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EVROPSKÁ UNIE



MINISTERSTVO ŠKOLSTVÍ,
MLÁDEŽE A TĚLOVÝCHOVY



OP Vzdělávání
pro konkurenceschopnost



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PRACHATICE

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Problems of Mankind

Student's Worksheet

Let's have a look at the above mentioned problems in more details.

Wars

Peace is a precious thing. Peace is necessary to solve many problems in the world. Unfortunately up till now there have already been many “big wars” and many “little wars” around the world. All the wars in the table and many others happened in the 20th and 21st centuries.

Task 3: Put these wars into chronological order. Start with the oldest one:

WW 1
Falkland War
Vietnam War
Korean War
Yugoslav Wars
Algerian War
Iraq War
Soviet War in Afghanistan
Northern Mali Conflict
WW 2



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Famine

Famine is usually a consequence of wars, natural disasters and poverty. Three quarters of all the people in the world live in developing countries where **famine** is a common part of their lives. There is usually a poor agricultural land - it is desert, mountains, swamps or jungle. The climate isn't good for farming either. It rains a lot or it doesn't rain at all.

Farming methods are very primitive, people use hand tools and the seed is of a bad quality. It is very difficult to breed there cattle, because there isn't enough water or because of insect borne diseases. Farmers grow just enough to keep their families alive and if the harvest is bad, they have nothing to eat.

Task 4: What should we do to solve this problem? Discuss it with your friend.

Volcano Eruptions, Earthquakes, Tsunamis, Droughts, Floods

On Boxing Day 2004 one of the biggest natural disasters in modern history happened in the Indian Ocean near Sumatra, Indonesia. It was an undersea **earthquake** measuring 9.0 on the Richter scale followed by a huge **tsunami**. More than 160,000 people were killed immediately thousands were wounded and left homeless.

Everybody has heard about Krakatoa **volcano eruption** which was the biggest eruption in the 19th century, killed thousands of people and affected the weather around the world. But



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there are other 1,500 active volcanoes all over the world. In 2010 the air transport over Europe was paralyzed by the eruption of an Icelandic volcano Eyjafjallajökull. Fortunately this time nobody died.

Floods are usually associated with long-term heavy rains or a destruction of a dam. They damage buildings, bridges, roads, farm land and people may lose their lives. In our country the last floods were this summer.

Droughts are periods when there is no rain for a long time. In some places they last months or years. There are no supplies of natural and underground water which has an impact on the life in these areas. The consequences are famine, diseases and death. They are usually in Africa, but they occur in the other parts of the world too.

Task 5: Have you heard about these catastrophes? How can we help the people in these areas?

Overpopulation

Now the human population is about 7 billion people and it is still growing. The question is if our planet will be able to sustain the human life in future. There won't be enough land, food, water and natural resources. This will lead to poverty, famine, warfare etc.

Task 6: How can we solve this problem?



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AIDS

AIDS can happen to anyone, even to you. Worldwide about 35 million people have Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome - **AIDS**. It is a result of infection by a virus HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus). It attacks a person's immune system, so people die of all sorts of infections. There is no cure for it yet.

Task 7: How can you become infected with this virus?

Global Warming

Do you know the average global temperature has increased by almost one degree over the past century? And the average global temperature is still increasing. It means the climate will change and it will cause a lot of problems. Global warming will make the sea level rise, because warmer weather will make glaciers melt.

**Task 8: What will the consequences of global warming be?
Can we do anything against it?**



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