



# **World Affairs Challenge Research Planning Guide**

**University of Denver**

**Center For Teaching International Relations**

**2008: Global Health**

# Introduction

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The **World Affairs Challenge** is an annual academic competition that gives teams of middle and high school students an opportunity to discover for themselves how global issues affect their daily lives.

Each year the Challenge centers on an international theme. Student teams work with their teachers and the Challenge Research Advisor to select, research and develop a solution for an issue related to that theme. The Challenge culminates in a one-day competition during which teams share their formal presentation.

# World Affairs Challenge

## Competition

The competition day includes three events. The **formal presentation**, the **collaborative question** and the **global awareness quiz**.

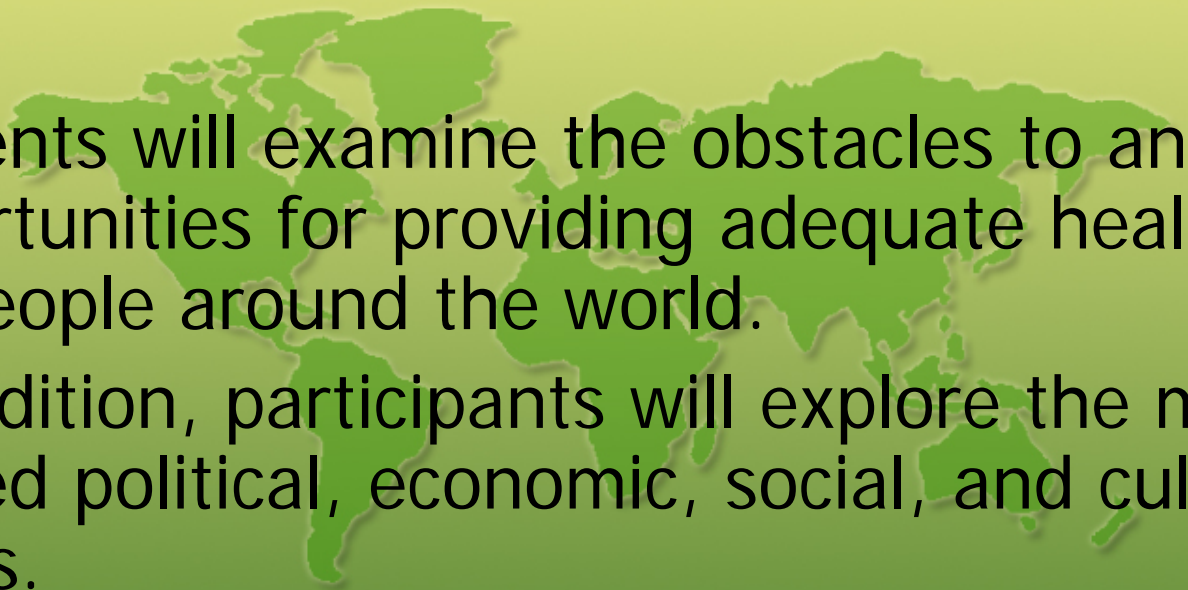
This World Affairs Challenge Research Planning Guide is designed to assist teachers and students with the creation of the formal presentation.

# World Affairs Challenge

## Steps to find your Formal Presentation Topic

1. Search the *Global Health: Areas of Focus* for topics of interest (see next slides)
2. Choose an issue relating to the 2008 theme of Global Health—what do you want to know more about?
3. After you select your topic, you will need great depth and wide breadth of information relating to your topic—dig deep!
4. The majority of your time will be spent doing research, and your formal presentation is the culmination of your studies

# 2008 World Affairs Challenge Theme: Global Health - What is it?



Students will examine the obstacles to and opportunities for providing adequate health care for people around the world.

In addition, participants will explore the many related political, economic, social, and cultural issues.

We challenge students to think creatively and propose their own ideas and solutions to improve **Global Health**.

# Global Health

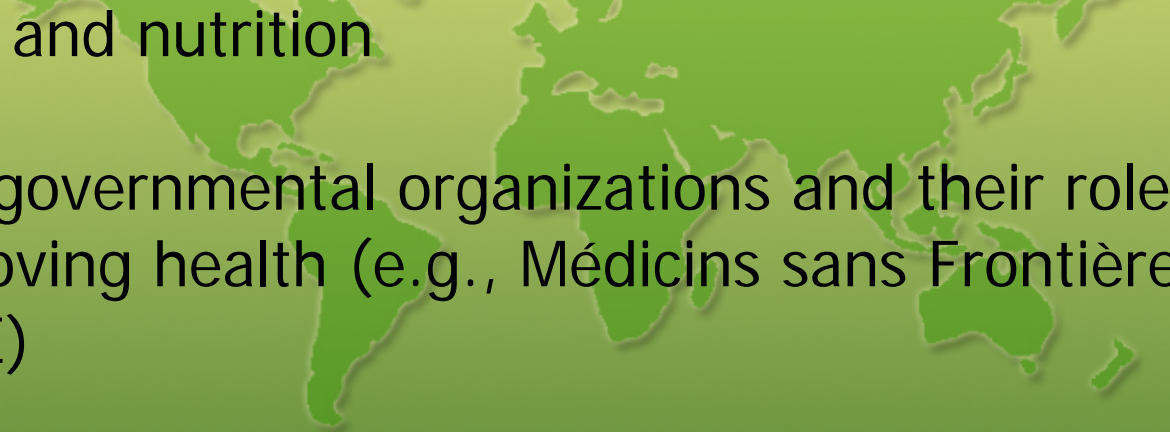
## Areas of Focus

- 
- Resources/Access
  - Types of Diseases
  - Regional Focus
  - Health Care Systems/ Health Care
  - Compare and Contrast
  - Water and Health
  - Health and Human Rights
  - Gender and Health
  - Explore It!

# World Affairs Challenge

## Global Health Areas of Focus

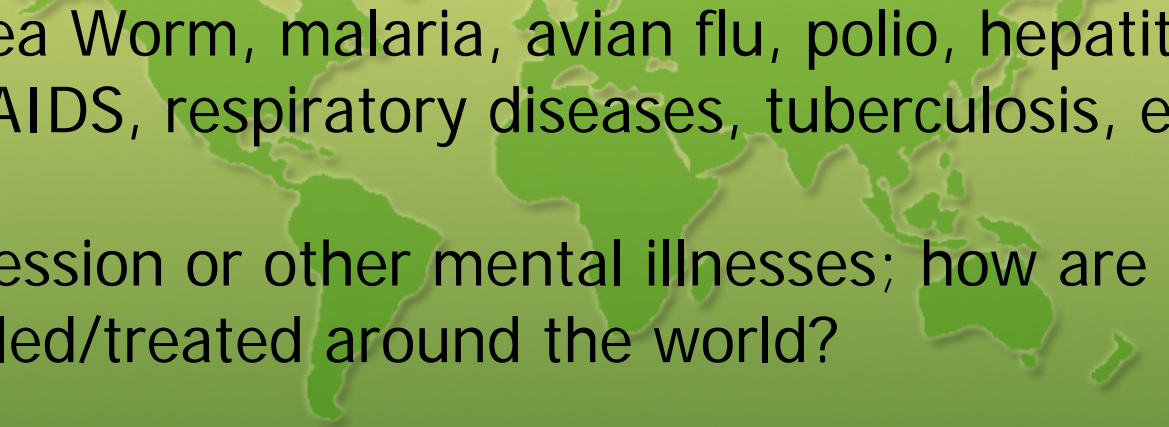
### Resources / Access

- 
- Food and nutrition
  - Non-governmental organizations and their role in improving health (e.g., Médecins sans Frontières, CARE)
  - What are the health impacts of natural disasters?
  - How are health needs of refugees met?

# World Affairs Challenge

## Global Health Areas of Focus

### Types of Diseases

- 
- Guinea Worm, malaria, avian flu, polio, hepatitis, HIV/AIDS, respiratory diseases, tuberculosis, etc.
  - Depression or other mental illnesses; how are these handled/treated around the world?
  - Eradicating diseases (e.g. polio, measles, mumps)
  - How are physical/mental disabilities handled and/or treated around the world?

# World Affairs Challenge

## Global Marketplace Areas of Focus


### Regional Focus

- 
- Access to medicine in African countries
  - Comparison of health care systems in two or more countries
  - China's health care system
  - Health in Iraq, or other worn-torn areas

# World Affairs Challenge

## Global Marketplace Areas of Focus


### Health Care / Systems of Health Care

- 
- Access to medical care
  - How do pharmaceutical companies test their products?  
How are these products distributed?
  - What actions are countries taking to prevent food-borne illnesses?
  - Cloning, genetic engineering, genetically-modified organisms and their implications

# World Affairs Challenge

## Global Health Areas of Focus

### Compare and Contrast

- 
- Compare and contrast health care systems in different countries
  - Compare and contrast how a disease affects people in one place vs. another and why
  - Traditional vs. contemporary (e.g. western, eastern, shamanic, naturopathic, holistic, etc.) medical practices: what are their implications?
  - Compare and contrast sanitation methods and their effects on health

# World Affairs Challenge

## Global Health Areas of Focus


### Water and Health

- 
- The relationship between basic resources/services and observed health/illness
  - Drinking water quality; bathing water; water resources and supplies
  - Water supply and sanitation monitoring; water use; water-related diseases
  - How does pollution affect the health of an individual?  
What are the health impacts of natural disasters?

# World Affairs Challenge

## Global Health Areas of Focus

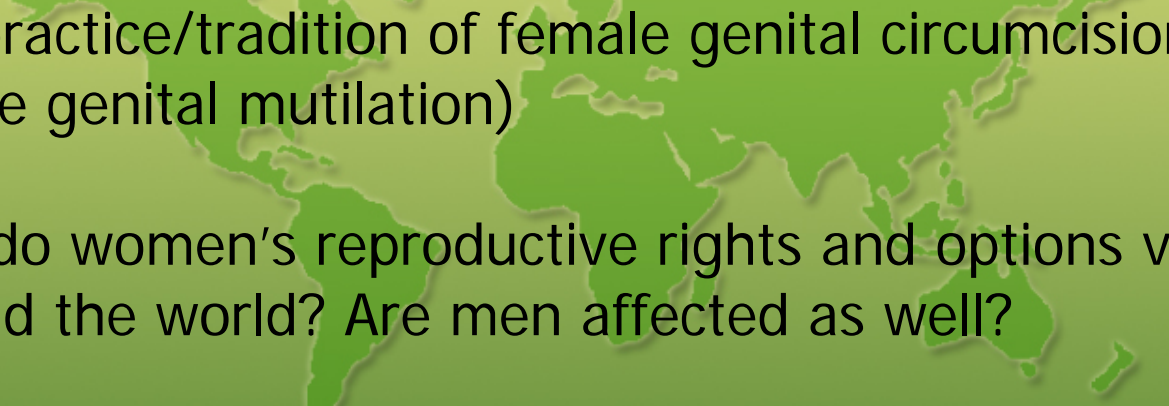
### Health and Human Rights

- 
- How is health a human right? What does this mean?
  - Indigenous people and their medicines/healing traditions; are there conflicts between these and “modern” societies?
  - Access to healthcare as a human right: is it? Does everyone have this right?
  - Pharmaceutical companies’ intellectual property rights vs. the human rights of those who would benefit from the companies’ medications

# World Affairs Challenge

## Global Health Areas of Focus

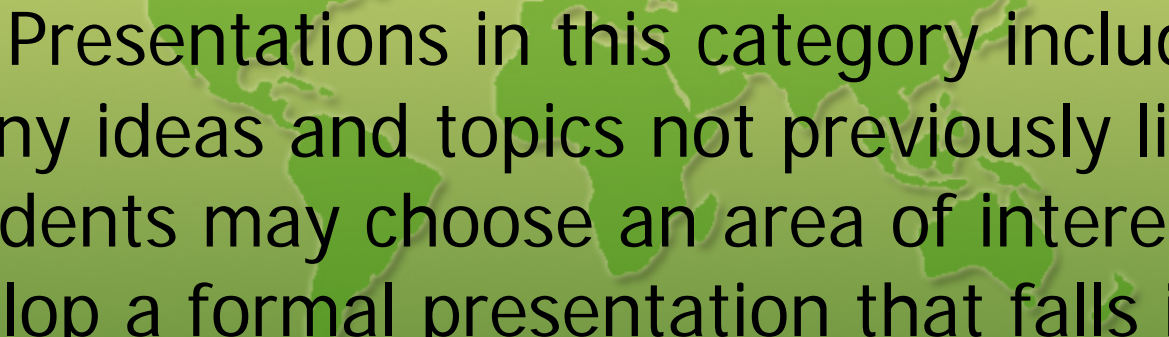
### Gender and Health

- 
- The practice/tradition of female genital circumcision (or female genital mutilation)
  - How do women's reproductive rights and options vary in around the world? Are men affected as well?
  - How does the dissemination of health education and/or practices help or hurt both genders? Their children? What role does religion play?
  - Poverty, unequal power relationships between men and women, lack of education: what effects to these concepts have on women's or men's health?

# World Affairs Challenge

## Global Health Areas of Focus

**Explore It!**



Presentations in this category include any ideas and topics not previously listed. Students may choose an area of interest and develop a formal presentation that falls into the broader category of **“Global Health.”**

# World Affairs Challenge

## Steps to find your Formal Presentation Topic

1. Search the *Global Health: Areas of Focus* for topics of interest
2. From the **Areas of Focus**, choose an issue relating to **Global Health**—what do you want to know more about?
3. After you select your topic, you will need great depth and wide breadth of information relating to your topic—dig deep!
4. The majority of your time will be spent doing research, and your formal presentation is the culmination of your studies



# World Affairs Challenge



## Guided Research

You will be answering the following six questions:



- Who?
- Where?
- What?
- Why?
- When?
- How?



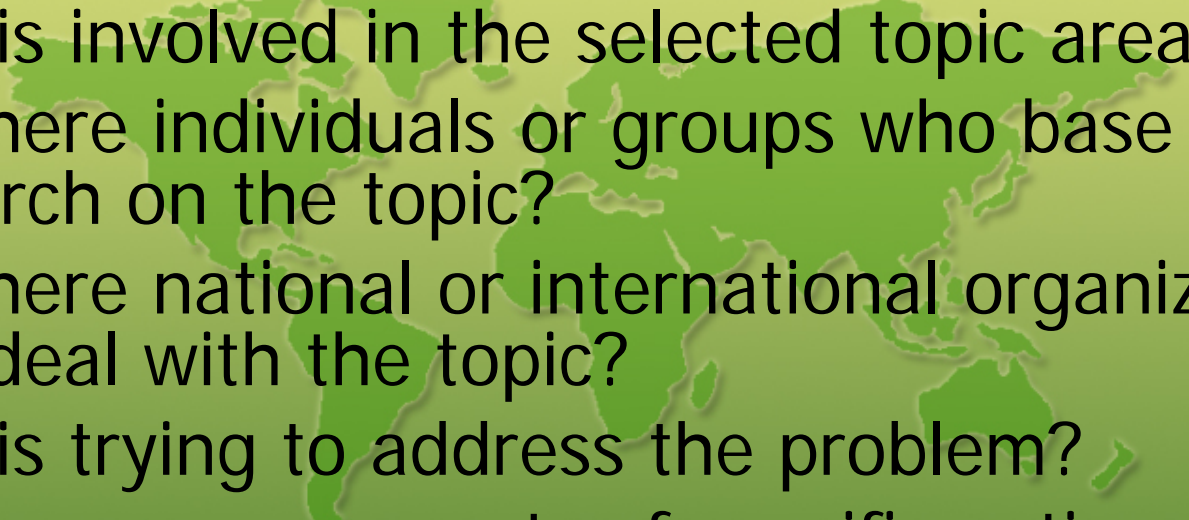
# World Affairs Challenge

## Develop A Question

- Create a question based on your topic to guide your research
- Make sure your question will provide the framework and purpose for your research
- Create a question that is both debatable and relevant to the annual theme
- Be sure it addresses the heart of the issue
- The question should promote further inquiry, not a question that can be answered with yes or no
- Include important political or philosophical issues

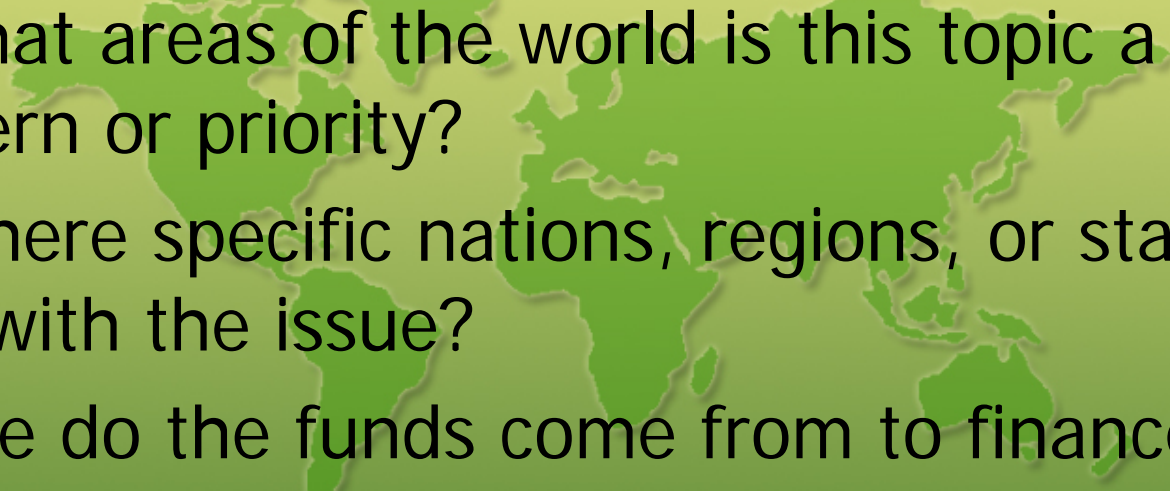
# World Affairs Challenge

## Who

- 
- Who is involved in the selected topic area?
  - Are there individuals or groups who base their research on the topic?
  - Are there national or international organizations who deal with the topic?
  - Who is trying to address the problem?
  - Are there governments of specific nations that are dealing with the issue?
  - Who benefits from various funds used to combat problems relating to your topic?
  - Do different groups have different viewpoints?

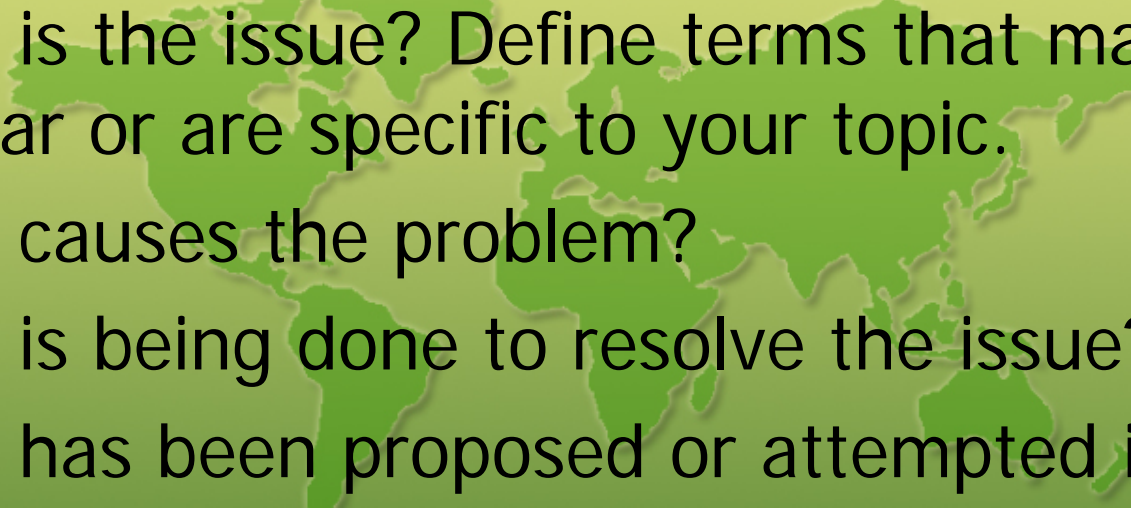
# World Affairs Challenge

## Where

- 
- In what areas of the world is this topic a concern or priority?
  - Are there specific nations, regions, or states that deal with the issue?
  - Where do the funds come from to finance proposed solutions?
  - Where do the funds come from that finance the problem?

# World Affairs Challenge

## What

- 
- What is the issue? Define terms that may not be familiar or are specific to your topic.
  - What causes the problem?
  - What is being done to resolve the issue?
  - What has been proposed or attempted in the past to resolve the issue?
  - What are the advantages and disadvantages to possible solutions?
  - What strategies have been successful or unsuccessful?

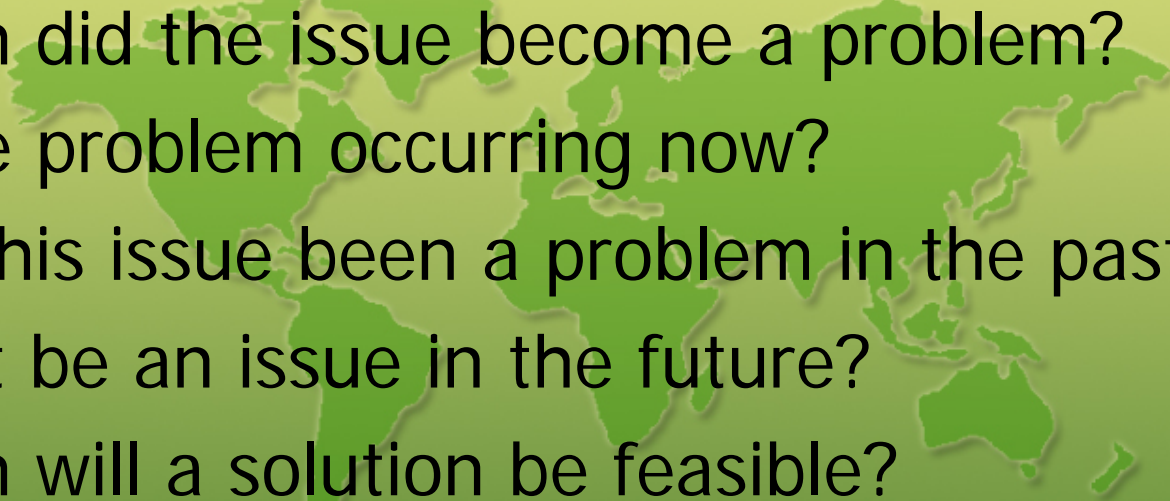
# World Affairs Challenge

## Why

- Is the topic historically a problem? Why?
- Why is it currently a problem?
- Do people, organizations or companies deal with the issue? Why?
- Why is this issue a *global* problem?

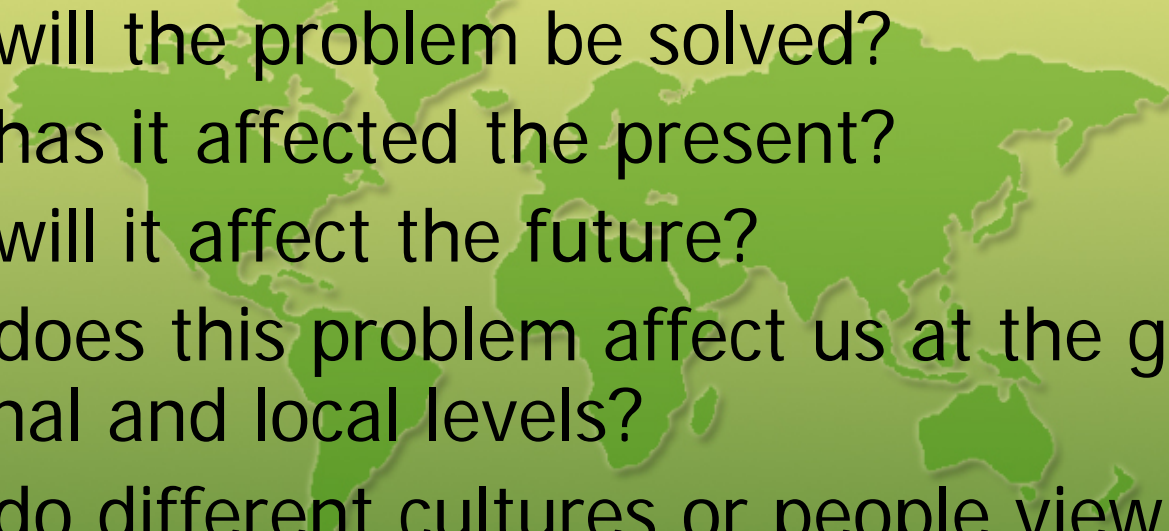
# World Affairs Challenge

## When

- 
- When did the issue become a problem?
  - Is the problem occurring now?
  - Has this issue been a problem in the past?
  - Will it be an issue in the future?
  - When will a solution be feasible?

# World Affairs Challenge

## How

- 
- How will the problem be solved?
  - How has it affected the present?
  - How will it affect the future?
  - How does this problem affect us at the global, national and local levels?
  - How do different cultures or people view the issue?
  - How do international, national or local laws affect the problem?

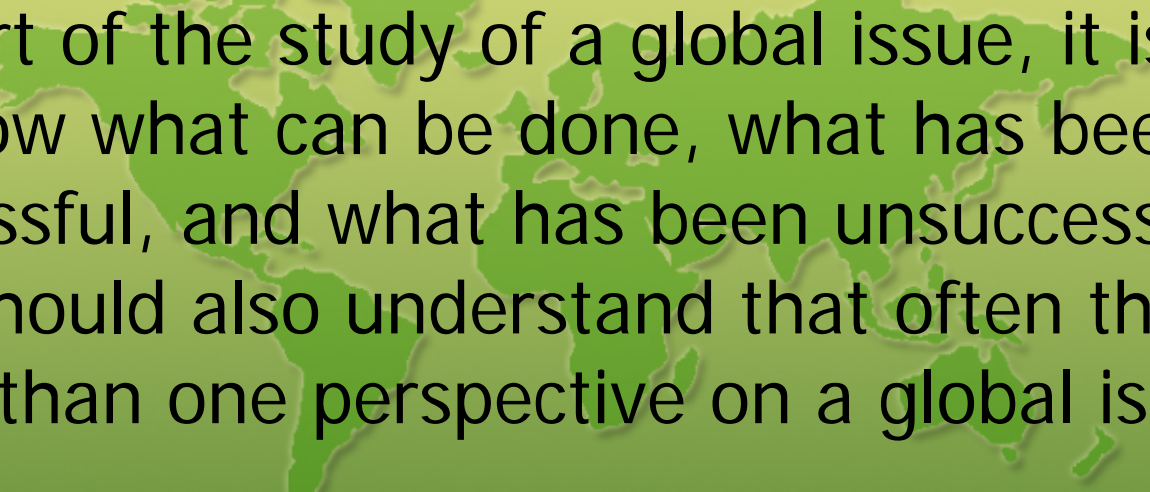
# World Affairs Challenge

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# World Affairs Challenge

## The Solution

- 
- As part of the study of a global issue, it is vital to know what can be done, what has been successful, and what has been unsuccessful. You should also understand that often there is more than one perspective on a global issue.
  - Try to look at the problem through different eyes (the individual, the town, the region, the state, the corporation or organization, the nation, the world). As individuals, we can be part of the global solution.

# World Affairs Challenge

## The Solution, *Continued*

- Research the topic and analyze the possible solutions to the selected issue. Decide why certain resolutions were or were not successful.
- Analyze the solutions and then brainstorm a list of your own possible solutions. You may elaborate on an existing resolution or create an original solution.
- Be prepared to discuss and critique your solutions.

# World Affairs Challenge

## Formal Presentation

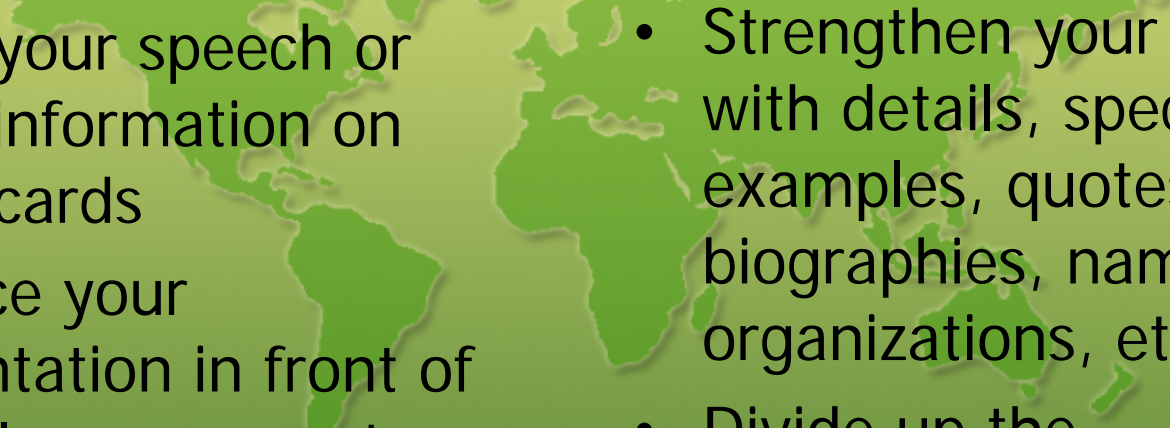
### Presentations Ideas

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- Re-enactment
  - Slide show
  - News broadcast
  - Puppet show
  - Play/Skit
  - Documentary
  - PowerPoint presentation
  - Web page
  - Simulation
  - Role playing
  - Movie
  - Point-Counterpoint/ Debate
  - Press conference
  - TV/Radio show
  - Model/Product demonstration
  - Talk show
  - Game show
  - Time travel
  - Case studies

# World Affairs Challenge

## Formal Presentation

### Things to do Before the Big Day

- 
- Write your speech or other information on index cards
  - Practice your presentation in front of your class or parents
  - Have an English teacher give you feedback on your grammar and presentation skills
  - Do a dress rehearsal
  - Strengthen your research with details, specific examples, quotes, biographies, names of organizations, etc.
  - Divide up the responsibilities among team members
  - Use the checklist to evaluate yourself (see next page)

# World Affairs Challenge

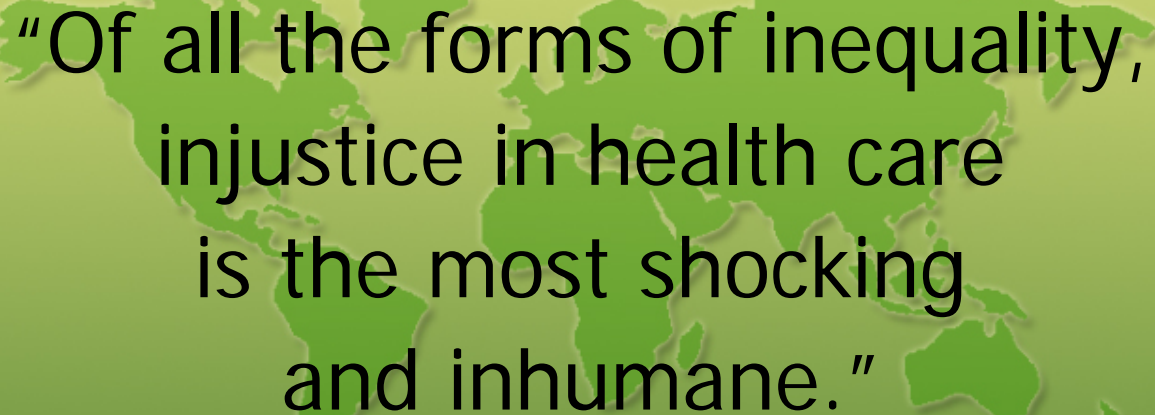
## Checklist

Use the following checklist to evaluate your presentation rehearsal

- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you approach the problem on a **global** level?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you propose an **innovative** yet **reasonable** solution?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Are you **creative** and **original** in your presentation?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you implement a **solution**?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you use the presentation rubric to **evaluate** your presentation? (teacher will provide)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you speak **loud** enough to be heard by everyone?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you observe the **time limit**?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you **rehearse** and **memorize** your roles?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you capture the **attention** of the audience?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Are you checking **spelling** and **grammarr** four ritten material?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you use **relevant** facts?

# World Affairs Challenge

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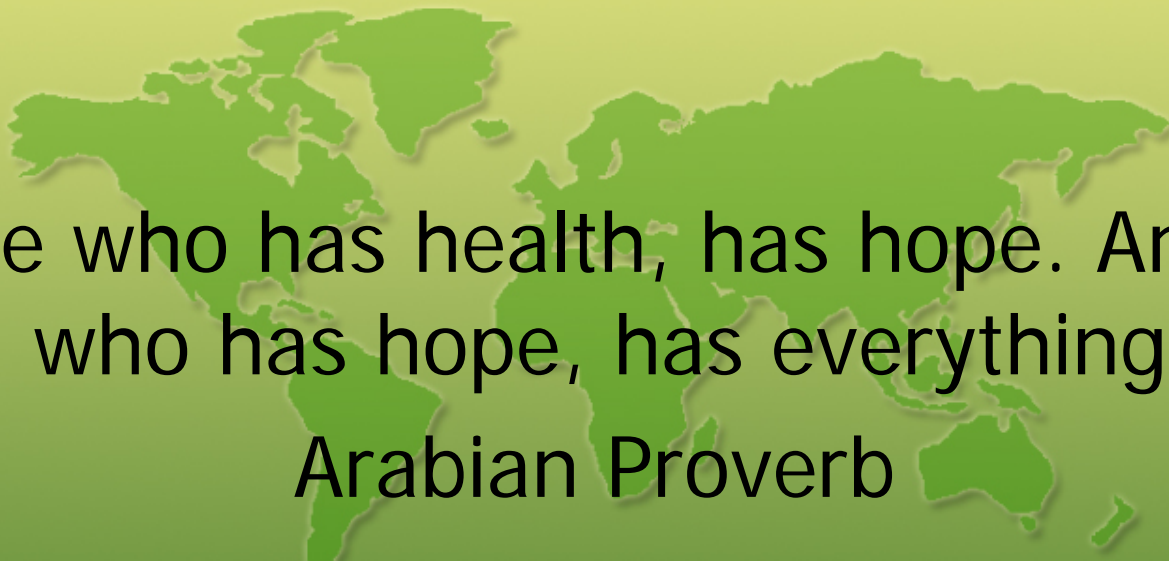


"Of all the forms of inequality,  
injustice in health care  
is the most shocking  
and inhumane."

Martin Luther King Jr.

# World Affairs Challenge

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“He who has health, has hope. And he who has hope, has everything.”

Arabian Proverb

# World Affairs Challenge

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"The greatest wealth is health."

Virgil