Text - U.S. immigrants feel unwelcome

1. One million immigrants can now enter the U.S. legally. Thousands also cross the U.S.-Mexican border illegally, mainly young Mexicans who can find no work at home. Most of the newcomers will follow family and friends. America is still the most popular destination of the world's immigrants.

However, as the recession continues and the number of newcomers increases rapidly, immigrants across America are experiencing growing prejudice and hostility. Immigrants are being blamed by some for a lot of America's problems. They are an easy target for those who are angry and frustrated about the poor state of the country's economy.

Resentment towards immigrants has been slowly growing since the late 1980s when the economy began to decline and immigration rose sharply, say experts. The violent riots in Los Angeles last April have added to this growing anti-immigrant feeling.

Immigrants cost too much, they don't integrate, they don't vote, they don't share traditional American values and the population is growing fast enough without them, claim those calling for lower levels of immigration in the United States.

Most of the hostility towards immigrants is expressed in words rather than in acts of violence. There are only a few extreme examples of violence.

However, immigration experts believe that the United States remains a very tolerant country compared with those West European countries, particularly Germany, which are at present struggling against racism and violence against foreigners.

(Road On 3/93, abridged)

Questions on the text

Write complete sentences. Use your own words whenever it is possible and reasonable to do so.

1. Why do most illegal immigrants come to America? (1 sentence)

2. What, according to experts, led to a growing anti-immigrant feeling in America? (1 sentence)

3. Who is most likely to attack immigrants? (1 sentence)

4. What are the reasons given by people who want to reduce the number of immigrants? (2-3 sentences)