

## **HOME SWEET HOMES?**

### **OVERVIEW**

In this unit, you will learn about global nomads. You will discuss the characteristics of this new phenomenon and understand its pros and cons. You will also reflect about nomadic lifestyles in relation to your own.

### **LANGUAGE FOCUS**

- Linking words (revision)
- Conditional sentences type 3
- Past modal verbs

## LOOK AROUND

1. Look at the people in the pictures. What do you think they have in common?



(Source: [goo.gl/urKCBycontent.copy](http://goo.gl/urKCBycontent.copy))



(Source: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nomad>)



(Source: [goo.gl/Sn7X7q](http://goo.gl/Sn7X7q))



(Source: <https://br.pinterest.com/pin/90564642476867895/>)

2. Make a list of professions and occupations in which travelling a lot is a requirement. After that, share it with your classmates.

3. Do you know people or peoples who have or used to have a nomad lifestyle? If so, how do you think they deal/dealt with all the travelling?

### LANGUAGE TIP

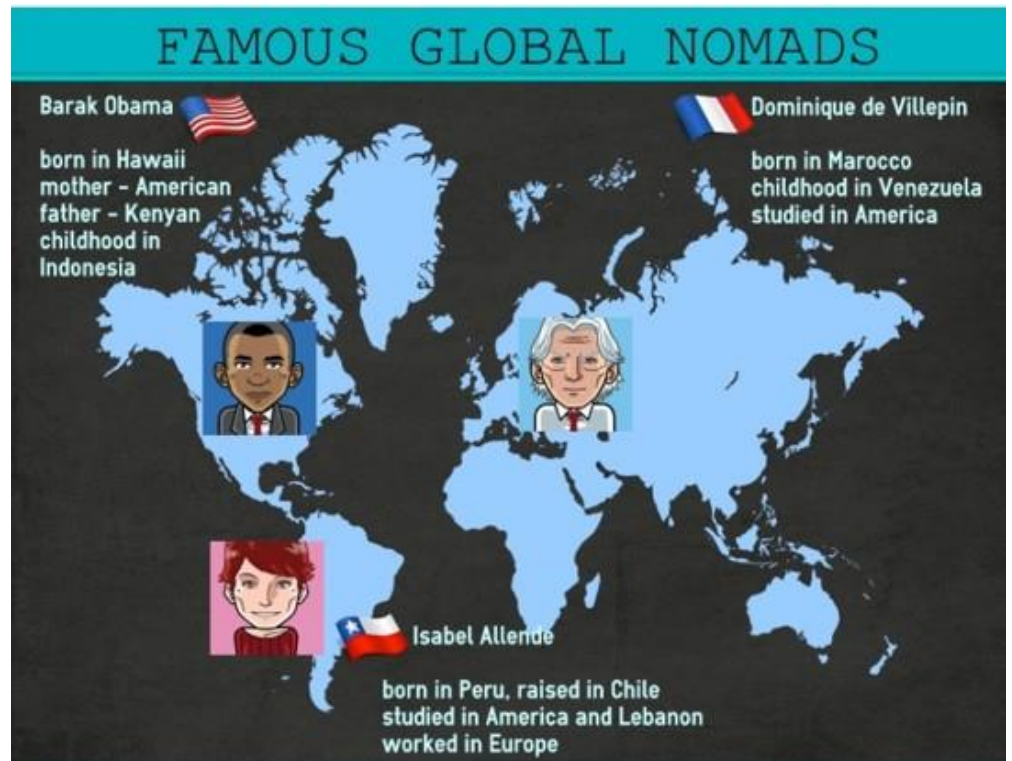
PEOPLE is the plural form of PERSON (one person/one individual vs. two people/two individuals).

Yet, when we refer to a collective group, we use the words PEOPLE / PEOPLES. For example, the different peoples in the world.

## LOOK CLOSER

### WATCHING

1. Read the following infographic, about some global nomads. Have you heard of them? Have you ever met any global nomad?



From: [https://www.google.com.br/search?q=global+nomads&espv=2&source=lnms&tbn=isch&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjZ-kvPfulrTAhVGQZAKHei3C0YQ\\_AUIBygC&biw=1366&bih=613#imgrc=QYBdxiuTlzCh5M](https://www.google.com.br/search?q=global+nomads&espv=2&source=lnms&tbn=isch&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjZ-kvPfulrTAhVGQZAKHei3C0YQ_AUIBygC&biw=1366&bih=613#imgrc=QYBdxiuTlzCh5M).  
Access on April 04, 2017.

2. You are going to watch a TED talk entitled “Global Nomads: bridging gaps between cultures”, delivered by Mohezin Tejani, a global nomad, in 2011. Read the cultural note box and answer:

- a) What ideas do you expect Mohezin will present?
- b) How can we relate his condition/life story with the title of his talk?

3. Watch the TED talk and answer the questions.

- a) How does he describe these refugees?
- b) What other kinds of global nomads does he mention?
- c) What is his perfect example of a global nomad? Why?

#### CULTURAL NOTE



**Mohezin Tejani**, an Indian-Shia Muslim by ancestry, is a political refugee from Id Amin's Uganda and an award-winning writer.

Liberated from the confines of his own culture by political realities, he set out at the age of twenty-one to learn how to be rooted in the absence of a place to call home. He was on the road for more than 35 years and died in 2013.

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QmDOLj4dTI8>)

#### LOOK IT UP

In the cultural note, you find this expression related to travelling: “He was **on the road ...**”. Study some of them and look them up. Did you find them easily? What is a good Portuguese equivalent form them?

**to hit the road – off the beaten track – jet set - to hitch a ride**

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## LOOK CLOSER

### WATCHING

4. Tejani describes three global nomads from the 21st century. Before watching, follow the steps:
- Make three groups: Group #1, Group #2 and Group #3.
  - Each group is going to hear about one global nomad. Take notes on the person assigned to you.
  - Compare the answers in your group.

	Global nomad #1	Global nomad #2	Global nomad #3
Name / Age / Origin			
Early life (places)			
Education (university, professional courses)			
Places visited / lived in			
Family – married? children?			
Work / Jobs			
Special achievements			

5. In groups of 3, talk about the person you listened to. Then compare: what is common about all of them? How did their life stories help bridging the gap between cultures?

### LOOK CRITICALLY

The term globalnomad is applied to people who are living a mobile and international lifestyle.

What are similarities and differences between a nomad and a global nomad? How do their lifestyles affect social life and cultural identity?

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Global\\_nomad](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Global_nomad) Accessed March 23, 2017

## LOOK CLOSER

### LANGUAGE STUDY

1. The following testimonial was written by someone raised as a global nomad. Read it and answer: How does the person feel about the experience?

*"I have to thank my father for the overall world experience I had as a global nomad kid. **If I hadn't been raised as a global nomad, I wouldn't have realized I was different from the mainstream people I work with now, at a health care corporation in Seattle. If I hadn't travelled so much, I wouldn't be fluent in different languages,** I wouldn't have learned to be compassionate for human beings, no matter which culture they belong to."*

2. Study the sentences in bold and underline the correct options below.

- a) The "If" clause has a verb in the **past simple / past perfect** tense.
- b) The main clause has a verb in the conditional perfect: **would have + past participle of verb / would + past participle of verb.**
- c) This kind of construction with "If" (type 3 conditional sentences) refers to situations that are **possible / impossible** to be modified.

3. Read the sentences below. They are from kids raised as global nomads. Underline the correct verb forms.

- a) "I **would enjoy / would have enjoyed** more time with my grandparents if I had lived longer in India. This makes me sad sometimes." (Raji, 27)
- b) "If I **had had / had** the chance to choose, I wouldn't have moved countries so much. I hated having to leave my school and my friends behind." (Rosa, 29)
- c) "Sometimes I wonder... If I **grew up / had grown up** in just one place, would I **have learned / learn** to be open-minded and willing to experience the unknown? Probably not." (Sophie, 21)

4. Now complete the sentences with true information.

- a) If I had attended Tejani's talk, I would

- b) If I had been raised in a nomadic family, I

- c) If I had been Tejani's kid, I

#### LANGUAGE TIP

Instead of **would**, it is possible to use different modal verbs. Look:

- **I could** have learned German if I had lived in Berlin for a year.
- If I hadn't started university, I **might** have found a job near home.

## LOOK CLOSER

### READING

1. Read the blog post below and the information about its writer, Leah Davis. Then answer: Why does she think her nomadic lifestyle can't last forever?

#### Why the Nomadic Lifestyle Can't Last

*"I want to travel forever."*

Be honest – you've thought this before. All travelers like to fantasize about living a permanently nomadic life. Perhaps you've even gone so far as to verbalize this desire to other nomads, knowing they'd empathize with the sentiment. It's a romantic idea, isn't it? To travel the world indefinitely, exploring as many corners of this earth as possible in the limited number of years our lifetime affords us.

And these days, it seems that many travelers are hell-bent on making this a reality. With the rise of the digital nomad and online entrepreneurship, making a living completely independent of your geographical coordinates is becoming more accessible than ever. I'd be lying **if** I told you the above words hadn't crossed my own lips in the not-so-distant past. **But** lately I've begun to question just how feasible—ordesirable—a permanently nomadic lifestyle actually is.

The nomadic lifestyle can't last, at least, not for me. **Because** there's one thing a nomadic life can't afford me. I want to know true happiness. As I've gone on my merry way from country to country, exchanging Thai baht for Colombian pesos for Albanian lek, I've realized there's a vital piece of the puzzle missing: my nomadic lifestyle has robbed me of the ability to form a community. The community I once felt a part of in my hometown now feels foreign and unwelcoming, and the bonds I've formed on the road have been tenuous at best. Meeting people with whom you truly connect on the road is a rarity, and even if you do meet these kindred souls, perhaps travel together for a while, these are not the people that will have your back in times of need.

I certainly feel a part of many online communities, but as much as I love connecting virtually with fellow travel bloggers, the people I've met on the road, and the friends I'm able to keep in touch with from home, those digital communities just don't hold a candle to face-to-face human connection. A digital relationship can never compare to having a literal shoulder to cry on, nor can it mimic the rush of oxytocin elicited by a lingering hug, a gentle stroke of the arm, or hell, even a simple high-five. Physical human contact cannot be replaced by the glare of a computer screen, no matter how tender the messages or how many emojis are attached.

Trust me—I've tried. This is how I know the nomadic lifestyle can't last forever. (...)

(Edited from <http://www.thesweetestway.com/why-the-nomadic-lifestyle-cant-last/>.)



#### LEAH DAVIS

Leah Davis is a social media consultant, freelance writer and travel blogger who's been living a nomadic lifestyle since 2011 and working wherever there's WiFi, good coffee, and a nice view. She loves making new friends too, so click the icons below to connect!

#### Glossary

**last** (verb): to continue in time

**afford** (verb): to be able to pay for something

**hell-bent** (adjective): very determined to do something especially when the results might be bad

**entrepreneurship** (noun): the act of opening a business

**feasible** (adjective): possible to do

**baht** (noun): currency from Thailand

**lek** (noun): currency from Albania

**realize** (verb): to understand or become aware of (something)

**lying** (present participle of lie): to say something that is not true

**puzzle** (noun): a question or problem that requires thought, skill, or cleverness to be answered or solved

**missing** (adjective): unable to be found

**stroke** (verb): to rub gently in one direction

(From <http://www.merriam-webster.com/> Access)

## LOOK CLOSER

### READING

2. Read the post again and summarize the main idea in each paragraph. What is Leah’s aim in each of them?

Paragraph number	Main idea/aim
#1	
#2	
#3	
#4	

3. Now discuss the following questions in small groups.

- a) At the beginning to the post, Leah says “Be honest – you’ve thought about this before”. What is she talking about? Have you thought about that before?
- b) In her post, Leah says that the “With the rise of the digital nomad and online entrepreneurship, making a living completely independent of your geographical coordinates is becoming more accessible than ever.” Do you agree with that? How appealing is this idea to you?
- c) According to Leah, “Meeting people with whom you truly connect on the road is a rarity”. What do you think is necessary to “truly” connect with people? What aspects do you think make this so “rare”?

### LOOK CRITICALLY

**Think and share:**

In her post, Leah mentions “digital nomads” and online communities. Do you belong to online communities?

Do you consider yourself a digital nomad? How do you feel about the need to physically participate in a community, as explained by Leah?

## LOOK CLOSER

### LANGUAGE STUDY

1. Read an answer to Leah's post below and answer: does Eirene like the Leah's post?

**Eirene**

JULY 8, 2015 AT 6:29 AM

Oh, Leah, you **couldn't have said** it better. Wish all those 'travelers' out there who preach on their blogs what they don't practice **could read** this. Most of them advertise a lifestyle that is all freedom and roses but they rarely talk about any downsides. Everybody is a 'friend' even though they only hung out for beers one night and they're not even sure if their name was Maria or Marianne...

I also see the budget travelers that write about awesome, unique experiences at every step of the way but they forget to mention all the weeks they spend locked inside glued to their computer because they're trying to make a little bit of money or get their next free tour/accommodation. Anyway, this is another story (that is also not pictured honestly on most blogs).

In my opinion this bubble will burst very soon.

2. Now, analyze the expressions in blue and answer:

- What is different/ similar?
- Do the expressions refer to present, past or future actions?
- What idea does the verb "could" express?

3. Study the note below and recall the Language Tip on page 5. Then, read the sentences and circle the best option.

#### Contexts of use: Modal verbs

Let's recall the situations. For

-recommendations,

suggestions or -advice, use

**should**;

-obligation or necessity, use

**must**;

-intention, use **will**;

-ability, use **can**;

-different shades of probability, use **may, might, must**;

-impossibility, use **can't**.

a) I can't find my phone anywhere. I **should have left / should leave** it at school.

b) That's the doorbell. It **must be/must have been** Susan. She told she would come earlier today.

c) You **could have done / do** better in the exam, Luke. If only you had studied a little more....

d) I didn't see Julie this morning. She **might take / have taken** the day off.

e) You **can't have been / be** serious. I don't believe Gena is moving abroad!



## LOOK BACK AND BEYOND

### WRAPPING-UP

4. Observe the cartoon and discuss in small groups: Is it possible to be a global nomad without leaving one's home? If yes, how can it be so?

(Source: <http://www.cartoons.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/nomadwork.jpg>. Access on September 27, 2016)



## LOOK BACK AND BEYOND

### HANDS-ON

#### Option A: Being a global nomad for a week!

Imagine you are a global nomad. Use the internet and visit sites and/or watch videos to learn about interesting communities/places around the world. Write a post for the forum *Global Nomad for a Week* on the Moodle. Post your text and comment on at least one other post from a classmate.

#### Option B: Role play an interview with a global nomad!

**Student A:** You are a journalist and are going to interview Zubin Tejani, a global nomad, about his life around the world. Prepare 4 or 5 questions based on Activity 3, Watching, and get ready to talk to him.

**Student B:** You are Zubin Tejani, a global nomad. Use the information in Activity 3, Watching, and get prepared to be interviewed.