



POVERTY QUIZ ANSWERS

1. **How many children under age 5 die of hunger-related causes every minute?**

- a. 2
- b. 6
- c. 12
- d. 25

b. 6. More than 9 million children **under age 5** die every year, and malnutrition accounts for more than one-third of these deaths. Most of these children live in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.

Source: www.unicef.org, November 2008

2. **What percentage of the world's population growth occurs in developing countries?**

- a. 24%
- b. 49%
- c. 65%
- d. 95%

d. 95%. Currently, the world's population totals more than 6.7 billion and grows at an average rate of around 80 million persons per year. Asia, sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America, three regions of the world made up of mostly developing countries, account for most of the world's increasing population.

Sources: www.worldfactbook.org; www.census.gov/ipc/www/idb/worldpopinfo.html, November 2008

3. **True or False: One-third of the children in developing countries live in poverty.**

True. Of the 1.8 billion children in developing countries, 600 million of them live on less than U.S.\$1 a day.

Source: www.unicef.org/mdg/poverty.html, November 2008

4. **True or False: In reducing the rate of sickness and death from diarrhea, the supply of adequate quantities of water is more important than improving its quality.**

True. The organisms that cause diarrhea can be spread through many routes besides drinking water; increased quantities of water can improve household and personal hygiene, which prevents the spread of disease. Each year about 1.7 million deaths related to dehydration caused by diarrhea occur in children under age 5.

Sources: www.cdc.gov/nceh/globalhealth/priorities/access.htm; <http://rehydrate.org>, November 2008

5. True or False: The majority of the world's chronically undernourished people live in Africa.

False. Approximately 790 million people in the developing world are still chronically undernourished, almost two-thirds of whom reside in Asia and the Pacific. Despite the food production rate being better than the population growth rate, there is still desperate hunger in many parts of the world.

*Sources: World Resources Institute, "Pilot Analysis of Global Ecosystems" (February 2001);
www.globalissues.org/article/26/poverty-facts-and-stats, November 2008*

6. Which of the following statements about children in the developing world are true?

- a. 1 in 3 children does not have adequate shelter.
- b. 1 in 5 children does not have access to safe water.
- c. 1 in 7 children does not have access to health care.
- d. All of the above.

d. All of the above. Along with malnutrition, these **mostly preventable** causes are leading contributors to the millions of child deaths each year.

Source: www.globalissues.org/article/26/poverty-facts-and-stats, November 2008

7. Which of the following is *not* one of the U.N. Millennium Development Goals?

- a. Achieve universal primary education
- b. Ensure environmental sustainability
- c. Provide worldwide access to safe water
- d. Develop a global partnership for development

c. Provide worldwide access to safe water. The Millennium Development Goals were created by the Millennium Project, an advisory board commissioned by the United Nations, to develop a concrete action plan for the world to reverse poverty, hunger and disease affecting billions of people. The eight goals are:

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Develop a global partnership for development

Source: www.undp.org/mdg, November 2008

8. What is the United Nations' deadline for meeting the Millennium Development Goals?

- a. 2010
- b. 2015
- c. 2020
- d. 2025

b. 2015. The Millennium Project is working with individual countries to help identify and address specific needs, such as access to health clinics, immunizations, teachers, roads and water pumps. Developed countries have committed to provide increased funding to help reach the Millennium Development Goals by 2015.

Sources: www.undp.org/mdg; www.unmillenniumproject.org/who/index.htm, November 2008

9. True or False: Life expectancy in the world's poorest countries is about one-third lower than that in the high-income world.

True. Life expectancy in the least developed countries averages 55 years, as compared with 79 years in industrialized countries. In fact, in most of Africa, average life expectancy is only 50 years.

At any given time, close to half of all people in developing countries suffer from a health problem caused by water and sanitation deficits. For people in the developing world, illness, job loss, drought or even pregnancy can mean the difference between life and death.

Sources: www.unicef.org/sowc08/docs/sowc08_fastfacts_allfiles.pdf; *2006 United Nations Human Development Report*, pp. 6, 7, 35; www.globalissues.org/article/26/poverty-facts-and-stats, November 2008

10. According to the United Nations, extreme poverty is defined as:

- a. The extreme shortage of supplies to meet basic human needs
- b. The lack of adequate water, food and shelter
- c. Not having enough money to provide basic necessities
- d. Living on less than U.S.\$1 per day

d. Living on less than U.S.\$1 per day. One in six people around the world lives in extreme poverty, surviving on less than \$1 per day. In addition, a child dies every two minutes from AIDS and extreme poverty. Experts agree that investing in education and creating fairer trade policies between the richest and poorest countries of the world could lift 300 million people out of poverty by 2015.

Sources: www.unicef.org/mdg/poverty.html; www.earthtrends.wri.org/features/view_feature.php?fid=58&theme=5; UNICEF's *State of the World's Children 2008*, pp. 129; www.unicef.org/publications/index_42623.html