

Text 1

The Road to Wigan Pier

by George Orwell (1937)

1

When I came home on leave in 1927 I was already half determined to throw up my job, and one sniff of English air decided me. I was not going back to be a part of that evil despotism. But I wanted much more than merely to escape from my job. For five years I had been part of an oppressive system, and it had left me
5 with a bad conscience. Innumerable remembered faces – faces of prisoners in the dock, of men waiting in the condemned cells, of subordinates I had bullied and aged peasants I had snubbed, of servants and coolies I had hit with my fist in moments of rage (nearly everyone does these things in the East, at any rate occasionally: Orientals can be very provoking) – haunted me intolerably.

2

10 I was conscious of an immense weight of guilt that I had got to expiate¹. I suppose that sounds exaggerated; but if you do for five years a job that you thoroughly disapprove of, you will probably feel the same. I had reduced everything to the simple theory that the oppressed are always right and the oppressors are always wrong: a mistaken theory, but the natural result of being one of the oppressors
15 yourself. I felt that I had got to escape not merely from imperialism but from every form of man's dominion over man.

3

I wanted to submerge myself, to get right down among the oppressed, to be one of them and on their side against their tyrants. And, chiefly because I had had to think everything out in solitude, I had carried my hatred of oppression to
20 extraordinary lengths. At that time failure seemed to me to be the only virtue. Every suspicion of self-advancement, even to 'succeed' in life to the extent of making a few hundreds a year, seemed to me spiritually ugly, a species of bullying.

¹ to expiate – to make amends for, to correct

- It was in this way that my thoughts turned towards English working class. It was the first time that I had ever been really aware of the working class, and to begin with it was only because they supplied an analogy. They were the symbolic victims of injustice, playing the same part in England as the Burmese played in Burma. In Burma the issue had been quite simple. The whites were up and the blacks were down, and therefore as a matter of course one's sympathy was with the blacks. I now realized that there was no need to go as far as Burma to find tyranny and exploitation. Here in England, down under one's feet, were the submerged working class, suffering miseries which in their different way were as bad as any an Oriental ever knows. The word 'unemployment' was on everyone's lips. That was more or less new to me, after Burma, but the drivel² which the middle classes were still talking ('These unemployed are all unemployables', etc., etc.) failed to deceive me. I often wonder whether that kind of stuff deceives even the fools who utter it.

516 words

Arbeitsaufträge zu Text 1

1. Read the text "The Road to Wigan Pier" and the headings below. Then decide which heading fits each paragraph best and put the correct number into the line next to it. There are **three more headings** than you need. 4 BE

Number	Heading
	The discovery of similarities at home
	Return to Burma
	Taking on a new personality
	Search for relief
	Unpleasant and vexing memories
	Struggling with oppression and success
	Reflecting the British Empire

² drivel - nonsense

2. State briefly how the following statements are expressed in the text "The Road to Wigan Pier" and where they are found (lines). 4 BE

2.1. George Orwell was determined to make a completely new start in life:

2.2. Orwell wanted to clear his conscience and compensate for his wrong behaviour:

2.3. He detested any sort of progress.

2.4. English working-class people reminded George Orwell of the underdogs he had met in Burma.

Text 2

Key facts about U.S. immigration policies and Biden's proposed changes

by Jens Manuel Krogstad and Ana Gonzalez-Barrera (2022)

Since President Joe Biden took office in January 2021, his administration has acted on a number of fronts to reverse Trump-era restrictions on immigration to the United States. The steps include plans to boost refugee admissions, preserving deportation relief for unauthorized immigrants who came to the U.S. as children and not enforcing the "public charge" rule that denies green cards to immigrants who might use public benefits like Medicaid.

Biden has also lifted restrictions established early in the coronavirus pandemic that drastically reduced the number of visas issued to immigrants. The number of people who received a green card declined from about 240,000 in the second quarter of the 2020 fiscal year (January to March) to about 79,000 in the third quarter (April to June). By comparison, in the third quarter of fiscal 2019, nearly 266,000 people received a green card.

Biden's biggest immigration proposal to date would allow more new immigrants into the U.S. while giving millions of unauthorized immigrants who are already in the country a pathway to legal status. The expansive legislation would create an eight-year path to citizenship for the nation's estimated 10.5 million unauthorized immigrants, update the existing family-based immigration system, revise employment-based visa rules and increase the number of diversity visas. By contrast, President Donald Trump's administration sought to restrict legal immigration in a variety of ways, including through legislation that would have overhauled the nation's legal immigration system by sharply reducing family-based immigration.

The Senate is considering several immigration provisions in a spending bill, the Build Back Better Act, that the House passed in November 2021. While
25 passage of the bill is uncertain – as is the inclusion of immigration reforms in the bill's final version – the legislation would make about 7 million unauthorized immigrants eligible to apply for protection from deportation, work permits and driver's licenses.

Amid a record number of migrant encounters at the U.S.-Mexico border,
30 Biden reinstated in December 2021 a Trump-era policy that requires those who arrive at the U.S.-Mexico border and seek asylum to wait in Mexico while their claims are processed. Biden had earlier ended the Migration Protection Protocols, or "Remain in Mexico" policy, and then restarted it after the U.S. Supreme Court upheld a lawsuit by Texas and Missouri that challenged the
35 program's closure. Asylum seekers do not receive a legal status that allows them to live and work in the U.S. until the claim is approved.

Overall, more than 35 million lawful immigrants live in the U.S.; most are American citizens. Many live and work in the country after being granted lawful permanent residence, while others receive temporary visas available to students
40 and workers. In addition, roughly 1 million unauthorized immigrants have temporary permission to live and work in the U.S. through the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals and Temporary Protected Status programs.

480 words

Arbeitsaufträge zu Text 2

3. Read the text about U.S. immigration policies and then circle or write briefly the correct answer. You need not write full sentences. There is only one correct answer. 10 BE

3.1. In general, President Biden's immigration policy is in comparison to the Trump-era... (1 BE)

- a more restrictive.
- b more liberal.
- c similar in its approach.
- d more supportive of deportations.

3.2. The number of visas issued fell strongly from the third quarter of 2019 in comparison to the third quarter of 2020 because of... (1 BE)

- a Biden taking over the presidency from Trump.
- b Trump's restrictive immigration policy.
- c constraints because of COVID 19.
- d less visa applications.

3.3. President Biden's proposal to deal with the illegal immigrants already living in the U.S. is... (1 BE)

- a to grant a general amnesty, legalizing all of them.
- b to enforce deportations more consequently.
- c to give them the chance for legal status while curbing family-based immigration.
- d to create an opportunity for naturalization after eight years.

3.4. Point out the main difference between Trump's and Biden's policy in the approach towards family-based immigration. (1 BE)

3.5. Describe the current legal status of the Build Back Better Act. Mention two aspects. (2 BE)

3.6. Migrants at the U.S. - Mexican border... (1 BE)

- a arrived at the border at an all-time high number in December 2021.
- b are now treated less restrictively than under the Trump administration.
- c may enter the U.S. to apply for an asylum-seekers status.
- d may not enter the U.S. legally once recognized as asylum-seekers.

3.7. Name two aspects about the 35 million lawful immigrants in the U.S. (2 BE)

3.8. As far as the author's attitude towards immigration is concerned, the tone of the article is... (1 BE)

- a hostile towards immigration.
- b matter-of-fact.
- c supportive towards immigration.
- d ironic towards the immigration policy of the Trump-Administration.