

VIOLENT TEENS



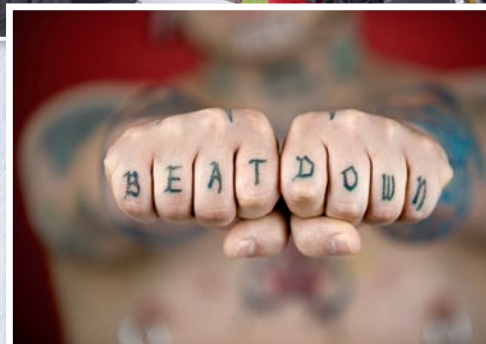
READING

17 K Read the special report by Rupert Morgan, which recently appeared in the paper "Today". Choose the best word (a, b or c) for each space.

YOUNG, BRITISH AND VIOLENT

Bored and violent adolescents in the streets: they don't know what to do and where to go. Why is Britain afraid of its young people?

In many British towns, adults look at (1) with suspicion and fear. Britain has a long history of troubled youth: in the 1950s the Teddy Boys, in the 1960s Mods and Rockers, in the 1970s Skinheads. Today, people are afraid of violent (2) of "feral teens". Tilly Webb, 14, recently interviewed in *The Guardian*, said: "People believe we are all yobs with (3) in our pockets". Of course, a lot of kids are good, but others aren't, and it's difficult to tell the difference. Duke Amory, a 15-year-old boy above suspicion from a respectable family, was arrested as a murder suspect while he (4) in a Megastore because he matched the image of a youth the (5) were looking for. To "feral teens", aggression is just for fun. A London yob said to a journalist: "We are there, with nothing to do. Intimidating people is the only thing we can do. Then we laugh, when they (6) away". Unfortunately that kind of fun can easily pass from intimidation to violence. According to Prime Minister Gordon Brown, "kids are out of control; they are roaming the streets; they're out late at (7). Parents don't take (8) responsibility for their children. The situation is very (9), because these teens have an empty daily life".



suspicion and fear = sospetto e paura
feral = selvaggio
yob = teppista (è la parola boy scritta al contrario, in senso dispregiativo)
match = corrispondere a
intimidate = intimidire
roam = vagabondare

- | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. a. old people | b. teenagers | c. policemen |
| 2. a. gangs | b. tribes | c. people |
| 3. a. money | b. mobiles | c. knives |
| 4. a. shopped | b. was shopping | c. is shopping |
| 5. a. police | b. parents | c. teachers |
| 6. a. ran | b. were running | c. run |
| 7. a. weekend | b. night | c. midday |
| 8. a. a | b. some | c. any |
| 9. a. worried | b. dangerous | c. easy |





LISTENING

18 **1.31** This is a real confession of a crime. Listen to Sean, a gang leader, and complete the sentences.

1. Sean is years old.
2. He lives with his mother and
3. Last time he went to school was ago.
4. The event happened at
5. Sean was in the car park in front of a
6. Sean and his friends didn't want to
7. The two girls were going to their car and they were
8. Sean attacked the girls because he wanted to have some
9. He didn't know what he was
10. When the Security arrived, he was holding



WRITING

19 **ES** Write a report about violent teenagers. Answer the questions:

1. Do you think that Sean's case is rare?
2. Do you know if similar events happen in your town?
3. Do you think that young people are so bad?
4. In your opinion, what are the reasons for their behaviour?
5. Do you worry about your safety while you are walking around your town?
6. Can you describe an experience you had, when you were the victim of an unpleasant event?

Use the prompts:

- where you were
- who was with you
- what you were doing
- what happened
- how it finished



SPOKEN PRODUCTION/INTERACTION

20 Tell your classmates the content of your report. Discuss your and their opinions, giving reasons.

