

A World Health Challenge: Comparing Solutions

Topic: You will describe a specific health challenge that exists in the world today. You will then analyze and compare how two separate countries are trying to solve the problem.



Goals:

- ❖ Use Comparison/Contrast Rhetorical mode to write an essay
- ❖ Review organizational skills
- ❖ Explain statistics
- ❖ Use the target vocabulary and expressions in your essay
- ❖ Use the sentence structures for comparison and contrast

Process:

Step 1: Choose a specific **health issue** that is currently afflicting many people.

Step 2: Choose **two countries** that are working hard to alleviate the effects of that health issue.

Step 3: Research each country's **approach to solving** the problem.

Step 4: Analyze and **compare** each solution.

Step 5: Explain **which solution** you think **is better** and why that solution is better.



Part 1 Idea Generating for choosing a topic

Health Issues: What do you know about health challenges in the world today? With a partner discuss the following table and enter as much information as you can.

Health Issue	Countries Affected	What do you know about the problem?	What would you like to know?	What are some possible solutions?
Infant Mortality			<i>I want to know why so many babies die so young.</i>	
Malaria and/or Dengue		<i>This disease is mostly in tropical countries.</i>		
Pesticide poisoning				
Tuberculosis				
Over population				<i>Family planning and safe contraception.</i>
Low life expectancy				
Polio				
Malnutrition and/or vitamin A deficiency				
Drug addiction	<i>USA, Brazil, Thailand...</i>			
Lack of clean drinking water				
Radiation				
Heart Disease				
HIV/AIDS				

Now read the article “[Health Issues](http://www.globalissues.org/issue/587/health-issues)” by Anup Shah.

(<http://www.globalissues.org/issue/587/health-issues>)

Write definitions and examples for the following important vocabulary from the article:

despite

lack access to

are caused by

far more than

preventable

roughly

new cases

vaccine

more than half

disability

acute illness

annually

immunization

Homework: Choose a current health challenge. Use the SGS library or the Internet to find information about that health challenge. Choose 2 countries that are trying to solve or **alleviate** the problem. Bring at least two articles to class next week.

Part 2 Writing a Definition

When writing an essay it is important that you clearly define certain terms so that your reader can understand exactly what you are mean. For example, if you are writing about “tuberculosis” and you don’t provide a specific definition your reader may be lost from the beginning of your essay. Here is the process for providing a definition:

- 1) State the word/term
- 2) Provide clear and basic information
- 3) Provide facts or examples

Example:

Vague: Tuberculosis is a disease.

Better: Tuberculosis is a preventable disease.

Even Better: Tuberculosis is a preventable disease the kills nearly 2 million people every year.

Add clear and basic information/Add facts or examples:

Tuberculosis (also called **TB**) is a preventable disease the kills nearly 2 million people every year. The disease is highly **contagious**, that is, it can spread from one person to another very easily. **Symptoms** of tuberculosis include fever, cough, night sweats, weight loss and loss of appetite. A vaccine for TB has existed since 1921 but it may have **side effects**.

You CAN HELP STOP TB in NEW YORK CITY!

TUBERCULOSIS (TB) is a serious disease, but it can be PREVENTED and CURED!

If you have the SIGNS...

- COUGH**
for more than 2 weeks
- FEVER**
chills, night sweats
- NO APPETITE**
and weight loss
- FEELING TIRED**
all of the time

Get a FREE TB Test! And FREE treatment if you need it!

...at an NYC Health Department Chest Center

CONFIDENTIAL!
Saturday hours available!
We **DO NOT** ask about immigration status!
Language services available in more than 170 languages!

CALL 311 for more information!

Get locations and hours for NYC Health Department Chest Centers!
Make an appointment!
Locate free or low-cost community clinics!

NYC

Exercise 1: Define the following words:

Alleviate

Contagious

Symptoms

Side effects

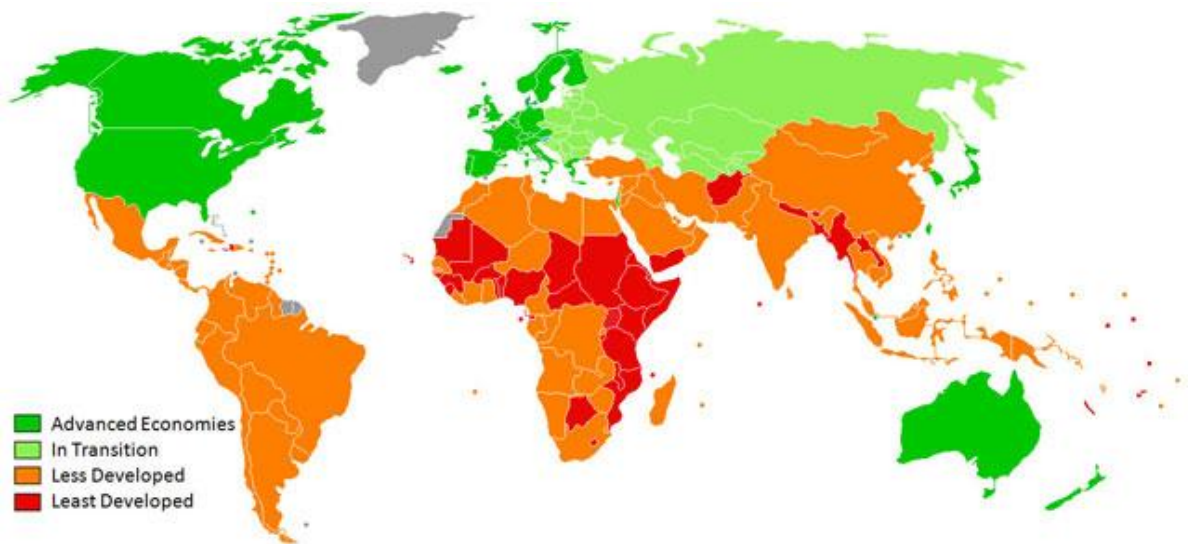
Extra points TIP—Try to use these words in your essay!!!!!!

Exercise 2: Write a definition for your essay's health issue:



Part 2: Organizing Ideas

Country	Details of Health Challenge	Approach to alleviate the problem (solution)



Essay Outline

Introduction

Hook (shocking statistic about health issue)

Thesis Statement

Body

Main Point 1 Topic Sentence (definition of health challenge)

Main point 2 Topic Sentence (Country 1 solution)

Main Point 3 Topic Sentence (Country 2 Solution)

Conclusion (Which solution is better? Why? Advantage? Disadvantage?)

Helpful Links

Global Health Council

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

World Health Sciences

<http://www.worldhealthsciences.com/>

Vitamin A deficiency

<http://data.unicef.org/nutrition/vitamin-a.html>

Unsafe drinking water

http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/facts_figures/en/index.html

World Health Organizations (has links to specific countries/health issues)

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

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

<http://www.gatesfoundation.org/Pages/home.aspx>