THEY HAVEN'T GOT FREE TIME

READING

15 ES Leggi i due articoli relativi alle giornate di una ragazzina cinese e di un ragazzino indiano e rispondi alle domande.
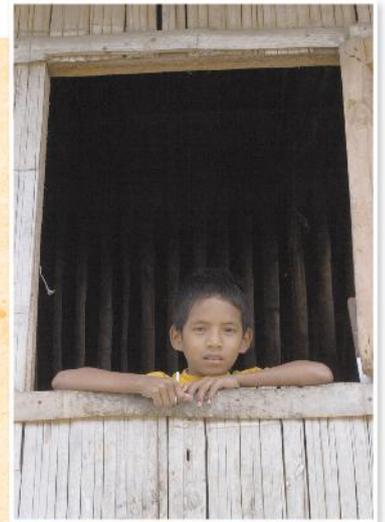
Lee is Chinese. She's 13 years old and she comes from a local village. At the moment she is staying in Wuhan, a big industrial city on the river Yangtze. She is "learning a trade" in return for food and money. She is one of the "baby-face workers", young teenagers who work 16 hours a day (from Monday to Sunday!) at sewing machines in small workshops with little ventilation. The boss sometimes plays loud music to keep them awake. Lee says: "I am sometimes so tired that I don't notice that I am pricking my finger with the needle, but I know I am learning a job, and that can buy food for my family. Some boys from my village are in the town to collect rubbish. Compared with them, I don't have a problem".

learn a trade = imparare un mestiere
sewing machines = macchine da cucire
keep awake = tenere svegli
notice = notare, accorgersi
prick = pungersi
needle = ago
collect rubbish = raccogliere immondizia

At Umblikaampatti, in Salem District, India, children go to work not for money, but for water. Children between the ages of 5 and 10 get up at 4.00 a.m. and go to the farms, carrying empty buckets. Kumar, a 10-year-old boy, says: "We leave around 4.30 a.m. In the farm we work until nearly 8.00; all the time we collect jasmine buds and put them in the buckets. Sometimes we fill a lot of buckets, sometimes not many, it depends. But if we stop when we are working, the boss thumps us in the head and shouts at us to get back to work". After work the children run to school but they are so tired that they often fall asleep during the lessons. The children are paid one or two rupees a day, depending on the quantity of buds collected. With the money their families can buy water. Kumar says: "We haven't got any free time. Today is Sunday, we are collecting stones to fill bore buckets".
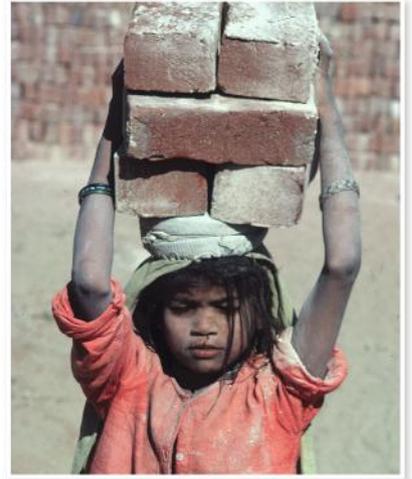
leave = partire
carry empty buckets = portare secchi vuoti
jasmine buds = boccioli di gelsomino
fill = riempire
thump = dare pugni
shout = urlare
fall asleep = addormentarsi
paid = pagati
rupee = rupia
stones = pietre
bore = bucato

1. In what city is Lee working?
2. How many hours a day does she work?
3. Why is she learning a job?
4. In Salem District, why do children go to work?
5. What do they do in the farms?
6. What does the boss do when they stop working?
7. Do the children go to school?
8. What does Kumar do on Sundays?

SPOKEN INTERACTION

16 **K** Lavora con un compagno. Scegli l'articolo su Lee oppure l'articolo su Kumar dell'esercizio 15. A turno, chiedi informazioni e rispondi. Utilizza gli spunti per le domande e prendi nota delle risposte. Se è necessario, puoi rileggere l'articolo.

1. How old?
2. Where / from?
3. Where / work?
4. What / do?

5. What / the boss / do?
6. Go / school?
7. What / do / when tired?
8. What / do / on Sunday?

WRITING

17 Questa volta, senza più guardare l'articolo, ma solo utilizzando gli appunti, prova a riscrivere la storia di Lee o di Kumar.

LISTENING

18 (2.36) **K** Ascolta l'intervista che una giornalista inglese fa a Mohmoud, un ragazzo iracheno, nell'ambito di un'indagine sul lavoro minorile, poi indica la risposta corretta (A, B o C).

1. Mohmoud is .... years old.
☐ **A:** 10   ☐ **B:** 11   ☐ **C:** 12

2. There are .... people in his family.
☐ **A:** 4   ☐ **B:** 5   ☐ **C:** 6

3. He gets up at .... every morning.
☐ **A:** 4.30   ☐ **B:** 5.00   ☐ **C:** 7.00

4. He works at a ....
☐ **A:** carpentry factory   ☐ **B:** farm   ☐ **C:** large industry

5. He works 10 hours ....
☐ **A:** a month   ☐ **B:** a week   ☐ **C:** a day

6. He doesn't go to school because ....
☐ **A:** he can't read or write   ☐ **B:** he doesn't like studying   ☐ **C:** he hasn't got time

7. A lot of Iraqi children leave school between ....
☐ **A:** 9 and 14   ☐ **B:** 8 and 15   ☐ **C:** 7 and 13

8. They are working because ....
☐ **A:** they have a lot of free time   ☐ **B:** their families are poor   ☐ **C:** they need pocket money

9. In Baghdad, street children are ....
☐ **A:** smoking cigarettes   ☐ **B:** selling newspapers   ☐ **C:** cleaning the streets

10. Mohmoud hopes one day he can ....
☐ **A:** get a good job   ☐ **B:** solve the social problems in Iraq   ☐ **C:** start studying

WRITING

19 Usa le affermazioni dell'esercizio 18 per scrivere l'intervista a Mohmoud. Inizia così:

– How old are you?   – I'm...   – How many people are there in your family?   – There are...