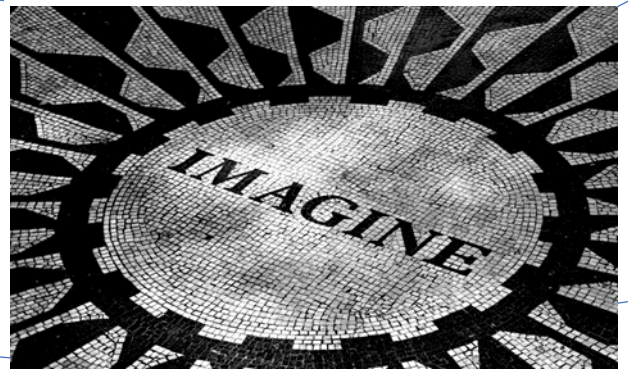
New Internationalist
The world unspun

Steps to World Peace

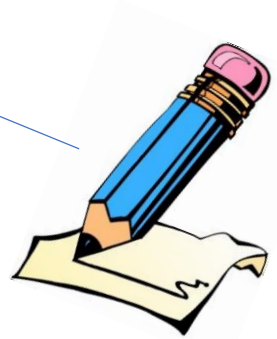
New Internationalist Easier English

Ready Upper Intermediate Lesson

this lesson



grammar



Who is he? What do you know about him?

Creative commons

Imagine there's no (1) _____
It's easy if you try
No (2) _____ below us
Above us only sky
Imagine all the people
Living for (3) _____... Aha-ah...

Imagine there's no (4) _____
It isn't hard to do
Nothing to kill or die for
And no (5) _____, too
Imagine all the people
Living life in (6) _____...

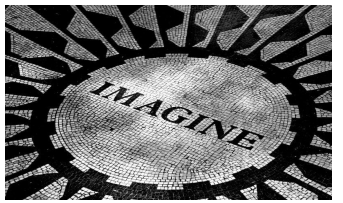
Chorus:

You may say I'm a dreamer
But I'm not the only one
I hope someday you'll join us
And the world will live as (7)

_____

Imagine no (8) _____
I wonder if you can
No need for(9) _____ or (10)

_____
A brotherhood of man
Imagine all the people
Sharing all the world...



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vqLH44X1DcI

Creative commons

Make a list of things that need to be done to make the world more peaceful…

Match:

1) conflict
2) corrupt
3) arms
4) neglect (n)
5) aggression
6) rebel (adj)
7) poverty
8) marginalised
9) cooperation
10) treaty

a) not honest, eg bribery
b) living on the edge of society
c) having very little or no money or possessions
d) fighting, strong disagreement, war
e)
f) violent action
g) taking action against the system
h) helping one another
i) not looking after someone
j) a signed agreement between countries

Part One: Discuss what you think the answers might be and then read to check:

1) **The police often create social problems. True/false?**
2) **One or two dishonest people can affect others. True/false?**
3) **It is necessary for governments to look after their citizens better. True/false?**
4) **Newspapers and TV cause conflict. True/false?**
5) **Gender inequality causes more problems for society than a weak economy. True/false?**
6) **Cooperation between people is short lived when women engage in peace projects. True/false?**
7) **Sharing wealth between people in society does not reduce conflict. True/false?**
8) **When the rich do not pay their taxes, it creates conflict. True/false?**
9) **In East Africa the effects of climate change are creating disagreements over natural resources. True/false?**
10) **Climate change is less of a problem for the world than arms. True/false?**

1 First, we must stop exclusion

Evidence shows that conflict happens in places where people can't trust the police or get access to justice. And a corrupt few people steal other people's possibilities of a good life. Governments everywhere need to start respecting their people and stop the neglect and abuse of their own people. We must challenge the media and others that talk about 'them-and-us' so that we can stop spreading hate.

2 Have true equality between women and men

Research in Valerie Hudson's *Sex and World Peace* (2012) says that the larger the gender inequality in a country, the more likely it is to be involved in violent conflict. Gender inequality is more likely than GDP, the level of democracy, or ethnic-religious identity, to bring conflict. But when women take part in peace processes, peace is more likely to last longer.

3 Share wealth fairly

A World Bank survey says 40 per cent of people who join rebel groups do so because they have no economic opportunities. Poverty is important here - more equal societies have high levels of trust and low levels of violence. Economic fairness in public resources, taxation, and tax evasion is also important. The transfer of wealth from rich to poor, and not from poor to rich, improves security for everyone.

4 Take action on climate change

Ecological stress from global warming makes conflicts over resources such as land and water worse, particularly in East Africa. The UN climate agreement shows that the world can take action on and help crises by co-operation, and not war. Dan Smith, from the leading arms-control thinktank SIPRI, says a climate agreement 'is the greatest peace deal the world could have.'

Part two:
Match the titles to the paragraphs:

Title:	Paragraphs
(a) Improve relations between generations	**(5)**
(b) Look at yourself	**(6)**
(c) Protect political space	**(7)**
(d) **Control arms sales**	**(8)**

5

More arms sales and money spent on the military makes world stress worse. More arms drives conflict and makes violence more likely. Those who sign arms treaties must do what they promise as we build evidence of violations and hold arms sellers responsible. We can also build support for a new treaty that bans nuclear weapons and makes it illegal to have or use them.

6

If governments want young, marginalized people to accept an open society and not follow violent ways, they must allow public disagreement. Across the world we must defend the right to disagree and show dissent. We must defend these rights from regulation, misuse of anti-terrorist measures, arrests and imprisonment with no reason, and even torture and murder.

7

We can understand that a lot of conflict is a revolt by young people against the corrupt systems run usually by older men. In countries where age rules, young people can't talk about what makes them angry. This makes a dangerous situation, says researcher and peacebuilder Chitra Nagarajan. This is worse when there is victim-blaming, which sees young men as a ticking time bomb.

8

Peace starts with you. Ordinary people can make a difference. When was the last time you said sorry? Think about who loses when you win. Are the people around you heard and respected or marginalized, ignored, and left out? Make a decision to care about what happens to them. Start a positive conversation with someone you disagree with. Challenge 'them-and-us' thinking in yourself as well as in others. Every one of us can choose to make society more just and peaceful, or more unjust and warlike.

Put these in order of importance with the most important first and discuss why:

a) **government respect for its people**
b) **gender equality**
c) **sharing wealth**
d) **action on climate change**
e) **banning nuclear weapons**
f) **allowing disagreement**

Now write sentences comparing how important these ideas are using the comparison words in red and saying why?

a) **government respect for its people**
b) **gender equality**
c) **sharing wealth**
d) **action on climate change**
e) **banning nuclear weapons**
f) **allowing disagreement**

far more

nowhere near as…. as

by far the most

because…

Grammar

"If there were no possessions, we would have to share."

(A) Meaning

(1) Is the sentence talking about the past? Yes/no?

(2) Is the sentence talking about an imaginary present or future? Yes/no?

(3) Do you agree with the sentence?

(B) Form

(1) Is this grammar summary correct? Yes/no?

If + past simple + would + infinitive

(2) Is this an example of the first, second, or third conditional?

(3) Do we need a comma after the if clause? Yes/no?

Make sentences using *If* and the second conditional:

(1) If…. no religions,…..

(2) no countries

(3) no nuclear weapons

(4) gender equality

(5) no poverty

(6) international climate treaty

(7) cooperation between nations

Put two or three of these words together in sentences

1) conflict
2) corrupt
3) arms
4) neglect (n)
5) aggression
6) rebel (adj)
7) poverty
8) marginalised
9) cooperation
10) treaty

Homework

Read the original article:

https://newint.org/features/2018/09/18/10-steps-world-peace

Make a poster with a list of the five most important steps to world peace and an explanation of each.