



Michael Green (2015):
How can we make the world a better place by 2030?

A. Preparation

In 2015, the UN defined 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to ensure the future of the planet. The 17 symbols in the image below represent the 17 goals. With your partner, decide what you think they represent. The first one has been done for you as an example



- | | |
|-----------------|----------|
| 1. = No poverty | 10. |
| 2. | 11. |
| 3. | 12. |
| 4. | 13. |
| 5. | 14. |
| 6. | 15. |
| 7. | 16. |
| 8. | 17. |
| 9. | |

Now watch the video here to check your answers:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5G0ndS3uRdo>



TED talks: SDGs. Student worksheet 1

B. Vocabulary

The words and phrases on the left all appear in the talk. Try to match them with a synonym on the right. As you watch the talk, try to understand what they mean in the context, and check your answers.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. doomsayers | <i>a. prediction</i> |
| 2. suspend your disbelief | <i>b. understand</i> |
| 3. run/crunch the numbers | <i>c. calculate</i> |
| 4. business as usual | <i>d. pessimists</i> |
| 5. flagship target | <i>e. measure</i> |
| 6. benchmark (vb) | <i>f. most important goal</i> |
| 7. figure out | <i>g. gross domestic product (wealth)</i> |
| 8. GDP | <i>h. make sure somebody does what they said they were going to do.</i> |
| 9. forecast | <i>i. try to imagine something can happen</i> |
| 10. make headway | <i>j. no change, do things the same way</i> |
| 11. hold somebody to a promise / hold somebody accountable | <i>k. make progress</i> |

C. Listening

As you watch, answer these questions:

1. What percentage of the world's population were living in poverty in 2015?
a. 36% b. 18% c. 12%
2. The Social Progress Index (SPI) asks 3 fundamental questions about a society. Give an example which illustrates each question:
Does everybody have.....?
 - a. .. the basic needs for survival?
e.g.
 - b. ...the building blocks for a better life?
e.g.
 - c. ...the opportunity to improve their lives?
e.g.

Pause the video here (4'30")

3. The Social Progress Index uses 52 indicators to create a score out of 100.



TED talks: SDGs. Student worksheet 1

- a. What do you predict is the highest-performing country, with a score of 88/100, in the world today?
- b. What do you predict is the lowest-performing country, with a score of 31/100, in the world today?

Continue watching to see if you were correct.

- 4. According to US Dept. of Agriculture predictions, the world SPI index will increase from 61/100 in 2015 to in 2030?
 - a. 62.4/100
 - b. 75/100
 - c. 88/100

- 5. GDP does not always equate to social progress.
Name 3 countries which are underperforming (rich, but not achieving goals).

1. 2. 3.

Name 3 countries which are overperforming (achieving a lot of goals relative to their GDP):

1..... 2. 3.

- 6. This is important because it tells us that...
 - a. ...we already have the to many of the problems we are trying to solve
 - b. ...if we prioritize the of people, then we can make a lot more progress than our might expect.

- 7. What was the world's 'report card' grade in 2015?
 - a. A+
 - b. B
 - c. C-

D. Follow-up

- 1. Prepare to summarise this talk to your partner:
 - d. What do you think were the most important points?
 - e. What did you find in common in your talks?