

SOLUTIONS TO GLOBAL POVERTY AND HUNGER

Developing Writing and Research Skills ...

Goals and Advice

Each week the student takes notes on 30-60 minutes or more of video presentations or a few articles or a combination of the two. Students should focus on the videos and articles listed below, but after a few weeks they may sometimes choose their own.

Students are expected to produce 2-3 pages of high quality writing. Whatever format or genre students choose to write in, they must organize their information and arguments into paragraphs, though they don't need to be organized like the highly structured paragraphs of the high school essay format. Possible genres include the following:

- SUMMARIES
- FORMAL ESSAYS - know the rules. Possible topics below:
- QUESTIONS - Students should always question what they read and hear. One important question to ask is, "Does the person speaking or writing have a reason or motivation to lie?" Another question to ask is, "Does the information or claim made by the speaker or writer make sense to me? Is it logical?" Finally, "Does the speaker or writer offer any evidence?" If you ask any of these questions, be sure to answer them in some detail.
- LETTERS to anyone you study in our health unit
- INFORMAL REFLECTIONS (Your opinions, thoughts, personal or not).

NOTE: Each week should also include definitions of new words. Pleeeeeeeease use your Check List to make progress with your writing.

NOTE: To reduce your homework time, you might benefit from taking notes while watching your video(s) as you would during a classroom lesson in high school and, still more so, in university.

Vocabulary and Concepts

Landlessness
Bank Loans
Interest Payment
Desertification
Compost
Agriculture
Monoculture

Polyculture
Plowing/Ploughing
Tilling
Irrigating
Mulching
Livestock
Vegetarianism

Veganism
Permaculture
Real Wealth
False Wealth
Poverty
Third World
First World

Developing World
Arable land
Land degradation

Erosion
Famine
Climate Change

Aquifer
Water Table

Excellent intro to Permaculture as a Global Solution

<https://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/permaculture-a-global-solution-zbcz1405>

Geoff Lawton

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=lawton+geoff+australia+project

<https://permaculturenews.org/2008/08/30/geoff-lawton-all-the-worlds-problems-can-be-solved-in-a-garden/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=goBB4fVLRxc>

Inspirational and Informational Videos

Loess Plateau, China

<http://eempc.org/loess-plateau-watershed-rehabilitation-project/>

Green Gold by Doctor Liu

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YBLZmwIPa8A>

Regreening the Desserts

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IDgDWbQtIKI>

Seeds of Permaculture

<http://www.seedsofpermaculture.org/>

Feeding the Hungry: Conventional Methods

Basic information on world hunger

<http://www.worldhunger.org/2015-world-hunger-and-poverty-facts-and-statistics/>

The United Nations, Unicef, IMF, World Bank, Monsanto, and others focus on helping the poor by giving them food, by loaning them money, and by encouraging them to use expensive seeds, poisons and machines while using livestock, monoculture and tilling methods.

Assorted videos on food aid:

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=food+aid+africa

Link to the website of the world's largest emergency food provider:

<https://www.wfp.org/preventing-hunger>

Redefining Poverty and Wealth

Personal reflection essay: What is wealth? What kinds of things make us wealthy?

Ideas to consider: clean air, water and good soil and health.

Articles to read to inform your writing:

<http://www.un.org/en/events/desertificationday/background.shtml>

<http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/scarcity.shtml>

<http://www.health.harvard.edu/blog/astounding-increase-in-antidepressant-use-by-americans-201110203624>

<http://listovative.com/top-15-fattest-countries-world-rtr/>

Problems and Criticisms of Conventional Solutions to Hunger

Warm water, hunger and global warming

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2014/feb/09/global-water-shortages-threat-terror-war>

What are we feeding the hungry?

<https://www.wfp.org/news/news-release/us-wheat-shipment-arrives-yemen-help-wfp-provide-vital-food-assistance>

<https://www.wfp.org/nutrition/nutrition-in-emergencies>

Malnutrition and obesity

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/dr-mark-hyman/malnutrition-obesity_b_1324760.html

Criticisms of UN's FAO, WFP, etc.:

<https://fail92fail.wordpress.com/2011/08/18/failures-of-united-nations-part-3-wfp-and-who/>

Giving livestock to the poor:

1. <http://plancanada.ca/GiftsofHope/products/1-All-gifts/47-Goat/?gclid=CMWz5srsvM0CFQiQaQodOX0Dcw&gclidsrc=aw.ds>

2. <http://www.oxfam.ca/our-work/where-we-work/horn-and-east-africa/you-get-my-goat>

Criticisms of livestock dependency

<http://www.worldlandtrust.org/news/2013/03/giving-goats-poor-people-africa-not-good-idea>

Lending money to the poor; medium-difficult article:

<http://www.africaeconomicanalysis.org/articles/gen/10216173850.html>

United Nations and Fast Food

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=51920#.V2nv3bgrLIU>

Ted Talk criticism of giving aid to Africa:

https://www.ted.com/talks/andrew_mwenda_takes_a_new_look_at_africa?language=en

Detailed, advanced survey and criticism of the food aid world:

<http://www.globalissues.org/article/748/food-aid>

Monoculture and Polyculture

Assorted videos

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=monoculture+agriculture

Alternative Methods of Feeding the World

Permaculture and low-tech solutions: video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5AaYsZYz3VI>

(you could skip the first few minutes)

What is the solution to wasteful and unhealthy wood-burning? How does it work?

If people burn less wood, what will happen to their environment?

What is the solution to water scarcity? What other solutions exist?

What is the affordable medicine for preventing malaria? How does it work?

Research: how many people die of malaria every year?

What are some conventional methods of preventing malaria?

Farmer-Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) video

(This video is quite boring, so please skip around until you learn the solution offered by this speaker).

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dm_qlyvdZ_A

Where is Niger? Which desert is inside the country?

What is Tony Rinaudo's method of improving crop yields and harvests? Explain how it works. Discuss how trees impact harvest by providing fertilizer and shade, attracting animals, reducing evaporation, pests and sandstorms.

What are some reasons farmers did not want to use Tony's method?

What are some of the reasons farmers did not care for the trees before Tony persuaded them?

Gardening instead of farming

<http://www.rodalorganicle.com/garden/7-secrets-high-yield-vegetable-garden>

Vegetarianism and its Benefits to Health, Land Use, and the Environment

Assorted videos

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=saving+land+vegetarianism

Assorted Articles

<https://www.google.ca/search?q=saving+land+vegetarianism&oq=saving+land+vegetarianism&aqs=chrome..69i57j69i60.173j0j4&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8>

Black Beans versus Beef

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HE_FpSSK94k

A chart showing that people (and their livestock) eat too many grains:

<http://www.2ndchance.info/birdlover-cerealsword.pdf>

Lack of fruit and vegetables

<http://www.who.int/dietphysicalactivity/fruit/en/>

Insects as food:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eKRUuGeTOg0>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pRoUQ2N5nVk>

Nature and Healing the Mineral Cycle

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NZ65wBmyCdE>