

TEACHER'S GUIDE



Suggested Level	Secondary 1-2 (7 th -8 th grade)
Length	55 minutes (1 period)
Subject	English, language of instruction
Broad Areas of Learning	Environmental awareness and consumer rights and responsibilities
Focuses of Development	Culture of peace
Educational Aims	To help students to understand the working conditions under which numerous products are fabricated, and their origins.
Subject-Specific Competencies	To read and listen to literary, popular and information-based texts
Cross-Curricular Competencies	To use information



Background Information

In the world right now, thousands of children are working in horrible conditions. Located mainly in Africa, Latin-America and Asia, they live a daily misery. China is presently going through a phase of economic expansion, and its rapidly growing industries benefit from a very large pool of unskilled workers willing to accept extremely low salaries.



Instructions

The students are first invited to read the text about the life of a young worker in China. They are then asked to answer seven questions evaluating their depth of understanding.



Answers to the Questions

1. 12 years old

2. The second paragraph

3. Among the following qualities (two for each character):

Employer: opportunist, rich, flattering, dishonest, etc.

Fiona: Resigned, hard-working, lonely, quiet, loving, etc.

Mini-Mouse: anonymous, joyful, reassuring, accomplice, pleasant, etc.

4. One of the following elements: no money to buy a television, no money to go to the movie theatre, no time to watch cartoons.

- 5.
- The children begin working at a young age (optional),
 - The salaries are small,
 - Long work days,
 - Safety flaws (fire hazards, blocked emergency exits, frequent accidents, etc.)

6.

- They are constantly working (they are too busy).
- They are scared (optional).

7. Proper safety measures should be created and reinforced in the factory (preventing fire hazards, unblock the emergency exits).

▶▶▶ *In order to learn more about the abuse of children and workers in third world countries, do not hesitate to consult the following references, and to suggest them to your students:*

Maquila Solidarity network:

www.maquilasolidarity.org

Association Québécoise des Organismes de Coopération Internationale:

www.aquoci.qc.ca

Clean Clothes:

www.cleanclothes.org

The International Work Organization:

www.oit.org/public/english/index.htm

The In-Terre-Actif Network (section about child labour):

www.in-terre-actif.com/english/show.php?id=2713

(Teacher's packets on child sexual exploitation)

www.cstm.qc.ca/trousse2/anglais/intro1.html

AN INITIATIVE OF THE

In-Terre-Actif Network of the Comité de Solidarité/Trois-Rivières



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