

# Singapore's journey to success

Have you ever been to Singapore? *(No, I haven't, but I want to!)*

## Vocabulary

1. literacy      2. survival      3. main      4. conditions      5. forced out      6. corruption

## True Story

In 1965, Singapore faced a big problem. It was \_\_\_\_\_ of Malaysia, had no army, and lacked resources and fresh water. Most of the 2 million people lived in poor \_\_\_\_\_. Lee Kuan Yew, a strong leader, changed everything.

First, he focused on \_\_\_\_\_ by building a strong military. He said, "If you want to be friends, that's great. But if you don't, we're ready." Then, he improved education by making English the \_\_\_\_\_ language and sending top students abroad.

By 1990, Singapore's economy grew a lot, and most people owned homes. \_\_\_\_\_ rates went up, and \_\_\_\_\_ was gone. Today, Singapore is very successful, with clean streets and high living standards. Lee's leadership showed that hard choices can lead to great results.

## Quiz

1. What problem did Singapore face in 1965?
2. What did Lee Kuan Yew focus on first?
3. What did Lee Kuan Yew do to improve education?
4. What had Singapore achieved by 1990?

## True or False

- |  |              |
|--|--------------|
| 1. Almost 2 million people lived in poor conditions.                                   | True   False |
| 2. LKY said, "If you want to be friends, we're ready. But if you don't, that's great." | True   False |
| 3. Singapore today is known for its clean streets and high living standards.           | True   False |

## Conversation

- A: Grandma, what was Singapore like when you were young?
- B: Oh, it was very different. Life was quite hard.
- A: Really? What changed to make Singapore so successful now?
- B: Lee Kuan Yew worked hard to improve everything here.
- A: Like what? What improvements did he make for people?
- B: Better housing, education, and clean streets for everyone.

## Discussion

1. Do you think learning English is important?
2. What would you do if your country had no resources?
3. Would you like to lead a country? Why or why not?
4. What's the hardest choice you've ever made?