



Activities

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS, GAMES AND BRAIN TEASERS

Food for thought:

- 1 Discuss the WTO's definition of food security.

- 2 Compare the definitions of food security from the WTO and Oxfam. How are they different? How are they similar?

- 3 While this report focuses on how the international trading system can be changed to promote food security, some people believe that food should be decommodified. What does the commodification of food mean? How can you de-commodify it?

- 4 Instead of being something to buy, access to basic food items would be considered a right and governments would take steps to ensure food security for all. For example, in Canada we already recognize citizens' rights to access primary/secondary education and basic health care regardless of their income. Discuss.

- 5 Given that current trade agreements are more often than not damaging to developing countries, why do you think governments participate? How much choice do you think they have? Who influences the government's positions on trade?

- 6 We've all experienced hunger at some point in time – light headedness, stomach pangs, irritability, confusion. Discuss the social, health and economic impacts of long-term chronic hunger (i.e., weeks to months) on both children and adults.

- 7 The draft agreement of the FTAA states that any barrier to trade will be removed unless there is scientific evidence that it is harmful. It reads that regulations on food "will only be applied to achieve the appropriate level of protection for human, animal or plant life, will be based on scientific principles, and will not be maintained without sufficient evidence". Notice that the onus lies on proving that something is harmful rather than being safe. If food and human security were of primary concern, then shouldn't something be banned until it is proven to be safe? Discuss.

- 8 Hunger, food security and food sovereignty. Reread the definitions of food security and food sovereignty. Try to offer concrete ideas on how pursuing food sovereignty and food security can alleviate and even eradicate hunger in both developing and developed countries. Think of the social, economic and political changes needed.

- 9 Put yourself in the shoes of coffee growers in developing nations. Imagine if you actually spent more money going to work than you earn. How would you feed yourself, how would you survive? Unfortunately, for a number of farmers around the world, this is exactly what is happening. Discuss how you feel about their situation, and how you would feel if this happened or was happening to you.

- 10 In 1999, OECD countries spent \$360 billion on agricultural subsidies. Discuss reasons why rich country governments spend money subsidizing their own agricultural industries.



Activities

True or false questions about food

- 1 People are hungry because the world does not produce enough food.
- 2 Food and a livelihood are basic human rights.
- 3 Almost 10% of people in the developing world do not have access to clean water.
- 4 GMO stands for Genetically Modified Organism.
- 5 For a \$2.98 box of cornflakes, the farmer who grows the corn gets ten cents.
- 6 TransFair Canada is the only third party independent fair trade certification organization in Canada.
- 7 The number of people in the developing world who are undernourished continues to grow each year.
- 8 Wheat and tobacco are Canadian cash crops grown for export.
- 9 According to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), 80 million people are malnourished.
- 10 The promotion of cash cropping on a global scale has contributed to soil erosion, pollution of water tables by fertilizers and pesticides, and deforestation.
- 11 Between 5 and 10 % of Canadians use food banks each month.
- 12 In 1995, Third world debt reached \$200 billion.
- 13 In the developing world, nearly 60% of people work in agriculture.
- 14 Ecuador exports more bananas than any other country.
- 15 Lower food prices are always good for developing nations.
- 16 Nestle, Unilever, and Phillip Morris are the three largest food processors in the world
- 17 Forty percent of humanity relies on less than \$2 a day.
- 18 Pesticides kill thousands of workers every year.
- 19 Dole, Chiquita, and Del Monte control nearly 70% of world trade in bananas.
- 20 Canada imports more coffee than any other country.

Answers

- 1 False. The world does produce enough food to feed every person, every day.
- 2 True
- 3 False. In fact, one third of people in the developing world have no access to clean water.
- 4 True
- 5 True
- 6 True
- 7 False. The number is reducing at a rate of about 8 million a year. However, with almost 800 million people in the developing world without enough to eat, the rate of reduction is too slow.
- 8 True
- 9 False. In fact, the FAO reports that 800 million people are malnourished.
- 10 True.
- 11 True.
- 12 False. In 1995, third world debt reached \$200 trillion.
- 13 True
- 14 True
- 15 False. Sometimes, lower food prices simply put farmers out of business.
- 16 True
- 17 False. 60% lives on less than \$2 a day.
- 18 True. Pesticides have been shown to be responsible for the deaths of over 20,000 workers annually.
- 19 True
- 20 False. The United States imports the most coffee.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS, GAMES AND BRAIN TEASERS

A world in jeopardy

The title “A World in Jeopardy” refers to a world where 800 million people are chronically undernourished, and millions more are denied their basic rights to shelter, clean water, employment, and a say in their future. Without a fundamental reversal of the way we use and share our resources, the lives of billions of people will hopefully allow you to learn more about the realities of poverty and hunger in the world today.

The game and the rules

MODERATOR’S ROLE

- Set up transparency and overhead.
- Select three Judges and one Scorekeeper.
- Divide the class into 3 teams.
- Demonstrate how to correctly respond,
FOR EXAMPLE: **Q** “Globally, over 500,000 people are suffering from this disease.”
A “What is AIDs?”
- If no one answers within 20 seconds, the Moderator allows 2 minutes for the groups to consult.

PARTICIPANTS’ ROLE

- Each member of a team must have a number (from 1 - 8), and answer questions consecutively (i.e. all the “1s” from each team answer, then all the “2s”, etc.).
- To answer a question, a participant must “buzz in” first by yelling “Jeopardy”.
- If no one answers, teams must work together to come up with an answer.

JUDGES’ AND SCOREKEEPERS’ ROLES

- Judges determine who responded first, and what is the correct answer.
- The Scorekeeper keeps a tally of team scores on the blackboard.

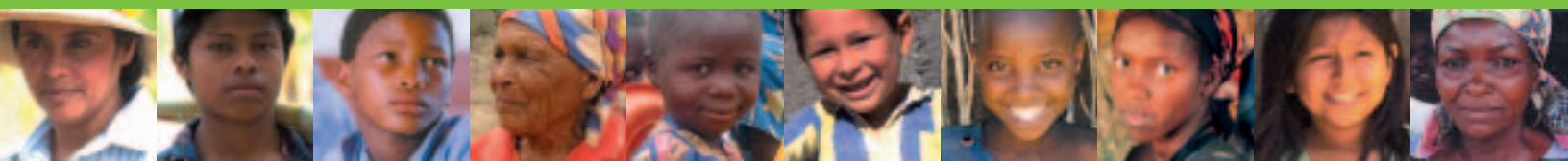
SCORING

- When a team gives the correct answer, the value for that question (100-500) is added to their score.
- If the answer is incorrect, the value of the question is subtracted.
- The team with the highest score at the end of the game wins.

Why play this game/rationale

“A World in Jeopardy” is organized as a participatory way of learning about some of the complexities of the food system and related issues. We have provided one version of how to play the game – the class may, however, find new ways of playing the game (for those motivated enough, the game can be adapted for a public fundraising exercise).

- ANSWERS**
- 100 What is the World Trade Organization?
200 What is globalization?
300 What is free trade?
400 What is fair trade?
500 What are corporations?
- TRADE AND HUNGER**
- 100 What is poverty?
200 What is food security?
300 What are basic human rights?
400 What is food insecurity?
500 What is the Agreement on Agriculture?
- AGRICULTURE AND TRADE**
- 100 What are farm incomes?
200 What is 29 billion dollars?
300 What is “Canada’s Action Plan for Food Security”?
400 What is 70%?
500 What is World Food Day?
- THE FTAA**
- 100 What is globalization?
200 What are multi-national (Transnational) corporations?
300 What is NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement)?
400 What is the Free Trade Areas of the Americas?
500 What is CAFTA (Central American Free Trade Agreement)?
- COFFEE**
- 100 What is South America?
200 What is Ethiopia?
300 What is oil?
400 What are tea and orange juice?
500 What is the United States?



A World in Jeopardy

	Trade	Trade and Hunger	Agriculture and Trade	The FTAA	Coffee
100	This organization received much criticism from huge protests at their Seattle meetings in 1999.	Over a billion people in the world live in this condition.	This part of the Canadian economy has returned to Depression era levels.	The process that integrates world markets for goods, services and finance.	This continent is the world's largest coffee producer.
200	This process makes it easier for corporations to move goods around the world.	Community Gardens, food cooperatives and good food boxes are some small scale initiatives that increase this locally.	Philip Morris made over 100 billion dollars in revenue in 1998 while the total Canadian gross farm revenues were only this much.	Corporations that cross national boundaries in their fields of operation (production, financing or sales).	This country depends on the production and sale of coffee for more than 50% of its revenues.
300	This type of trade allows companies to operate without taxes or tariffs.	The U.N. has stated that getting enough to eat, equal opportunities, a livelihood and a say in the future are these.	This government document outlines Canada's commitment and strategy to reducing hunger and food insecurity at home and internationally.	The FTAA which will incorporate countries from Latin America, except Cuba, is an expansion of this older trading agreement.	Coffee is the second to this most traded international product.
400	This type of trade ensures that the producers get enough money for their work.	When people do not have access to safe, nutritious and culturally acceptable food, they suffer from this.	Fewer than six companies control this percent of the world trade in grain.	What FTAA stands for.	As well as coffee these two beverages are fairly traded.
500	These institutions benefit the most from free trade.	This international agreement is intended to increase international trade in food and agriculture.	The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization set aside October 16th each year to recognize this.	This proposed trade agreement includes Canada and four Central American countries.	This country imports more coffee than any other.

PLEASE NOTE: This game board should be photocopied on to an overhead transparency. Answers are listed on the previous page.