

Worksheet 1.7b: Fill the gaps

1. Read the text below.
2. Use the words in the box to fill in the gaps.

policy dignity tolerance diversity respect
society law mutual discrimination prejudice
historical equality integration democracy

What is mutual respect and why is it necessary in a diverse society?

'Mutual (1) _____' means respecting others and getting their respect in return. What does this actually mean in everyday life though?

(2) _____ respect is about having (3) _____ when you don't do things in the same way as someone else. For example, John might tolerate Saima's choice to smoke cigarettes, even though his uncle died of lung cancer.

However, mutual respect is about more than just tolerance. It also involves challenging unfair thoughts about groups or individuals ((4) '_____'). In addition, it is about making sure that everyone is treated with (5) _____

Treating others with dignity is an important part of living in a (6) _____. In a democratic (7) _____ like the UK, it is vital that every (8) _____ and (9) _____ is fair. Organisations are then much more likely to avoid (10) _____ and to ensure that everyone has access to the same rights. This is known as (11) _____.

Unfortunately, there are many (12) _____ examples of what goes wrong when (13) _____ is not celebrated. Hitler's treatment of Jewish people (and other minority groups) was caused by not accepting other people's way of life. Hitler did not believe in mutual respect. He did not want (14) _____ between people with different religions and skin colours.

Although the Nazi party is an extreme example, many problems arise when people don't respect each other's choices and lifestyles. These problems include bullying in schools and hate crime (e.g. sexist graffiti). A lack of mutual respect is very dangerous, because people then begin to rely on stereotypes. This leads to qualified people losing out on jobs, innocent citizens getting convicted of crimes and neighbours ignoring each other's problems.

In summary, mutual respect is a win-win situation for everyone. Individuals, families, shops, schools, hospitals, political parties, countries and so on, all benefit when respect works in two directions!