Virtual International Field Trip Travel Guide

Name







Estonia Piano Company - Then and Now - Estonia

1. How did the Estonia Piano Company adapt after freedom from the Soviet Union?

2. Why is the Estonia Piano Company considered to be such a remarkable success story?

3. Where is Estonia?

Ancient Athens - Greece

1. How did Athenians make sure citizens voted?



2. Should people be forced to vote? Why or why not?

3. According to this video, what made a person an "idiot?"



Life Behind the Berlin Wall - Germany

1. How did Germany end up becoming a Cold War experiment?

2. Why did West German voters support an economy like that in the United States?

3. Why did East Germany suffer such frequent and varied economic shortages compared to West Germany? How did this impact the economy of East Germany and its citizens?

4. What impact did West German advertising and television have on East German citizens?

5. Would you have risked your life to escape from East Berlin to West Berlin? Why or why not?



The People's Economy - China

1. What is political freedom? How is it different from economic freedom?

2. According to the video, new ideas mix uneasily with ancient Chinese traditions. Was communism an ancient Chinese tradition? What do you think is the main source of conflict with ideas about freedom in China today?

3. What are the drawbacks to living in a society where the government has so much control over the people and their actions?

4. If you have covered Germany already, what similarities do you see between East Germany/East Berlin in the past, and China? What differences?

5. Counterfeiting and lack of enforcement of copyrights have caused disputes with China's trading partners. What might be the long-term impact of failure to reform China's legal system?



Eusebio's Dream - Peru

1. For centuries, who has dictated land ownership in Peru?

2. What did the Peruvian government do with the land in 1969, when it outlawed private ownership?

3. According to Hernando de Soto, how many people in the world are locked out of the capitalist system?

4. What three things does Hernando de Soto say the majority of people lack that leaves them outside the capitalist system?

5. What does de Soto say is essential for "playing the capitalist game?"



Bee the Change - Chile

1. Why did the Hernandez family start a beekeeping business?

2. What did the Hernandez family do in response to the sudden decline in the bee population in 2005?

3. The Hernandez family business traditionally had no income in the months of April, May, and June. What season is it in Chile during these months? How and why are the seasons different in the Southern and Northern Hemispheres?

4. Where did the people of Chile turn for a solution to poverty in 1970? How did that work out?

5. Who were the "Chicago Boys?" Which economist influenced their thinking? What kind of economy and society did they believe in?



Recipe for Success - Zambia

1. How did Sylvia Banda use her creativity to solve two problems when she opened her first business?

2. After independence, why did many Zambians see socialism as a return to their traditional way of life?

3. How did Zambia begin to change in 1991?

4. Why did Sylvia and Hector Banda want to encourage Zambians to produce food for other Zambians instead of continuing to rely on foreign aid?

5. How has working with Sylva Food Solutions changed the lives of Zambian farmers?



A Taste of Chocolate - Hong Kong

1. Jimmy Lai was born into a wealthy family. Why did he end up carrying luggage in a railway station?

2. What is the rule of law? What happens when people can't rely on the rule of law and property rights?

3. How does this (not being able to count on rule of law and property rights) affect the economy and standard of living?

4. Why was Jimmy Lai happy working at the factory in Hong Kong in spite of the long hours and hard work?

5.Jimmy Lai said that in the media business he delivers information which is choice and choice is freedom. Why does he say that information is choice? How is choice freedom?



Hong Kong's Rise as an Economic Powerhouse

1. How did Hong Kong become an economic powerhouse?

2. How has Hong Kong's quality of life compared to the rest of the world under its free markets?

3. How has Hong Kong continued to change since Milton Friedman visited in 1980?

Mid-Trip Reflection!

Which country have you enjoyed "visiting" the most so far? Why?



Pennies a Day - Bangladesh

1. What is microcredit? How does microcredit offer Bangladeshi women economic and personal choices they didn't have before? What was missing?

2. How did financial success change the role of women in families? How were the villages affected?

3. How does the Grameen system manage such a high payback rate on its loans despite requiring no collateral and no legal contract?

4. Why do you think Professor Yunus concludes it is better to give women loans instead of aid (money)?

5.In Bangladesh, most women have choices made for them by their fathers, their husbands, and their governments. Does it make a difference whether you can make choices for yourself, or someone else makes them? Why?



Victoria's Chance - Ghana

1. Why are extremely poor parents in African villages willing to pay for private schooling for their children?

2. How are the private schools able to outperform the government schools at a lower teacher cost?

3. What do you think motivated Theophilus Quaye to start the Supreme Academy?

4. Why does James Tooley say competition is "good for the parents; good for the children; good for the system?"

5. How do the hopes and dreams of American parents compare with those of parents in Ghana?



The Bridge of No Return - North/South Korea

1. How did the division of North and South Korea originate?

2. What is the function of the Joint Security Area in the Korean Demilitarized Zone?

3. North Korea is presented in the video as both a predictable and an unpredictable foe. Which do you perceive to be the case? Or is it possible to be both predictable and unpredictable at the same time? Why?

4. What was Operation Paul Bunyan and why was it conceived and carried out?

5. North Korea often acts like a bully. They bait and provoke. Do you think appeasement (giving in) or deterrence works better with a bully? Why?



North Korea - HyperStalinist Regime?

1. Based on the video, what do you think *HyperStalinist* means?

2. Why do you think any country would choose to set up their economic and political system this way?

3. What are some reasons that it doesn't seem to be working for North Korea?



Maori Haka - New Zealand

1. How are the young people in this video connecting to their cultural roots?

2. Why do you think that they want to connect to their cultural roots?

3. What need is it fulfilling for them?



Sustainable Oceans & Seas - New Zealand

1. When a resource isn't owned by anyone – or belongs to everyone in common – why do people race to get or use as much of that resource as they can? Why don't they always do this with resources they own?

2. New Zealand is the 75th largest country in the world by land area. If all nations are subject to the same 200-mile offshore limit for fishing, how can New Zealand have one of the largest fishing zones in the world?

3. How does the QMS prevent overfishing without attempting to make it hard for people to fish?

4. Why are the fishermen in the video so careful about the way they handle the fish once they are caught and on board the boat? Why do they care about preserving the quality of the fish?

5. How did the Maori eventually gain control over 30% of the fishing industry in New Zealand?



Geography as Destiny - Mexico

1. How many people lived in Tenochtitlan in 1519? How many Spaniards did Cortez bring? What enabled the much smaller group to prevail?

2. Historians also point out that the Aztecs were often cruel to surrounding/conquered people groups, and so many of those groups assisted the Spaniards. There was also a civil war for Aztec leadership. In other words, a lack of unity hurt the Aztecs. How can nations promote unity? Why is that so important?

3. It is easy sometimes to see what benefits the more primitive society can receive. However, as the Columbian exchange (the widespread transfer of plants, animals, culture, human populations, technology, diseases, and ideas between the Americas, West Africa, and the Old World in the 15th and 16th centuries) makes clear, all groups benefit to some extent. What resources did the New World provide to the Old in this interchange?

4. At various times in history, and to some extent today, people have wanted the U.S. to be isolationist—to focus on itself and not be involved in the world. Given the argument in this video, how might that impact our nation? What might be the costs of such a choice?

5. Can the idea that cultures can grow by interaction with others be applied to individuals as well? Explain how this might apply to your own classroom or school.



No Longer OutCastes - India

1. By the late 1980s, forty years after independence, what had India's democratic government achieved in its efforts to end poverty?

2. How did (does) the caste system affect the lives of people in India?

3. What was life like for Dalits in the village where Madhusudana and his family are from?

4. Why didn't the government program giving Dalits access to education and government jobs achieve its goal?

5. After achieving success in business, how did the caste system still affect Madhusudana? How did he respond?



Recalculating - India

1. Why were the tribal people in India's forests considered to be encroachers, or criminals?

2. What happened in India in 1991 that encouraged tribal communities and their advocates to try to claim the lands on which they were living?

3. What new idea did advocates and tribal villagers come up with for proving they had been farming their land before 2006?

4. What gives someone a legitimate claim to a piece of land?

5. How did private ownership benefit not just the people, but the land itself?



Monkey Business - Slovakia

1. Why was life still hard after Czechoslovakia liberated itself from the Soviet Union in 1989? Why didn't democracy solve all the problems?

2. What happened to Slovakia's standard of living after the reforms?

3. Why wasn't it possible for the Rybarikova family to think of launching a business before?

4. What does Oravec mean by "state paternalism?" What other forms does it take besides communism?

5. Who is responsible for the success or failure of the Rybarikova family business?



People, Power & Prosperity - Morroco

1. How does access to energy improve living standards?

2. How is the Ait M'Rim family – poor by U.S. standards – better off than many people in the world?

3. What changed when the village of Tamayousst got electricity? What are some things people there are able to do that they couldn't do before?

4. Why has increased power use reduced poverty and mortality in poorer countries?

5. How can we balance environmental concerns with the energy needs of people in developing countries?

End of the Trip Reflection



Which country did you like "visiting" the most? Why?

If money were no object, which countries would you want to visit for real? Why?

Write at least one thing you already knew about each of these countries.

Did any countries trigger a memory from a past class, lesson, or video? Which country? Tell us about it.