

POPULATION DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- 1) What comes to mind when you hear the word 'population'?
- 2) How would you describe the population of your country?
- 3) How has your country's population changed over the years?
- 4) The physicist Stephen Hawking said that if world population continues growing at its current rate, then "by 2600 we would all be standing literally shoulder to shoulder". Will this happen?
- 5) Is population growth a concern in your country?
- 6) What would happen in the world if there was a population explosion?
- 7) Is the population of your cities growing? How is this affecting the countryside?
- 8) Do you like looking at population surveys and statistics?
- 9) What do you think rural populations think about the pollution and mess cities are creating?
- 10) Is your society moving towards an ageing population? Is this a problem?

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STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- 1) Is there any population control in your country?
- 2) What kind of ethnic and immigrant populations live in your town?
- 3) Ex World Bank President Robert McNamara said: "Population growth is the gravest issue the world faces. If we do not act, the problem will be solved by famine, riots, insurrection and war." Do you agree?
- 4) Do you think a diverse population is good for your country?
- 5) What is a population crisis?
- 6) What factors influence changing population patterns?
- 7) Is contraception a good way to reduce population?
- 8) What do you think of 'one child per family' policies to curb population growth?
- 9) What will your country's population look like in 50 years from now?
- 10) What do you think of the idea of an international population tax?

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