**JETSTREAM B2.1 FOR THE 12TH GRADE**

***TRANSCRIPT***

**TEST 9, UNIT 9**

**Professor:** All right then everyone, let’s get started. Our topic today is immigration. Immigration is a difficult and often controversial issue, and one which many countries around the world have to grapple with – especially now, with the huge number of refugees escaping from war and brutality in their own countries. Today, I’m going to restrict my talk to immigration in the EU.

In 2013, 3.4 million people emigrated to one of the EU member states. That is more than the population of one small country – a country like Lithuania, for example – and that’s just for one year alone. Let’s quickly look at where all these immigrants went, which countries took in the most, relative to population size. As you would expect, the three biggest countries in the EU took most of the new people. Germany took in the most refugees that year, and continues to do so – 692.7 thousand immigrants were taken in by the Germans in 2013. Next, the UK, which is much smaller than Germany in terms of land size and population – 64.5 million people as opposed to Germany’s 81 million – took in 526 thousand new arrivals. France also took in a lot of people – 332.6 thousand. But the biggest surprise here is Luxembourg, one of the smallest countries in the EU – actually the second smallest after Malta, with a population of barely half a million people – Luxembourg welcomed 39 people for every 1000 people in its population.

Opinions across the EU differ sharply about the effect that mass immigration has. In Sweden, which has a proud history of accepting refugees and asylum seekers from other countries, there has been a sharp increase in anti-immigration political parties since people there are becoming worried about the pressure exerted on the country’s famous welfare state. In the Mediterranean countries like Greece and Italy, which immigrants go to first on the chance that from there they can more easily make it to another country in the Union so as to find work, while some people do their best to help people trying to get into the country, others are fiercely antagonistic towards the same people and are doing everything they can to keep their borders secure, even forcefully returning immigrants who make it.

In the UK those who argue in favour of immigration say that because the country has always accepted immigrants, they have enriched the national mood, character and culture. They point out that the vast number of immigrants want to work and so contribute to the country’s taxable wealth. Opponents of immigration, however, say that these immigrants are ‘economic migrants’, that they bring crime and other difficulties and that they are a drain on the nation’s resources such as the health service and other social benefits which British citizens are entitled to...

**TEST 10, UNIT 10**

**Sue:** So who is your all-time favourite villain then?

**Clive:** Oh, without a doubt it’s Hans Gruber from the movie Die Hard.

**Sue:** Oh, I don’t know it.

**Clive:** You don’t know Die Hard?

**Sue:** No, is it like a thriller or something?

**Clive:** Yes, it was made in 1988.

**Sue:** Oh well, no wonder I haven’t seen it, it’s really old!

**Clive:** Yes, but it’s a classic.

**Sue:** OK, so tell me about the villain.

**Clive:** He’s played by Alan Rickman, a great British actor. The plot is about a New York cop, played by Bruce Willis who has to save his wife and a whole bunch of other people who have been taken hostage at a Christmas party in an office tower block in L.A. Hans Gruber is the terrorist who has taken them hostage and is threatening to kill them all.

**Sue:** OK, sounds intense.

**Clive:** Yes, it’s really good.

**Sue:** So what’s so great about Alan Rickman?

**Clive:** Oh he’s brilliant. He has this amazing German accent – he’s actually British – but he’s really scary because he’s totally not violent or anything. He’s very quiet, creepy and sadistic, but he never loses his temper, and even makes sarcastic jokes.

**Sue:** Mmmm.

**Clive:** Well, perhaps he doesn’t sound like a villain, but trust me, he’s unforgettable. Unfortunately at the end of the movie he’s killed, so he didn’t get to come back for the sequels, and the villain was played by someone else in the other Die Hard movies.

**Sue:** Too bad.

**Clive:** Yeah. OK, so who is your favourite villain?

**Sue:** My favourite villain is the Joker from the Batman movie?

**Clive:** Seriously? You’re not talking about Jack Nicholson?

**Sue:** Oh no, he’s not good at all.

**Clive:** I can get on board with that!

**Sue:** No, I’m talking about Heath Ledger, in the 2008 version.

**Clive:** Oh, OK, I haven’t seen it. I’ve seen some of the others, but not that one. It seems like they make a new Batman movie every couple of years. I guess they don’t have any new ideas in Hollywood.

**Sue:** It certainly does seem that way, doesn’t it?

**Clive:** So what’s the 2008 version about?

**Sue:** Gotham City has been corrupted by crime, and Batman and the cops are trying to clean up the city by capturing all the criminals. They are fighting crime and doing OK when a new master criminal appears – that’s the Joker – and they have to continue the fight against him.

**Clive:** OK I see. So what’s so special about the Joker?

**Sue:** Well, Heath Ledger plays the Joker as a really cruel psychopath. He’s got all these chilling mannerisms which show how totally insane he is. He’s like completely unpredictable and cold-blooded – not like Jack Nicholson’s performance, where he played him as more calculated and resentful.

**Clive:** I see.

**Sue:** Yeah, he’s really amazing….

**TEST 11, UNIT 11**

**Professor:** We are going to continue our study of suspension bridges today by looking in detail at the construction of one of the most famous suspension bridges in the world: the Golden Gate Bridge.

The bridge was opened in 1937 and for a long time was one of the longest suspension bridges in the world, spanning 8,981 feet from each abutment across the Golden Gate Strait, with the city of San Francisco in the south and Marin County in the North.

**Student:** I thought it was still the longest suspension bridge in the world?

**Professor:** No, well, it was until 1964, but then a suspension bridge in New York – the Verrazano Narrows Bridge – was built, and its span is 60 feet longer than the Golden Gate Bridge.

Let’s look at the specs. The main span of the bridge, that is, the span between the two towers is 4,200 feet long. The height of the towers measured from the surface of the water, is 746 feet, the tallest towers on a suspension bridge until 1998 when the Akashi Kaikyo Bridge in Japan was completed, and the towers on that bridge are 928 feet. The clearance above the water is about 220 feet. The cable that the roadway hangs from is made of 27,572 strands of wire, and there are in total 80,000 miles of cable in the whole bridge, including the suspension cables and vertical suspenders, and there are over a million rivets in the whole thing.

OK, now let’s talk about the history of the construction of the bridge. A proposal for a bridge was first made in 1916, and a call for architects was put out, and an unknown architect called Joseph Strauss responded. Strauss was chief engineer on the project and came up with the first designs, but interestingly, he didn’t know very much about cable suspension design. He was helped by two other engineers, Irving Morrow, who designed the towers and the street furniture such as lighting, railings and walkways. The senior engineer on the project was Charles Ellis, and his job was to work out ways of reducing stress on the bridge. Construction was eventually started in 1933.

**Student:** What do you mean by ‘eventually’?

**Professor:** Well, I say ‘eventually’ because the prehistory of construction is very complex.

**Student:** How so?

**Professor:** Strauss’s first design was rejected, there was a lot of opposition to the bridge from local residents, the Navy, and a local railroad company, and it wasn’t until 1928 that a company was officially formed to oversee financing, design and construction of the bridge. It took another few years to get the financing for the bridge – at a cost of 35 million dollars. The funds were raised by selling bonds, but because of the Wall Street Crash in 1929, people were not eager to buy these new bonds at first. A few years later, the founder of the Bank of America bought up all the bonds, and financing was assured.

**TEST 12, UNIT 12**

**Cindy:** Hi John!

**John:** Hi hi!

**Cindy:** What are you doing?

**John:** I’m just chilling out reading this amazing article about this woman who is going to Mars.

**Cindy:** What, you mean like in a movie?

**John:** No, for real. It says here she is going to be a colonist on Mars.

**Cindy:** Hang on though it can’t be for real, can it? I mean, the technology is not yet advanced enough for that, is it? Isn’t it just a science-fiction story?

**John:** Well, I thought so too, then I clicked on one of the links, and it’s actually really going ahead. It’s a real company, with a real training programme.

**Cindy:** Wait, really?

**John:** Yes. The company is called Mars One and their goal is to colonise Mars. They have asked space scientists to help them do all the research into how to survive life on Mars, and they are designing permanent living spaces and building the technology for sustainable permanent settlement.

**Cindy:** But how are they paying for it?

**John:** They asked for donations on line, and from millionaires.

**Cindy:** They must have raised an enormous amount of money to fund the whole programme, though.

**John:** Yes, I expect millions, billions probably.

**Cindy:** Kind of a waste of money, isn’t it? Because no one would be crazy enough to really go there, would they?

**John:** They invited people to apply to be the first settlers on Mars, and guess what, they had 200,000 applications for 100 places, so I guess some people are crazy enough.

**Cindy:** Well, I guess it will be a nice story to tell your friends when you get back, won’t it?

**John:** No, but that’s just the thing. They are never coming back.

**Cindy:** What?

**John:** The journey there will take at least 10 years, and then they will not have the technology for the return journey.

**Cindy:** But what about their families on Earth?

**John:** They will never see them again.

**Cindy:** Wow, tough. So do you think they can really do it? Or do you think it’s just a dream?

**John:** Actually, I don’t think they can do it for at least another fifty years. The technology is just not there yet.

**TEST 13, UNIT 13**

**Ava:** Morning, John. Oh! What’s wrong with your leg?

**John:** Yeah, my leg’s a bit sore. I did a mud run at the weekend. It was my first one – 5 kilometers! I think I might’ve done something to my knee.

**Ava:** Oh, no! I didn’t realise you’d taken up running.

**John:** Well, I haven’t really… It’s my new girlfriend, you see. We get on really well. But she’s a really keen runner, and she loves doing these mud runner courses. You know how they’ve really taken off recently?

**Ava:** Yeah, my brother did one last month. He loved it!

**John:** Well, I didn’t! I didn’t take to it at all. I mean, I quite like jogging on the pavement or through a park when the sun’s shining and it’s warm. That kind of exercise is quite enjoyable. But a mud run is something else! You have to jump over walls, swing across pools of muddy water, run up hills… It’s madness!

**Ava:** So what did you do to your knee? Did you fall over?

**John:** No, I… jumped off a wall. And when I landed, I twisted my knee. I was in a lot of pain yesterday. My girlfriend hasn’t been very sympathetic… She hasn’t really looked after me at all. I told her she could be a bit more helpful and… then we had an argument. We really fell out. It’s all got me down, to be honest with you.

**Ava:** Oh dear, I’m sorry to hear that.

**John:** Yeah… Anyway, I’m going to the doctor this afternoon. Hopefully there’s nothing seriously wrong with my knee.

**Ava:** I hope so, too. Let me know how you get on.

**TEST 14, UNIT 14**

**Presenter:** Today I’m in the kitchen of Indian Journey – the award-winning restaurant in London, and with me is head chef Raj Bakshi. Thank you for having me, Raj!

**Raj:** You’re very welcome!

**Presenter:** Now, a recent survey found that the favourite dish in the UK is no longer fish and chips. Instead, we all love chicken tikka masala. Why do you think that is?

**Raj:** I think the British have become more adventurous in their taste. They don’t want bland food anymore. They like something a bit spicy, a bit more interesting.

**Presenter:** Now, in front of us are some Indian starters. What are we eating here?

**Raj:** We have paneer – a kind of Indian cheese, and some vegetable samosas.

**Presenter:** Are they hot?

**Raj:** No, I would say medium heat.

**Presenter:** Mmm, delicious!

**Raj:** I’m glad you like them!

**Presenter:** It must take a lot of work to become one of the best restaurants in the UK. Do you come into the kitchen every day?

**Raj:** Not every day, but usually six days a week. I try to have Sundays off so I can spend time with my family. I have two young sons, you see.

**Presenter:** You’re hugely successful now. Have you always wanted to be a chef?

**Raj:** Actually, no. I did a summer job in my uncle’s restaurant when I was about 14. I just loved the noise and the buzz of the kitchen. I haven’t stopped cooking since.

**Presenter:** So, in other words, your job is also your passion!

**Raj:** Exactly so.