

'Jungle' refugee camp in Calais closed

Elementary

1 Warmer

Answer the questions.

- How far is it from the French coast at Calais to the English coast at Dover?
 - 23km
 - 33km
- Where is Calais?
 - north-west France
 - south-west France
- Which is the busiest port in Europe?
 - London
 - Rotterdam
- When did the civil war in Syria begin?
 - 2001
 - 2011

2 Key words

Fill the gaps in the sentences with these key words from the text. The paragraph numbers will help you.

hide

hut

refugee

ferry

visa

- A _____ is someone who leaves their country, especially because of a war. (para 1)
- A _____ is a ship that carries cars and lorries between two places. (para 2)
- A _____ is an official document or mark in your passport that allows you to travel to another country. (para 3)
- If you _____, you go somewhere where people cannot see you or find you. (para 3)
- A _____ is a small, simple building, usually made of wood. (para 4)

3 Find the information

Find the following information in the text as quickly as possible.

- When did the Channel Tunnel open?
- When did the first refugees arrive in Calais?
- At that time, which three countries were most of the refugees from?
- How many people were in the 'Jungle' camp in November, 2015?
- How many children aged 16 or under were in the camp in July, 2016?
- When did the French authorities begin to move the refugees from the camp?

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'Jungle' refugee camp in Calais closed by the French authorities

8 December, 2016

- 1 The 'Jungle' refugee camp in Calais, which was home to around 7,000 refugees waiting to cross to England, has now been completely closed by the French authorities. They have moved the refugees to reception centres in different regions of France.
- 2 The port of Calais is just 33km from the English coast. It is the busiest passenger port in France. It is used every day by thousands of cars and lorries, which cross by ferry to England. There is also a railway crossing to England through the Channel Tunnel (37km long), which opened in 1994. The first refugees arrived in Calais in 1999, mostly from Afghanistan, Somalia and Eritrea. Later, in 2011, when the civil war in Syria began, many Syrians also came to Calais.
- 3 Most of the refugees in Calais wanted to go to England but, without visas, they were not able to travel there. Their only way to get to England was to try to hide in lorries or cars crossing to England or to get onto trains or ferries. Hundreds of police were sent to Calais to stop them doing this.
- 4 By November, 2015, the number of refugees in the 'Jungle' camp was around 6,000. By July, 2016, there were more than 7,000, including 750 minors (children aged 16 or under). Apart from tents and wooden huts, the 'Jungle' also had shops, a medical centre and even a school but living conditions were very poor and many of the refugees became ill. In October, 2016, the French authorities began to move the refugees from the camp and it was closed at the beginning of November.

4 Comprehension check

Match the beginnings to the endings to make statements about the text.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. The port of Calais ... | a. ... many of the refugees became ill. |
| 2. Thousands of cars and lorries ... | b. ... at the beginning of November, 2016. |
| 3. Refugees tried to get to England by ... | c. ... is only 33km from the English coast. |
| 4. Living conditions in the camp were very poor so ... | d. ... hiding in cars or lorries. |
| 5. The camp was closed ... | e. ... many refugees from Syria came to Calais. |
| 6. When the Syrian civil war began, ... | f. ... use the port of Calais every day. |

5 Chunks

Rearrange the words to make phrases from the text.

1. the November at beginning of
2. cross England to waiting to
3. regions of in France different
4. only England the get to way to
5. aged under 16 children or
6. conditions poor were very living

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6 Two-word expressions

Complete the sentences using the expressions from the text.

living conditions reception centres civil war medical centre wooden huts

1. The 'Jungle' had a _____ and a school.
2. _____ in the camp were very poor.
3. Refugees lived in tents and _____.
4. The French have moved the refugees to _____.
5. Many of the refugees in the camp were escaping _____.

7 Vocabulary focus

Match the words from the text with their meanings.

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| 1. the authorities | a. a place where refugees stay until they can find a home |
| 2. tent | b. a war between different groups in the same country |
| 3. passenger | c. a small structure made of cloth in which you can sleep |
| 4. reception centre | d. someone who is aged 16 or under |
| 5. civil war | e. someone who travels by car, train, plane or ship |
| 6. minor | f. the police or people in other official organizations who make people follow laws or rules |

8 Discussion

Should refugees be allowed to live where they want? Why? Why not?

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KEY

1 Warmer

1. b
2. a
3. b
4. b

2 Key words

5. refugee
6. ferry
7. visa
8. hide
9. hut

3 Find the information

1. 1994
2. 1999
3. Afghanistan, Somalia and Eritrea
4. around 6,000
5. 750
6. October, 2016

4 Comprehension check

1. c
2. f
3. d
4. a
5. b
6. e

5 Chunks

1. at the beginning of November
2. waiting to cross to England
3. in different regions of France
4. the only way to get to England
5. children aged 16 or under
6. living conditions were very poor

6 Two-word expressions

1. medical centre
2. living conditions
3. wooden huts
4. reception centres
5. civil war

7 Vocabulary focus

1. f
2. c
3. e
4. a
5. b
6. d