



What does it mean to live in a globalized world?

English

Team 2

Poverty is a major obstacle that is linked to other obstacles, creating a vicious cycle that makes it difficult for youth to develop and expand intellectually. In our capitalist system, money is often a necessity making it difficult for everyone to receive an equal education. Everyone is aware that education is essential for personal development.

Team 3

Globalization is communication between people, any time, any place. There is a lack of equality between poor countries; rich get richer and the poor get poorer. Globalization has grown and will continue to do so faster and faster if we give it too much space.

Team 4

We live in a world of globalization. This means that frontiers between countries disappear a little more every day. For certain people, it will improve their way of life, but for others, it means dying a little bit everyday.

Today, globalization has a lot of positive and negative impacts in a lot of countries. The constant search for money makes it impossible for a lot of people to fulfill their basic needs. This also leads to the violation of human rights, degradation of the environment and enlargement of the gap between social classes. Erasing boundaries doesn't only lead to creating jobs and discovering different cultures, it also leads to the exploitation of the poor, and of women and children. What's more, it allows companies to choose where to move, depending on where rules are most easy. Therefore they can be more competitive and get a lot of profits. Globalization also leads to uniformisation of cultures, tastes, values. So globalization increases poverty, exploitation, the gap between social classes, degradation of the environment, uniformity of the world. It concerns only one thing : money, money, always money!

With NAFTA, and the WTO, companies now have the power to influence laws or sue the government if politics injure their profit. The search of profit by companies causes much abuse for children, women and others. It has a bad effect on social and financial conditions, on health and the environment

Team 5

The major impact of globalization is that the rich become richer and the poor become poorer. The idea of cultural globalization could be a good thing and a bad thing. Economic globalization is not a good thing as it stands. How globalization develops is the problem. Economic disparities exist principally because developed countries benefit first since they have the knowledge and technology.

Team 7

"We wouldn't like it if people came and dumped junk and oil and pollution and stuff on us, so why do we do it to the animals."

Jennie, 15, Canada



“It’s not the seventies anymore, and now our governments aren’t as socially active as they were then. They’re all concerned about their own money, and having more of it.”

Sean, 16, Canada

Team 8

Environmental and economic issues are strongly connected –we cannot separate one from the other. For instance, through globalization corporations may be able to spread their toxic waste to countries that are desperate for money or who are very corrupt. Globalization is/means: every aspect of the world becoming more and more accessible to all human beings.

Globalization has both positive and negative aspects:

Negative:

- Cultural assimilation: “Americanization” of values/culture through spread of Northern ICT (Information and Communication Technology); “Globalization ruined my home. We had a traditional way of living until major logging companies were able to come in and deforest our surroundings, and until oil rigs spilled oil into our waters. The ecosystems, weather and way of life have all been negatively affected. It is now a poor community.”
- Helping corporations who are bent on profit with no concern for the environment and social justice; loss of sovereignty and autonomy of people as corporations set the economic and political agendas
- Loss of community values and personal interaction as a result of urbanization.

Positive:

- The potential to share cultures and expand one’s views; the potential for the North to transfer technology and information (i.e. biotechnology, medicine, agricultural techniques) to countries of the south without socio-economic “conditions and constraints” (i.e. the upholding of corporate intellectual property rights; assimilation of Northern culture via media influence)

Team 9

To live in a globalized world means to become united. Globalization has changed our view on the world.

Team 10

Communication between the people of different countries is essential. This communication must not try to cause a melting pot of cultures but rather be a sharing of various cultures. What does it mean to live in a globalized world?

- Development, advancement, growth of anything.
- Shrinking the world through new technologies in transportation and communications.
- Less national sovereignty.
- Democratic rights are violated.
- Corporations controlling towns and communities.
- As a citizen, I would have less power over what happens within government in terms of education, environment.
- As a worker, my position is in a lower class...more work with less pay. It’s money driven world, social rights aren’t recognized.
- As an individual, you become a pawn in the world game of trading products. You would have no say; you would just need to go along with everything.
- Globalization could potentially lead to a point in our future where we would need to revolt to have rights. We will have to take a stand if people oppose us.
- Globalization will create serious consequences. Politicians are creating controversial projects, which will draw heavy opposition and lead to chaos. The change will confuse people in that they may have to get used to a change in living.
- Bi-lateral agreement between countries without discussion with citizens can lead to chaos.



- Workers are the base of a company and their rights should be respected with or without globalization and monopolies. We should consider how they live. There isn't a current balance between the way we allow people to live and how we acquire technology for a profit.
- If FTAA agrees to a new level of government, it has the potential to restrict the rights of workers in order to increase profits.
- Globalization can be positive and negative depending at what point the country is developing in politics, culture, and technology.
- We need to make the FTAA responsible for their statements. They should become socially responsible/accountable.
- Governments should put people as their priority ahead of money.

Team 11

The real globalized world...

Everyone is in the same boat without considering or respecting the differences between people (cultural, socio-economic) and countries (North- South inequities)

Team 12

Globalization. In some ways it can help a society but then it can also hurt a society. It is something that goes hand in hand with imperialism. They are trying to create one culture and one society but it is this idea and movement that can kill another culture. It is the removal of the boundaries of countries and nations to make one big world. The theory is worth while but the way in which many of these countries are going about it is corrupt and it is not beneficial to everyone. Things have changed from before, soldiers do not come to countries and invade and claim land but the new type of invasion in these countries is debt. For many of these countries the citizens do not know where the money has gone or sometimes if they ever got it. Even if soldiers do not come to the land they use dollar diplomacy to get what they want and to benefit themselves. It is the evil side of capitalism. It is a modern version of slavery.

The concept is good but when put into action it has not proven to be beneficial. If we cannot stop it now what can we do? We can find ways to set limits ...proportional limits which we can all follow and form our lives by. How to control...we need to find a way to stop international debts and stop taking so much from these countries that already do not have a lot of money. Debt prevents them from developing. It can also contribute to our stereotypes and the development of our values. How will we know who is good or bad or who is setting an example of good values and who is not? Many people think that the United Nations has the responsibility to deal with globalization but it is the top five countries that have the power and these countries are the United States, Great Britain, France, China and Russia. These powers have the ability to veto any movement and if they abolish the debts of "underdeveloped" countries the "Top Five" will not have as much power and they do not want that. So now it is the citizens who are responsible for improvements.

Team 13

"Living in a globalized world" is the notion that the world is a small place after all. Globalization is an increased interaction between countries. With this increased interaction there are benefits and consequences. It is unfortunate that in today's world the benefits are not as powerful as the consequences. Some positive examples are an increase in international human rights, the development of democracy, ridding the world of dictatorships, and attempting to improve the standard of living globally. It is very disappointing, but international corporations with money are also using globalization as a way to exploit the people in other "less developed" countries. Furthermore globalization is affecting the culture of other countries and the fear is that we are seeing an Americanization of the world (i.e. consumerism, pursuit of money only, an intense and ruthlessly capitalistic society).

Team 14



Globalization exploits people who have no way to protect themselves or have any choice. It corrupts society, government and entire countries by making money more priority than social/government funded services (World Bank and loans). They should have open door meetings so the people who are directly affected by the decisions know about them and have say. They also need to take into account the environment. We have to realize what we are doing is going to affect us in the future. We also need to educate people so when they become shareholders they are able to put pressure on the company.

Team 15

What does it mean to live in a globalized world?

- More opportunities
- Diversity – learning about different cultures
- Exchange of technology
- Having decisions made for you i.e. rich counties telling poorer countries what to do.

Who gains from Globalization and who loses?

- The rich countries that have large multinational and transnational organizations. The people who loose are the poor people of the poor counties.

“ 20 % of the population in Argentina control 80% of the money, out of the 20% who own the money 5% how 70% of the money and 15% own 30% of the money”

Team 16

What does it mean to live in a globalized world?

- Consumerism has been exaggerated. People are forced to buy certain products. They are under the illusion that they have to have certain things because they are getting them for a deal or a bargain.
- Child labour is not acceptable.
- In general, free trade is good. The question is, however, how to deal with it. It's not only the companies that are involved, but it is more a question of states. (Venezuelan viewpoint-José). It is not only the companies that exploit the people but also the governments who do not enforce labor regulations.
- The WTO and the World Bank are becoming more powerful in the world – even more than the government. These people are controlling our lives and we have not elected them received. They have become more powerful and left out with no control over our own economies.
- Everything would be private and then the people would no longer be able to defend themselves
- People will live in a world where exploitation is accepted.
- There would be very little personal freedom and people would not know what is going on with their government because they would no longer be informed on what is going on.
- Corporations are getting rich because they are supporting or controlling companies in developing countries.
- More than one hundred percent profits, making people emigrate to America because they paid people in America too much money, so they moved their companies back to developing countries.
- The lower class doesn't gain much profit from this situation.
- The fact of the matter is that MICHAEL Jordan is making millions of dollars to sell the product to make it appealing to people, yet at the same time these companies are employing smaller companies who only pay their employees a minimum wage. Yet these people are not monitoring the countries from which they are purchasing these products.
- Everyone will lose out. There will be a large lower, a small, very rich class, and a small middle class.
- Companies will benefit, as will people who have made investments in these companies.



- Companies are able to sue other countries or other organizations within Canada and the US and Mexico.

Team 17

Globalization only benefits rich countries and makes poor countries become poorer.
Globalization can be seen as a mechanism to socialization.

Team 18

I think that this phenomenon is becoming dangerous. Where are the limits? Do we live in a democratic system? No. People never get to give their opinions. Maybe people would have had ideas in order to enhance technology and improve relations with other countries while respecting peoples' choices, or at least the majority's point of view. Until now, everything has been going very fast and we don't know what's in store for us. It could be very dangerous. I'm not saying that globalization is bad: it can improve our products and our ways of life. But nothing can replace culture; you can't buy it, and it enhances the beauty and richness of people all around the world. Should humans or money rule the world? This is the question I ask myself.

Paul, 15 ans.