




Topic

Conversation
for Advanced

Lesson 10
Child Labor



**“Child labor causes poverty,
unemployment, illiteracy, population
growth and other social problems.”**

What is child labor?

Target Language

Introduce the learning goals to the student.

In this lesson, we will learn to talk about
child labor:

- read an article about child labor;
- learn words and expressions about child labor in the passage;
- share your opinions about how child labor can be put to an end.

Key words:

1. obliged
2. impoverished
3. crucial
4. adequate
5. poverty
6. prevalent
7. detrimental

Reading

Read the passage and pay attention to the key words.

In traditional and modern cultures around the world, it has been the role of adults to undergo labor and employment in order to provide income for their respective families. Children, on the other hand, are traditionally **obliged** to pursue education. Unfortunately, in some instances, children would be forced to undergo labor, thus being deprived of a proper childhood and education. To make matters worse, such forms of labor may prove to be **detrimental** and harmful to the children's mental, physical, social, and moral well-being. As such, the issue of child labor has been one of the most prevalent and controversial ones being faced by various countries in the world today.



Comprehension Check:

- 1. Cite some instances why children were forced to undergo labor.*
- 2. How does child labor affect children?*

Reading

Read the passage and pay attention to the key words.

A number of causes have been attributed to the existence of child labor. What has been cited as its greatest single cause is **poverty**. For **impoverished** households, a child's work income is usually **crucial** for his or her own survival or for that of the household. Income of working children, even a small amount, may be between 25 to 40% of the **household** income. The lack of meaningful alternatives such as the lack of affordable schools or quality education is another primary factor and concern. Many communities, particularly rural areas where child labor is prevalent, do not possess **adequate** school facilities. Other circumstances would include the distance of some available schools and the difficulty of reaching them. Such conditions would entail that children would have nothing better to do.

Comprehension Check:

3. What has been cited as the greatest single cause of child labor?



Reading

Read the passage and pay attention to the key words.

On the other hand, certain cultural beliefs have rationalized child labor and thereby encouraged it. Some view that work is good for character building and skill development of children. In many cultures, particularly where the informal economy and small household businesses thrive, the cultural tradition is that children follow in their parents' footsteps; child labor then is a means to learn and practice that trade from a very early age.



Comprehension Check:

3. How was child labor viewed traditionally according to the passage?

Respond to Reading

Complete the task.

☐ Write YES if the statement is true about child labor in the passage and NO if it is not.

_____ 1. In traditional and modern cultures around the world, it has been the role of children to undergo labor and employment.

_____ 2. It has been cited that poverty is the greatest single cause of child labor.

_____ 3. Children would be forced to undergo labor, thus being deprived of a proper childhood and education.

_____ 4. The issue of child labor has been one of the most prevalent and controversial ones being faced by various countries in the world today.

Free Talk

Name some reasons and share your opinions.

Why is child labor so prevalent?



- ☐ Talk about some reasons why there is child labor.
- ☐ Is there any way to prevent child labor? If so, how? If not, why not?
- ☐ Who should we blame for the misfortune of child laborers? parents?
government? society? fate?

Summary

Make a summary of the topic you have learned today.

Adults should stop rationalizing and justifying child labor for whatever life adversities they are in because a child is never meant for grown-ups' responsibilities. We must end it.

- Talk about how working at a young age affect a child's holistic development. You may use some of the words you've learned.



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|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. obliged | 5. poverty |
| 2. impoverished | 6. prevalent |
| 3. crucial | 7. detrimental |
| 4. adequate | |

Your opinion...

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