

TEST YOUR POVERTY IQ

- 1) The worst drought in the 20th century killed 250,000 to 5 million people. How many now face death from drought and other factors in southern Africa?
 - a. 5 million
 - b. 10 million
 - c. 14 million
 - d. 20 million

- 2) Average life expectancy in developing countries, age 64 (in 1999), equaled life expectancy for people in the U.S. in what year?
 - a. 1990
 - b. 1962
 - c. 1941
 - d. 1918

- 3) About how many people die each day from hunger or hunger-related causes throughout the world?
 - a. 10,000
 - b. 24,000
 - c. 56,000
 - d. 100,000

- 4) What is the official poverty line for a family of four (with two children) in the United States in 2001?
 - a. 13,090
 - b. 15,600
 - c. 17,960
 - d. 20,340

- 5) Which U.S. state has the highest percentage of people living in poverty?
 - a. Mississippi
 - b. Alabama
 - c. New Mexico
 - d. West Virginia

- 6) Which U.S. state has the lowest percentage of people in poverty?
 - a. Connecticut
 - b. Washington
 - c. Hawaii
 - d. New Hampshire

- 7) Which area of the world is home to the greatest number of hungry people?
 - a. Indian subcontinent
 - b. Africa
 - c. East Asia
 - d. No. & So. America

- 8) Which of these countries has the highest child poverty rate?

- a. Hungary
 - b. United States
 - c. Poland
 - d. Italy
- 9) 1.7 million is the number of:
- a. Residents of Nebraska
 - b. AIDS orphans in Uganda
 - c. Both of the above
 - d. Neither of the above
- 10) The percentage of U.S. poor in female-headed households was 24% in 1959. In 1999 it was:
- a. 12%
 - b. 24%
 - c. 45%
 - d. 57%
- 11) How many people in the world live on less than \$1 a day?
- a. 70 million
 - b. 650 million
 - c. 1.2 billion
 - d. 2 billion
- 12) Throughout the world, women are more likely to be illiterate than men. Which country has the lowest female literacy rate?
- a. India
 - b. Nepal
 - c. Brazil
 - d. Afghanistan
- 13) The richest fifth of the world population consume 45% of all meat and fish. The poorest fifth consume:
- a. 1%
 - b. 5%
 - c. 25%
 - d. 45%
- 14) Nearly 13% of children in the U.S. are overweight. By contrast, what percentage of children in the developing world are underweight?
- a. 10%
 - b. 13%
 - c. 20%
 - d. 28%
- 15) Proposed federal spending for nuclear weapons in 2003 is \$16.5 billion. This could provide healthcare for how many U.S. kids?
- a. 1 million
 - b. 5 million
 - c. 7 million
 - d. 10 million

ANSWERS:

Q1 (c) 14 million. In the southern African countries of Malawi, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Swaziland, Lesotho and Zambia, about 14 million people currently face starvation. A continuing drought and other climate problems, widespread HIV/AIDS and government corruption all contribute to this problem.

Q2 (c) 1941. The World Bank reported that life expectancy in developing countries was 64 in 1999, up from 55 years in 1970. Countries in Sub-Saharan Africa have the lowest life expectancy — age 47 in 1999. The National Center for Health Statistics reports that life expectancy in U.S. in 2000 was 76.9 years.

Q3 (b) 24,000.

Q4 (c) 17,960. Read more about how the U.S. Census bureau determines poverty thresholds at: <http://www.census.gov/hhes/poverty/povdef.html>

Q5 (a) Mississippi. According to the 2000 U.S. Census, 19.9% of people in Mississippi are living in poverty.

Q6 (d) New Hampshire. According to the 2000 U.S. Census, 6.5% of New Hampshire residents are living in poverty.

Q7 (a) Indian subcontinent. The Indian subcontinent is home to almost half of the world's hungry people. About 40% of the world's hungry live in Africa and the rest of Asia.

Q8 (b) United States. The child poverty rate in the U.S. is among the highest in the developing world. Read more about child poverty in the U.S. and other developed countries at: <http://www.aecf.org/kidscount/kc2002/summary/summary11.htm>

Q9 (c) Both. Uganda has the highest number of AIDS orphans in Sub-Saharan Africa. Nigeria and Ethiopia follow, with 1.4 million and 1.2 million AIDS orphans, respectively.

Q10 (d) 57%

Q11 (c) 1.2 billion. The World Bank has estimated that 1.2 billion people live on less than \$1 a day, and 2.8 billion people live on less than \$2 a day.

Q12 (b) Nepal. Nepal's female literacy rate is 13%. Its overall literacy rate of 28% is the lowest in the world.

Q13 (b) 5%

Q14 (d) 28% Although the percentage of underweight children in developing countries decreased between 1990 and 2000, 28% of children in the developing world are still underweight. A total of 150 million children in the developing world are malnourished.

Q15 (c) 7 million. \$16.5 billion would provide healthcare for more than 7 million children in the U.S. This is the same amount as proposed nuclear spending by the U.S. in 2003.

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