

Unit 1: Problems! Problems! Problems!

Level 1

Reading: How can we make the world a better place?

There are many problems in the world today. There is **global warming**. There is war. There is **prejudice**. There is sickness. There is **poverty**. There are many other problems, too. How can we solve these problems? What can **governments** do? What can businesses do? What can other **organizations** do? How can people work together? What can you and I do? These are very difficult questions. Let's look at some of the problems. The world is in danger. We must find the answers.

Key Words

global warming – the problem of the earth getting hotter and hotter
government – system that makes laws for a community, state, or nation
poverty – being very poor; not having money to buy food and pay rent
prejudice – dislike of a group, race, or religion; You are prejudice if you dislike a person because of his/her skin color, religion, nationality, gender, or sexual orientation.
organization – for example, a church, a school, business, etc.

Conversation

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| Wow! I'm stressed. There are so many problems! | |
| | What problems? |
| Did you read the newspaper today? | |
| | No. Is the news stressful? What's happening? |
| Yes. People are fighting wars. The air is dirty. The water is dirty. One group of people doesn't like another group of people. What can we do? | |
| | I don't know. Let's go see a movie. You can think about something else for a while. Then, you will feel better. |
| Okay. | |

Useful Phrases for Further Conversation

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| What do you think _____ should do about _____? | (we, government, businesses, other organizations) (war, prejudice, dirty air, dirty water) |
| I think _____ should _____. | (we, government, businesses) (stop fighting, clean the water, stop making the air dirty, stop making the water dirty) |