EXTENDED WRITING: POVERTY

B2 | Adults / Teens | Discussion Writing | 20–30 minutes | Set 2

Write developed answers. Support your ideas with reasons, examples, or a personal experience.

1. What is poverty?

2. Is there much poverty in your country?

3. What can people and governments do to reduce poverty?

4. Are poor people simply lazier than rich people?

5. What is a poverty line?

6. What is the minimum income someone needs each month to survive?

7. What would you do if you suddenly lost everything?

8. Is the gap between rich and poor increasing? Why?

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Possible B2 answers: Notice how each response gives a clear idea and support.

1. What is poverty?

Example: Poverty means lacking enough income or resources to meet basic needs such as housing, food, healthcare and education. It can also limit a person’s choices and security.

2. Is there much poverty in your country?

Example: There is visible poverty where I live, especially among people struggling with rent. I don't know the national rate, but seeing local food banks makes the issue feel close to home.

3. What can people and governments do to reduce poverty?

Example: Governments can provide fair wages, affordable housing, education and access to healthcare. Individuals can support effective charities and challenge unfair assumptions about poverty.

4. Are poor people simply lazier than rich people?

Example: No. People’s opportunities are shaped by education, health, family circumstances and local employment. Hard work matters, but it does not remove every barrier.

5. What is a poverty line?

Example: A poverty line is an income level below which a person or family is considered unable to meet essential needs. It should reflect local costs, not just a single global figure.

6. What is the minimum income someone needs each month to survive?

Example: I can't give one amount without knowing the place and household size. I'd first estimate basic food, housing and transport costs, because a figure that works in one town may fail elsewhere.

7. What would you do if you suddenly lost everything?

Example: I would contact family, public services and local support organisations immediately. The practical priority would be finding safe housing and protecting important documents.

8. Is the gap between rich and poor increasing? Why?

Example: I don't know whether the gap is increasing in my country; I'd want to check reliable figures. Expensive housing worries me because people without savings may find it harder to build security.