



NYS Learning Standard	Career Development and Occupational Studies 1: Career Development English Language Arts 1: Language for Information and Understanding Health, Physical Education, Family and Consumer Sciences 3: Resource Management Math, Science, and Technology 3: Mathematics
Goals	Understand how limited English proficiency impacts people's ability to meet their basic needs. Recognize that people's priorities are often determined by factors beyond their control.
Materials	Several copies of the classified section of the newspaper Cards describing fictional refugee families (prepared in advance)
Activity	<p>Prepare cards with details about fictional refugee families arriving in the community. Develop one card per family. Each card details the family's work experience, ages, relationships, levels of English proficiency, and resettlement allocation based on \$400 per person. Here is an example, based on a real refugee family.</p> <p><b>Refugee Family A</b> Country of origin: Somalia Family resettlement allocation: \$1200 Head of family: Woman, 24, completed some high school, worked as a clerk, speaks little English, drives Family members: Woman, 23 (cousin, completed 6th grade, experience farming, no English; Child, 8 months (son)</p> <p>Students may work individually or in pairs. Give each a card and the classified ad section of the newspaper. Students must use the classified ads to find appropriate jobs, housing, and transportation for their family. Encourage students to share resources by teaming up with other families.</p> <p>While looking for ads, students make a list of words in the ads that might be particularly difficult for non-native speakers of English, such as technical vocabulary, idioms, expressions, etc.</p> <p>Students present the information they've gathered to the class.</p> <p>After the activity, students discuss some of the economic and linguistic challenges refugees face when they move to the United States. Chart these challenges and brainstorm strategies for overcoming them.</p>
Extension	Students design an orientation program for newly arrived refugees. The program should include instruction on how to use the newspaper to find the information they need to begin life in the area. Students develop a picture dictionary to share with refugees as part of the orientation.