

Are we the lost generation?

According _____ (1) a damning recent UNICEF report there is a crisis amongst the Spanish youth, “the lost generation” they call them. With a high school dropout _____ (2) of almost 25 percent, and one of the highest youth unemployment rates in Europe, are things really as grim as they would like to make _____ (3)? In spite of the recent upward turn of the Spanish economy, the 7 long years of recession have obviously taken their toll _____ (4) the workforce, it is pretty tough for those trying to buy a home and salaries are at an all time low compared to the cost of living. The famous state exams have been frozen for _____ (5) years so movement in the job market can be frustrating and has forced many workers to look for opportunities elsewhere. What is most worrying is the supposed child poverty ratio. Although data is easily misinterpreted, the effects are _____ (6) and many households, especially in the south of Spain, struggle to feed and clothe their kids to the same standard as they could in the 90's with child spending down 15% since 2010. The Spanish economy is improving, but _____ (7) like in most capitalist societies, the richest 1% is benefiting and the workers are feeling most of the effects. In fact the poverty game is far higher than the government likes to make out. The future's looking brighter for Spain, but what is to be seen is whom will most benefit from this, and also if the worker's unions will _____ (8) their fingers out and tackle the large enterprises that are exploiting some of the younger workforce. If our generation will be able to get a mortgage in the future is yet to be seen.

Choose the best word from the following options:

- | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|-------------|------------|
| 1. A. for | B. at | C. with | D. to |
| 2. A. pace | B. rate | C. rhythm | D. amount |
| 3. A. out | B. up | C. for | D. around |
| 4. A. for | B. with | C. on | D. of |
| 5. A. too many | B. several | C. too much | D. long |
| 6. A. normal | B. comforting | C. evident | D. obvious |
| 7. A. even | B. as | C. just | D. like |
| 8. A. pull | B. look | C. run | D. take |

Answers:

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