

Street cred 乞丐变导游

Vocabulary: *misfortune* 词汇: 不幸

Do you know the open-air art gallery in London's Blackall Street? Not many Londoners know it either, but Henri does and he is willing to show it to you.

Henri used **to sleep rough** until he met a charity that helps **homeless** people **get back on their feet** by becoming **tour guides**.

Rather than show traditional London sights, 'Unseen Tours' take people **off the beaten track**. Henri has been teaching tourists about the history and architecture of Shoreditch, where he slept on public benches for three years.



When he felt **isolated**, contact with the **volunteer** network 'The Sock Mob' gave Henri hope. "Not everyone just **looked down on** me," he said.

The tours aren't the only initiative to help those who have suffered **a reversal of fortune** **to stand tall** again.

An innovative college for **homeless** people in London, the first of its kind in the country, is attracting hundreds of students. The Recovery College, set up by St Mungo's charity, is providing courses designed to improve **technical skills** and **life skills**.

According to Andy Williams, who helps to organise the college, the most popular courses have proved to be about raising **self-confidence** and developing **self-esteem**.

Steve, now in his 50s, told BBC reporter Sean Coughlan how much of a difference it makes to "have a bit of confidence". He had **dyslexia** and **drifted out** of school when he was 12. Because Steve's problem was not recognised at the time he was "seen as an illiterate", and suffered with **depression** and **alcohol abuse**.

He says the status of "student" is itself important for people who are used to being treated as **outcasts**.

Some charities aim not only to **empower** the **homeless** but also to make them popular. The **Homeless** World Cup started ten years ago. Today the tournament draws teams from 48 countries made up of players - men and women - who are, or have been, living in the streets. It gives them a chance to become heroes on the pitch.

词汇表请参看答案与词汇部分

Quiz 测验

阅读短文并回答问题。

1. What kind of places does Henri take tourists to visit?
2. What sort of skills do homeless people develop at the Recovery College?
3. Is the following true, false or not given in the article? *Steve is illiterate.*
4. What expression is used to indicate that someone's life has taken a turn for the worse?
5. Which words indicate that someone has been excluded from society?

Exercise 练习

请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。从每个表格中选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. John has been struggling to get back on his _____ after his beloved wife died.

hands	legs	feet	shoulders
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2. Mary has got a good mark on her exams. It will certainly boost her self-_____.

esteem	stream	steam	scream
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3. Bars and restaurants near the Eiffel Tower are always crowded. Come with me. I will show you a good place off the beaten _____ where we could eat a tasty meal.

market	park	square	track
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4. Cyclist Lance Armstrong may become _____ after his confession to using performance-enhancing drugs during his career.

a recast	a cast	an outcast	a broadcast
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5. Many people worked as _____ during the Olympic Games in London. Their only reward was to be part of such a big event.

volunteers	outcasts	homeless	teachers
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Answers and Glossary 答案与词汇

Quiz 小测验

1. What kind of places does Henri take tourists to visit? **Places people don't usually go to, off the beaten track.**
2. What sort of skills do homeless people develop at the Recovery College? **Technical skills and life skills.**
3. Is the following true, false or not given in the article? *Steve is illiterate.* **False. Steve has dyslexia, so people mistakenly thought that he was illiterate.**
4. What expression is used to indicate that someone's life has taken a turn for the worse? **A reversal of fortune.**
5. Which words indicate that someone has been excluded from society? **Isolated and outcast.**

Exercise 练习

1. John has been struggling to get back on his **feet** after his beloved wife died.
2. Mary has got a good mark on her exams. It will certainly boost her self-**esteem**.
3. Bars and restaurants near the Eiffel Tower are always crowded. Come with me. I will show you a good place off the beaten **track** where we could eat a tasty meal.
4. Cyclist Lance Armstrong may become **an outcast** after his confession to using performance-enhancing drugs during his career.
5. Many people worked as **volunteers** during the Olympic Games in London. Their only reward was to be part of such a big event.

Glossary 词汇表

to sleep rough	露宿（街头）
homeless	无家可归的
to get back on (their) feet	重新振作起来
a tour guide	一名导游
off the beaten track	人迹罕见、偏僻的背街小巷
isolated	孤立无援的
a volunteer	一名志愿者
to look down on (someone)	瞧不起、歧视（某人）
a reversal of fortune	运势逆转
to stand tall	重建信心
technical skills	技术技能
life skills	生活技能
self-confidence	自信心
self-esteem	自尊
dyslexia	阅读障碍
to drift out	（由于外因）慢慢地离开、脱离
depression	抑郁症
alcohol abuse	酗酒
an outcast	无家可归的人，被遗弃的人
to empower	帮助，给予某人做某事的能力