

Words by Theme Self-assessment

Complete the article below with the given words from Units 5–8. Make sure your answers are grammatically correct.

competitiveness (n.)

cultivate (v.)

necessity (n.)

demographic (adj.)

down-and-out (adj.)

generosity (n.)

reach out (phr. v.)

surreal (adj.)

turn (something) upside down (idm.)

tycoon (n.)

vacancy (n.)

vulnerable (adj.)

Breaking the cycle of poverty

Education level, gender and races are some of the (1) _____ factors that cause the economic inequality of a city. In Hong Kong, there are some (2) _____ people who cannot even afford their daily (3) _____. Even worse, more people fell into poverty and their lives (4) _____ since the recent economic crisis.

The future generations of the (5) _____ groups have to overcome many challenges existing in the poverty trap. For example, it is very difficult for these poor young people to leave a good impression when they do not even have any presentable clothes for job interviews.

To improve the (6) _____ of these disadvantaged youngsters, some charitable organisations hope to (7) _____ their talents and equip them with important work skills. They approach business (8) _____ for support, including organising more training workshops and providing job (9) _____ for the disadvantaged youngsters.

Give when we can. We can all show our (10) _____ and (11) _____ to the underprivileged—donating to charities, being volunteer teachers or helping to provide equal opportunities to them in any other ways. If we lessen their burden, they can have more access to various educational resources and opportunities to change their fate. With all of the support, the once (12) _____ idea that youngsters from deprived families can escape from poverty would become real.

