4 Mi says that Vietnam has both public and private hospitals. True ☐ False ☐

5 Mi says that all public transportation in Vietnam has disabled access. True ☐ False ☐

6 Simon says that the English spend a lot of their time at work. True ☐ False ☐

7 According to Simon, the English do respect the elderly. True ☐ False ☐

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52.8 LISTEN TO THE AUDIO, THEN NUMBER THE STATEMENTS IN THE ORDER THAT THEY ARE DESCRIBED



A teacher from an urban multicultural school is talking about research into stereotypes that she carried out with her students.

- A "I might come from a cold country, but I still get cold over here. Nobody believes me!" ☐
- B "It's annoying. People think I should cook all the time, but I don't like it." ☒
- C "People thought I wasn't allowed to get my hair cut whenever I wanted." ☐
- D "I know that my country is rich, but it doesn't mean everyone from there is." ☐
- E "Lots of times people are shocked or surprised that I'm not a vegetarian." ☐
- F "Not everyone from my country can run long distances. I'm a terrible runner!" ☐



52.9 RESPOND TO THE AUDIO, SPEAKING OUT LOUD

In professional sports, what happens when people hurt themselves?

The injured leave the field and are treated by medical staff.

1 What happens if someone loses their job in your country?

The unemployed _____

2 How do young people in your country treat old people?

The elderly _____

3 Do you think young people are represented fairly by the media?

The young _____

52 CHECKLIST



Using adjectives as nouns ☐

Aa Countries and nationalities ☐



Generalizing politely ☐