

A Proposal for Combating World Hunger LEVEL 2

A

World Hunger

Hunger is occurring all around the world. For the black and the white, and the old and the young, hunger continues to be a daily struggle for many. 800 million men, women, and children die each day, due to severe poverty and malnutrition in their countries. (www.solcomhouse.com/hunger.htm) Poverty is not the lack of wants but the lack of needs. People who live in poverty may live without enough food, shelter, clothing etc. These are items that most in the developed countries take for granted. Poverty is a key cause of world hunger and in order to combat this issue, the international debt must be reduced, people must be better educated, and an increase in technology must be made.

Step One: Reduction of International Debt

International debt is a major factor affecting poverty, as it is a continuous strain on the developing countries, which are the primary group who are being threatened by world hunger. The interest payments on this debt are so immense that no matter how hard the people work it never seems to be hard enough. The developing countries are working so hard at producing cash crops for the developed countries in order to make money to pay off their debt that they are unable to feed their own people. If this debt were to be eliminated or reduced, then world hunger could be reduced. This could be done under the supervision of the United Nations. Third world countries could then use their crops to provide food for their own people.

Step Two: Education

Once they are debt-free, third world countries then need to turn their attention to the task of education. They should have more money to invest in schools that would enable all their people to become literate. Through poverty, world hunger becomes a 'circle of life.' Poor children who have little to no access to an education become adults who are less economically productive due to malnutrition and therefore will make way for a new generation, who will then repeat the same circle, (www.library.thinkquest.org) resulting in the 'circle of life.' When people can read and write and learn some basic skills they have a better chance of supporting themselves and their families. This would be a big step in reducing world hunger. International organizations could help by providing teachers to start with and so on.

B

Step Three: Technological Advancement

Once the problem of education has been taken care of, the lack of technological advancement can be addressed, as developing countries will have the educated people they need to operate the technologies. With new technologies, the people of the developing countries would be able to plant bigger and better crops to feed their own population. They would also be able to produce cash crops which would lead to an improved economy, so reducing poverty still further. With more education, people in developing countries they would be able to create new crops using biotechnology and reduce the amount of crop loss. (www.tomorrowsbounty.org)

Conclusion

Poverty is the main cause of world hunger. (www.sponsor-child.com) UNICEF estimates that approximately 1.3 billion people live on less than one dollar per day, (www.sponsor-child.com) which shows the extent of the problem. The poor lack the education needed in order to provide themselves and their families with proper nutrition, as well as an income. In order to combat this problem many steps must be taken. With the reduction of international debt, money in third world countries can be used for food, education, and technological advancement and poverty can be on the decline.

LEVEL 2

C

Bibliography

“Hunger.” The Power for the People. 20 March 2003
<<http://www.solcomhouse.com>>.

“Save the Children.” World Hunger Statistics. 20 March 2003
<<http://www.sponsor-child.com>>.

“What is World Hunger?” The Story of Food. 2000.
<<http://www.library.thinkquest.org/cool1722/hunger/html>>.

“World Hunger.” Biotechnology Benefits World Hunger. 20 March 2003
<<http://www.tomorrowsbounty.org>>.

Teacher’s Notes**Knowledge and Understanding**

- The student describes a cause of world hunger with some effectiveness. The cause is identified as poverty, but the description of the relationship between poverty and hunger is too general (e.g., “Poverty is not the lack of wants but the lack of needs”). Some of the information provided is incorrect (e.g., “800 million men, women, and children die each day”).

Thinking

- The student analyses poverty as a cause of world hunger with some effectiveness. Some evidence of research is evident, but for the most part the references cited only provide general background about the cause (e.g., statistics on poverty and malnutrition).

Communication

- The student communicates information and ideas with some clarity. The proposal is well structured, with a clear three-part strategy. However, some of the ideas are expressed in vague terms (e.g., “International organizations could help by providing teachers to start with and so on” and “In order to combat this problem many steps must be taken.”). Some of the terms used are clichéd (e.g. “circle of life”, “plant bigger and better crops”).

Application

- The student develops a somewhat effective three-step strategy – reduction of debt, improved education, and technological advancement – but does not provide enough detail about implementing the steps to make them seem feasible. For example, the statement “This [elimination of the debt] could be done under the supervision of the United Nations.” does not acknowledge the enormity of the problem or the reluctance of the lending countries to forgive these debts. Similarly, the steps required to improve education are not spelled out.

LEVEL 2

- The student justifies the three-step strategy with some effectiveness. Each step is explored and the student makes clear connections between the three types of improvement and combating hunger. However, the student's arguments are weakened by a lack of supporting information about how the steps would be implemented and about countries where similar actions have succeeded.

Comments

This work is representative of solid level-2 performance. The student demonstrates some degree of achievement of the expectations in all four categories of knowledge and skills.

Next Steps

In order to improve his or her performance, the student needs to:

- be more specific and provide more detail when describing the connection between poverty and hunger;
- base all ideas and concepts on accurate, substantiated information, and take care to read source material accurately, to avoid misconceptions;
- support the feasibility of each step with specific examples of successful implementation in specific countries, and acknowledge the difficulties involved in implementing some strategies;
- proofread carefully to ensure that language and terminology is clear and specific.