

Poverty, Education, Orphans, and AIDS

1. Vocabulary Building

| | | | |
|--------------|---------|-------------|--------|
| poverty | 貧困 | affected by | 影響を受けた |
| interest | 利息 | widespread | 広げた |
| un protected | コンドームなし | disease | 病気 |
| orphan | 孤児 | crisis | 難局 |
| region | 地域 | prediction | 予言 |



2. Reading

Poverty is one of the leading causes for the spread of HIV/AIDS for several reasons. First, poorer people around the world may not have access to good health care. Even in the U.S., estimates show about 40 million people do not have health insurance. It is very difficult for low-income families to pay for medicines to fight diseases. This is also true for some *countries*.

Lower-income countries often have to pay back large loans plus interest on the loans to the World Bank or other lending agencies. For this reason, such countries might not have the money to spend on medical care for the people. They might not have enough money to spend on education either. If people grow up unable to read or write, it reduces their chances of finding employment that could bring them out of their poverty. They often have to accept dangerous work in factories. Some are even tricked or sold into sex work.

Also, people with very little income may have to travel long distances away from their homes to find work. They might become victims of sexual assault, or they might choose to have unprotected sex with local sex workers who might be infected themselves. In many cases poor people choose dangerous work because they are trying to find food for themselves or their families. If they do not have enough nutrition, it will also be easier for them to catch HIV during any unsafe sex because their immune systems are already weak.

Another growing problem of the AIDS epidemic is that of orphans. So far, about 15 million children have lost their parents to AIDS. Around 80% of these orphans live in sub-Saharan Africa, the region worst affected by the HIV/AIDS epidemic, where almost 26.6 million people have the disease. AIDS researchers say one of the main reasons the disease is so widespread is because unprotected sex is common.

In many countries, the children are taken in by grandparents or aunts and uncles. But if those adults are very poor, sometimes they cannot take care of the children, and many children are forced to live on the street.

According to a UNICEF report, in 1990, there were fewer than one million orphans in Africa under the age of 15. By the end of 2001 there were more than 11 million. It said that by 2010, about 20 million African children may lose one or both parents to the disease. In worst-hit countries like Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland, where more than 30 percent of the people have HIV, as well as in Zimbabwe, more than 20 percent of the children will become orphans by 2010, almost all of them because their parents will have died of AIDS.

However, the orphan crisis doesn't only happen in sub-Saharan Africa. At the end of 2001, there were about 1.8 million orphans living in South and South-East Asia, 85,000 in East Asia and the Pacific, 330,000 in Latin America, 250,000 in the Caribbean, and 65,000 in North Africa and the Middle East.

The total in Asia will probably double by 2010 to 4.3million. Some reports warn the total in Asia could be even larger because of the number of HIV cases is growing in countries with large populations, such as China, India.

The number of orphans will also probably increase in Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Guatemala and Mexico. In Latin American and the Caribbean, there were 578,000 AIDS orphans last year, 200,000 of them in Haiti alone. The prediction for 2010 is for the total to reach 898,000.

Even if action is taken now, the number of orphans will continue to rise for many years.



5. Looking at YOU

<http://home.att.net/~clnetwork/co-op/misurvey.pdf>

How Many Ways Are You Smart?

Directions:

Fold the paper vertically on the dark line so that the columns with the eight "multiple intelligences" are hidden. Read each statement below. Place a checkmark next to each item that is true about you. Then unfold the paper and circle the X in each row that you checked. Write the total number in each column at the bottom of the paper. How many ways are you smart?

Which of the following are true about you?

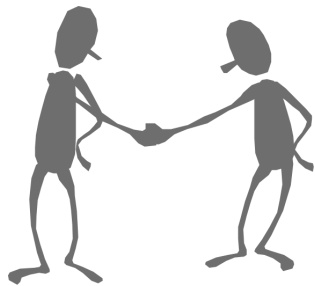
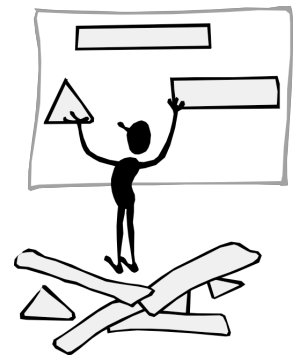
| | Nature Smart | Number/Logic Smart | Word Smart | Music Smart | Picture Smart | Body Smart | People Smart | Self Smart |
|---|--------------|--------------------|------------|-------------|---------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| I enjoy singing and I sing fairly well. | | | | X | | | | |
| I enjoy crossword puzzles and word games. | | | X | | | | | |
| I'm good at solving jigsaw puzzles. | | | | | X | | | |
| I can read maps easily. | | | | | X | | | |
| I learn best when I can talk over a new idea. | | | | | | | X | |
| Picture, line, and bar graphs are easy to understand. | | | | | X | | | |
| I like to listen to music in my free time. | | | | X | | | | |
| I get along well with different types of people. | | | | | | | X | |
| I like writing about my thoughts and feelings. | | | | | | | | X |
| Protecting the environment is very important to me. | X | | | | | | | |
| I enjoy caring for pets and other animals. | X | | | | | | | |
| I like drama and acting things out. | | | | | | X | | |
| I'm good at writing stories. | | | X | | | | | |
| I can understand difficult math ideas easily. | | X | | | | | | |
| I play a musical instrument (or would like to). | | | | X | | | | |
| People tell me I'm good at sports or dancing. | | | | | | X | | |
| I'm good at figuring out patterns. | | X | | | | | | |
| My best way to learn is by doing hands-on activities. | | | | | | X | | |
| I like spending time by myself. | | | | | | | | X |
| I find that I'm often helping other people. | | | | | | | X | |
| I'm naturally good at taking care of plants. | X | | | | | | | |
| I enjoy solving problems and "brainteasers." | | X | | | | | | |
| Having quiet time to think over ideas is important to | | | | | | | | X |
| I enjoy reading for pleasure. | | | X | | | | | |
| Totals | | | | | | | | |

6. Putting it Together

What have you learned in this unit?

Review the reading passage. Discuss the following with a partner or in small groups.

1. How is poverty related to the AIDS epidemic?
2. Why is it hard for low-income countries to pay for good education for their citizens?
3. Why do people sometimes accept difficult or dangerous work?
4. What might happen to children who lose their parents to AIDS?
5. In Asia, are the numbers of orphans going up or down? Why?



Questions for discussion

Discuss the following questions with a partner or in small groups.

1. What information in this unit impressed you the most?
2. If you could tell your family or friends one thing about what you have learned about poverty or orphans, what would you tell them?
3. What are some ways to help children who become orphans?
4. When severely-hit countries lose teachers as well, who will teach the children?
5. In many countries, farmers, truck drivers, and other people who are vital to the well-being of the nation die of AIDS. How can countries feed the population? Where will the people go to get food? What are the consequences of food shortages?
6. What organizations are there that are working to end poverty?
7. How does the Japanese government contribute to ending poverty around the world?
8. What role does the media play in helping to educate people about poverty and the effects of poverty on education, for example?
9. If you heard someone say that anyone who has HIV deserves what they get, what would you tell them about poverty?
10. If you could make a short video to tell people about the effects of poverty on people's lives, what kinds of things would you want to include in your video?
11. If you could design a poster to help end poverty, what kinds of things would you want to include in your poster? Where would you put your poster?
12. YOUR QUESTION:

