

Thousands of young Britons hurt in knife crime

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PRE-READING

1. Complete the sentences below. Discuss your ideas in class and give reasons for your answers.

- a) Thousands of young Britons hurt in _____
- b) Children as young as 12 now carry _____, say police.

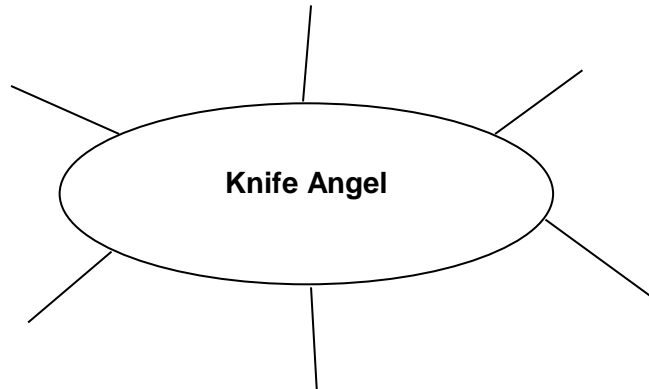


| Photo: Picture alliance

- 2.
- a) Describe the picture above with a partner.
 - b) Speculate on the meaning of this figure.
 - c) Have a look at the picture and ask your partner as many questions as you can.
 - d) Describe what you feel when you look at the picture.

3. In the article you are going to read, it says “This Christmas, a very special angel stands outside Liverpool Cathedral. The 8.2-metre-high figure is made up of ...”. Collect and discuss ideas about what this angel is made up of.

4. What do you associate with “Knife Angel”? Collect your ideas in a cluster.



READING COMPREHENSION

1. Sum up the facts given in the article about knife crime.

or

Sum up the facts given about knife crime by completing the following grid.

General tendency in the last five years	
Number of deaths in 2018 (by the end of November)	
Number of woundings in 2018 (by the end of November)	
Places where knife crimes occurred	

2. Find out and explain what the article says about the reasons for the rise in knife crime.

Reason	Explanation

3. Find and list the four reasons why young children join a gang or start dealing drugs as mentioned in the article.

4. Find out what the article says about carrying a knife in Britain. Which knives are legal and which types are illegal?

POST-READING

1. Write a letter to Alfie Bradley, telling him what you think about his idea of designing the “Knife Angel”.
2. Comment on whether you can understand the reasons for a rise in knife crime as mentioned in the article.
3. The article mentions youth services. Describe your idea of what a good youth service would be.
4. Give a short report on the youth service(s) in the area where you live.
5. The article mentions “other problems at home” as one reason for knife crimes. Discuss what these problems could be.
6. Discuss the punishment for carrying a knife in public.
7. There are many other problems people should be aware of. Alfie Bradley designed the “Knife Angel” as one example. What could be done to point to other problems? Collect ideas and discuss them in class.
8. Discuss whether it is effective to publish an article such as this one in order to reduce knife crime.
9. Discuss who could benefit from reading such an article.

ANSWER KEY

READING COMPREHENSION

1.

General tendency in the last five years	Knife violence has been rising
Number of deaths in 2018 (by the end of November)	37 children
Number of woundings (by the end of November)	69,000
Places where the crimes occurred	Disadvantaged areas of cities like London, Birmingham, Coventry

2.

Reason	Explanation
Drug dealing leads to ...	young people carrying knives for protection.
Influence of social media/smartphones:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is easier for young people to get into arguments that can end fatally. • Social media is used for drug dealing, which is connected to gang warfare and knife violence.
Cuts in services for young people ...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • lead to a lack of legal opportunities for young people. • reduces the number of places where young people can meet and take part in constructive activities.
Cuts in funds for the police ...	leads to an increase in knife crime.

3.

Not being good (enough) at school
Being excluded from school
Poverty
Problems at home

4. Except for a folding pocket knife, you are not allowed to carry a knife in public without a very good reason. Offenders can be sent to prison for a maximum of four years.

Hinweis: Sie können Ihre Vorlage aus dem Read On Übungsmaterial für Ihren eigenen Unterricht gerne vervielfältigen. Ihre Zugangsdaten dürfen Sie jedoch nicht an Dritte weitergeben. Jede Art der Mehrfachnutzung Ihres persönlichen Abos verstößt gegen das Urheberrecht.