

TEACHERS' GUIDE

Approximate time: 40 min (including After you Watch stage)

Trigger warning: Bear in mind that the content of the video may trigger unexpected and / or painful responses in class. Allow students to feel safe enough to mention such feelings if they wish to. However, if a particular learner does not want to engage with the material for any reason, do not oblige them to do so.

Note: Consider if your students will benefit from the subtitles in English being turned on. Maryam speaks at quite a speed.

Maryam: Migrants as scapegoats

Before you watch

- 1 Elicit a connection between *scapegoats* and *prejudice*.
Sample answer:
people who suffer from prejudice in society are often made scapegoats because they are an easy target. Any groups of people at the margin of society can become victims of scapegoating, because they are seen as different or the "other". Hence, they are often accused of things unfairly.

While you watch

- 2 Elicit students' own answers here.
- 3 Students work in pairs or small groups to do this task and exercises 4 and 5.
 - 1c steal opportunities
 - 2e seek refuge
 - 3f turn against immigrants
 - 4b contribute to society
 - 5a care for the elderly
 - 6d live in poverty

Note: the phrasal verb *turn against* here means to change from supporting to opposing somebody.
- 4 Positive expressions: *contribute to society*, *care for the elderly*. They refer to her family. Maryam says that her mother works in customer service, helps people with their broadband (internet connection) as well as working in a care home and helping elderly people.
- 5 Here *weaponize* means to use something to attack somebody (the something refers to the cost-of-living crisis).
- 6 Play the video again and allow students in pairs or small groups to check their answers to questions 3, 4 and 5.
- 7 a1, b1, c2, d2, e1, f1
- 8 Students' own answers.
Sample answer:
Immigrants are an easy target for scapegoating. People treat them unfairly because they have prejudices about them that hold no truth. For this reason, she wants herself, her family and other immigrants to be treated fairly.

After you watch

Give students plenty of time to choose the option they prefer. Bear in mind the triggering nature of the questions (b in particular).

Once students have had time to discuss the questions in pairs or small groups, allow them time to report back their thoughts and ideas. Make sure to elicit responses to all three questions. If nobody has chosen one of the questions, then give your own answers and see if students agree or disagree with your opinions / ideas.

Video transcript

Optional stage: Consider focusing on key words or phrases that your students might not know that are not featured in the While you Watch tasks.

Maryam: Migrants as scapegoats

I'm Maryam, I am 16 years old, and I'm from England. I would say that the government party that are trying to scapegoat immigrants does have an effect on my daily life because my family are immigrants, and I personally find it heartbreaking that just because people come to another country to seek refuge for opportunity, they can be made out to be a villain.

For example, I was born in England, but some people would look at me and assume that I am now in the country illegally and that I am stealing opportunities from people that have a 'right' to have those opportunities because they were born in the country. In my day-to-day life this new political party that are trying to push this negative propaganda and this negative situation, it is really tough because some people aren't really educated on the situation with immigrants.

After Covid the economy took a really big hit, we call it the cost-of-living crisis, and this new party has been able to weaponize that and turn the people people against immigrants by saying: 'why should you suffer because of the cost-of-living crisis?' 'Why are you living in poverty when these immigrants are just coming into 'our' country and stealing 'our' jobs?

I'd say innocent people are being made out to be people that they are not.