<table>
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<th>TEXT TITLE</th>
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<td>SELECTED TEXT</td>
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<td>VOCABULARY (CONTEXT CLUES)</td>
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**TEXT TITLE** | Homeless  
**AUTHOR/SOURCE** | Bernard Wolf  
**SELECTED TEXT** | My name is Mikey and I’m eight years old. The last two nights were the worst of my life. I stayed with my family in an emergency shelter for the homeless. It was a huge room filled with other homeless people, some of them drunks and drug addicts. If we wanted to sleep, we had to stretch out on hard plastic chairs. But we hardly slept at all because we were afraid somebody might steal our extra clothes. Now they’ve sent us to another shelter called the Henry Street Settlement Urban Family Center. It’s on the Lower East Side in New York City. For two years, me, my little sisters and brother, my mother, and my stepfather have been moving from one place to another. We couldn’t pay the rent for a good apartment, so finally my mom, Sharon, had to put us in the public shelter system for the homeless.  
Today is almost the end of winter. Even though it’s not too cold, we’re all wearing lots of layers of clothes. My stepfather, Sergio, has to carry the rest of our stuff in two big plastic bags.  
A man called Mr. Perez comes out to meet us. He shakes everybody’s hand and says to call him Hector. Then he takes us to a big room where we can talk. He’ll be our caseworker. He seems like a nice guy, but I’m kind of nervous. I don’t know what to expect in this place.  

**ANNOTATIONS**  
**IMPORTANT CHARACTERS**  
Mikey  
Mikey’s Mom (Sharon) and Stepdad (Sergio)  
Mikey’s younger sister and younger brother  
Mr. Hector Perez the caseworker  

**IMPORTANT EVENTS**  
Mikey and his family stayed in an emergency shelter. The family is moving from one place to another.  

**IMPORTANT DETAILS**  
Mikey is eight years old.  
Henry Street Settlement Urban Family Center is a shelter in New York  
Mikey doesn’t know what to expect.  

**VOCABULARY (CONTEXT CLUES)**  
Shelter  
Almost (even though it’s not...)  
Layers (lots of)  
Nervous (seems nice...but)  
Expect