

**NAME:**

# Human Wellbeing Activity

1. Explain why the following indicators are useful for measuring human wellbeing in different countries around the world:

a. Quality of infrastructure:

b. Child mortality rate:

c. Life expectancy:

d. Unemployment rate:

e. Primary school enrolment rate:

f. Access to electricity (% population):

2. Rank the above indicators from 1-6 (1 being most important, 6 being least important) based on which you think are most important for measuring human wellbeing. Justify your rankings.



NAME:

## Human Wellbeing Activity

The table below contains the seven countries that the largest number of refugees are fleeing from. Australia is also included for comparison. The following report contains profiles for all countries (starting on page 79): <http://sdgindex.org/assets/files/2018/01%20SDGS%20GLOBAL%20EDITION%20WEB%20V9%20180718.pdf> The report has statistics for all of the indicators in the table below, except for the Human Development Index, \$GDP/capita and Population Growth. These three statistics can be found on the gapminder website: [www.gapminder.org/tools](http://www.gapminder.org/tools). For assistance with using Gapminder, see the 'Gapminder Guide'. Using the resources in the report above, complete the table.

	AUSTRALIA	SYRIA	AFGHANISTAN	SOUTH SUDAN	MYANMAR	SOMALIA	SUDAN	DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO
QUALITY OF INFRASTRUCTURE (SCALE 1-7)								
CHILD MORTALITY RATE, UNDER 5 (PER 1000 LIVE BIRTHS)								
HEALTHY LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH (YEARS)								
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)								
NET PRIMARY SCHOOL ENROLMENT RATE (%)								
ACCESS TO ELECTRICITY (% POPULATION)								
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX								
\$GDP/CAPITA								
POPULATION GROWTH (ANNUAL %)								



**NAME:**

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The Human Development Index (HDI) is thought to be an effective way to measure overall human wellbeing in a country. Based on the HDI for each country in the table, rank the countries from best to worst.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.

Based on all of the other indicators in the table, do you agree with this ranking? Why? If you don't agree, what would you change and why?

Choose two of the countries from the table (not Australia) and, using the Asylum Seeker and Refugee fact book and your own research, explain the economic, social, technological, political or environmental causes of the country's low scores in human wellbeing indicators.

Country 1:

Causes:

**NAME:**

# Human Wellbeing Activity

Country 2:

Causes:

Based on the data in the table, is there any relationship between population growth and human wellbeing? If so, what is the relationship?



# Teacher Guide – Human Wellbeing Activity

1. Explain why the following indicators are useful for measuring human wellbeing in different countries around the world:
  - a. **Quality of infrastructure:** Infrastructure is the fundamental facilities and systems serving a country. It includes things such as buildings, roads, power supply and public transport networks, among other things. This is important for measuring wellbeing as a country with insufficient infrastructure does not give its citizens the best opportunity to succeed.
  - b. **Child mortality rate:** Child mortality rate usually measures the number of children (per 1,000) who do not live to the age of 5. This is an important indicator of health and wellbeing in a country. High infant mortality rates contribute to a lower overall life expectancy.
  - c. **Life expectancy:** Life expectancy is a key measure of human wellbeing as it shows how long the average person in a particular country can expect to live for. A higher life expectancy could reflect things such as rising living standards, environmental improvements, lifestyle changes and medical advances.
  - d. **Unemployment rate:** A low unemployment rate is important for wellbeing for a number of reasons. When people are employed, they are earning a wage and able to support themselves while also contributing to the national economy. This also reduces the burden on the government of having to pay social security/unemployment benefits, meaning these funds can be used for other things such as infrastructure.
  - e. **Primary school enrolment rate:** Primary school enrolment rate is important as it shows the proportion of the population who are receiving at least a basic education. Education improves people's earning prospects and their ability to contribute to the economy.
  - f. **Access to electricity (% population):** Electricity is important for a wide range of reasons. Electricity provides the ability to complete basic household tasks quickly, freeing time for other things. It can also provide comfort in the form of heating or cooling.

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	AUSTRALIA	SYRIA	AFGHANISTAN	SOUTH SUDAN	MYANMAR	SOMALIA	SUDAN	DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO
QUALITY OF INFRASTRUCTURE (SCALE 1-7)	4.7	4.1	N/A	N/A	2.4	N/A	N/A	2
CHILD MORTALITY RATE, UNDER 5 (PER 1000 LIVE BIRTHS)	3.7	17.5	70.4	90.7	50.8	132.5	65.1	94.3
HEALTHY LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH (YEARS)	82.8	64.5	60.5	57.3	66.6	55	64.1	59.8
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)	5.6	15.2	8.8	11.5	0.8	6	12.8	3.7
NET PRIMARY SCHOOL ENROLMENT RATE (%)	96.7	63.2	N/A	32.1	99.5	N/A	55.4	N/A
ACCESS TO ELECTRICITY (% POPULATION)	100	95.8	89.5	4.5	52	19.1	44.9	13.5
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX	0.939	0.536	0.479	0.418	0.556	N/A	0.49	0.435
\$GDP/CAPITA	43,800	3,500	1,750	1,810	5,070	623	4,290	750
POPULATION GROWTH (ANNUAL %)	1.59	-0.875	2.49	2.78	0.914	2.92	2.38	3.25