

## **YOU, ME AND THE WORLD UPDATE, JAN 2007**

Dear Teacher

Thank you for deciding to use You, Me and the World in your classes. We have prepared this Update to reflect the many changes which have taken place since the book was first published. (Depressingly, far too few changes have taken place!) This version incorporates updates from 2003 and 2005, along with more recent information.

It also includes an activity introducing some of the charities which have benefited from sales of You, Me and the World. (All royalty income payable to the authors is donated to charity. So far, over 3 million yen has been donated.) This activity may be used with the first unit of the book.

You will also find a list of relevant websites, which you can have your students check out and submit reports on, and some commercially available videos on similar themes.

We hope these improvements will help make your lessons more interesting and effective.

### **Unit 1**

#### Section 1/2

Switzerland joined the UN in 2002. However, there are five tiny independent states in Europe that do not belong to the UN: Andorra, Liechtenstein, Monaco, San Marino and Vatican City. See what your students can find out about them. Also the Republic of North Cyprus is not a member of the UN - it is recognised only by Turkey.

North Korea is now thought to have a few nuclear weapons.

WWF stands for World Wide Fund for Nature.

As of January 2007, the Secretary-General of the United Nations is Ban Ki-Moon, of South Korea.

#### Section 4

Global warming is now widely accepted to be the greatest threat facing the global environment.

Countries experiencing conflict can be located on the Peace Pledge Union website.

Since the September 11 terrorist attack in New York, almost all countries have violated the human rights of their own citizens and of visitors,

under the pretext of maintaining security. The US continues to intern hundreds of foreign prisoners at its base in Guantanamo, Cuba, without trial and on flimsy evidence.

## **Unit 2**

### Section 4

Recent data suggests Japan's annual waste, excluding industrial waste, amounts to 51.6 million tons. Of that, 12% is now recycled. In 2004, 60% of all waste paper was recycled. The problem of shortage of landfill space was 'solved' by creating more landfills in rural areas.

PET stands for poly ethelene terephthalate.

### Further information

Major laws include the Recycling Law (1991), the Container and Packaging Recycle Law (1995), the Electric Appliance Disposal Law (2001) and the Food Product Recycling Law (2001). The Electric Appliance Disposal Law obliges all retailers to recycle their customers' discarded refrigerators, washing machines, air-conditioners and televisions, but the law is ignored by around half of all retailers. Computers were added in 2003, and cars in 2005.

The car recycling fee is from 7000 to 18,000 Yen.

Electronic equipment such as computers and cell phones contain many toxic chemicals. Since July 2006, the use of toxic materials such as lead, mercury and cadmium in new electronic equipment sold in the EU has been banned.

From 2005 all EU countries must cycle at least 25% of their garbage.

Useful sites:

[www.wastewatch.org.uk](http://www.wastewatch.org.uk)

[www.epa.gov/recyclecity/](http://www.epa.gov/recyclecity/)

## **Unit 3**

### Section 1

A photograph has been found suggesting that a Japanese wolf was killed in Tottori Prefecture a few years after the one recorded in Yoshino in 1905. At a conference in Nara Prefecture in 1994, more than 70 people claimed to have seen or heard a wolf in Japan.

The number of Asiatic lions in the Gir Forest is growing and is now estimated at around 360.

Japan used to be the biggest importer of both ivory and musk, until the trade in them was banned. It is still the main importer of tortoiseshell.

### Section 3

Of Japan's 200 species of animals, 32 are endangered and 16 are vulnerable. The main causes are destruction of habitat, the decline of traditional farming and invasion by alien species. Most of Japan's endangered species live in Okinawa.

### Section 4

The Yangtze 'baiji' dolphin has not been seen since the new Three Gorges Dam was completed. It is now thought to be extinct. However, other freshwater dolphins remain in the upper reaches of the Amazon, the Pantanel (Brazil) and the Mekong (Cambodia).

The mountain gorilla population has stabilized at around 700 and is now a major ecotourism attraction. Attempts are now being made to clone pandas in China.

Useful sites:

[www.wwf.or.jp](http://www.wwf.or.jp)

[www.janegoodall.org](http://www.janegoodall.org)

[www.sierraclub.org](http://www.sierraclub.org)

## Unit 4

### Further information

Destruction of tropical rainforests continues in all countries where they are located, although they are protected in much of Bhutan, Costa Rica and Belize. Since 1993, the Forest Stewardship Council has certified lumber that has been harvested sustainably. All wood products made by some major companies, including Ikea (the world's biggest furniture company) and Home Base (the biggest user of wood in the US), have FSC certification. It has been suggested that the FSC has lowered its standards in order to satisfy the growing demand.

Estimates of rainforest loss vary, with the rate of 1.5 acres per second being widely quoted. The total area has decreased from 14% of the earth's land area to 6%, and according to Rainforest Action Network, there will be no more rainforests left by the year 2060 if loss continues at the present rate. In 2005, new satellite technology revealed that deforestation was even worse than previously thought. In 2006, the Brazilian Government created large conservation zones in a number of threatened regions. Japan imports about 80% of the wood it uses. An estimated 20% of this is thought to be illegally logged. There are forests on about 70% of all land in Japan.

Useful sites

See the home pages of  
Rainforest Action Network  
Rainforest Concern  
Rainforest Information Center  
Forest Stewardship Council

## **Unit 5**

Further information

The IPCC scenarios

Climatology is a complex science with many uncertainties. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change therefore presents a range of global warming scenarios from best to worst. At best, temperatures will rise by 1.4 degrees C by the end of this century. At worst, they will rise by 5.8 degrees.

The Kyoto Protocol

At a meeting on climate change held in Kyoto in 1997, participants agreed to cut their greenhouse gas emissions by an average of 6% from 1990 levels. The US (responsible for about 25% of global emissions) and Australia refused to ratify the Protocol for 2 reasons: it could have a negative impact on their economies, and it did not require developing countries to cut their emissions. In March 2005, when Russia ratified it, the Kyoto Protocol came into force. It demands a cut in greenhouse gas emissions of around 6% on 1990 levels, but that will cut the expected rise in temperatures by just 0.1%. The IPCC now says that a cut in emissions of 80% would be necessary in order to stabilize the global climate.

Causes & results

Rapid industrial growth in China and India is adding greatly to emissions of greenhouse gases. One of the causes of global warming is automobile emissions. The fuel efficiency of the average American car is less today than it was 20 years ago, due mainly to the increased popularity of sports utility vehicles. One of the results of global warming is rising sea levels. Researchers now say that if Greenland's icecap melts, sea levels could rise by as much as 7 meters. Another result is natural disasters. In 2004, US insurers had to pay out \$44 billion for disaster claims. In 2005, New Orleans was devastated by a hurricane.

## Approaches

The problem of global warming can be addressed either by dealing with its symptoms (for example by building higher sea walls and producing new drugs to fight malaria) or with its causes (such as phasing out thermal power stations and promoting renewable energy sources). In recent years, voluntary carbon offsets have become popular. For example, passengers booking flights in the UK are invited to pay a little extra for projects that will offset the carbon emitted during their flight. The projects include planting trees and replacing incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs. See the Climate Care website for details.

## Moving in the right direction

In 2007, the EU made a commitment to cut emissions of greenhouse gases by 20% by 2020, and offered to raise that to 30% if the US agreed to match that. The US government ignored the offer. However, many US mayors have committed their cities to the goals of the Kyoto Protocol. From 2008, all air passengers using EU airports will have to pay a carbon emissions tax.

## Useful Sites

Greenpeace

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

The Union of Concerned Scientists

## Unit 6

### Further information

The EU is committed to getting 22% of its energy from renewable sources by the year 2010. Japan is committed to getting just 3.2% of its energy from renewable sources by 2010. At present, 50% comes from oil, 19% from coal, 13% from gas and 12% from nuclear energy. However, nuclear energy is the biggest source of electricity in Japan, at 40%, and the government wants to increase that to 60%. James Lovelock, an eminent environmentalist, believes that nuclear energy is the only realistic short-term substitute for fossil fuels. The Japanese Government agrees, despite the numerous accidents and cover-ups, the huge cost, the problem of storage and disposal of waste fuel and the risk of terrorism. (Japan has about 40 tons of plutonium, watched over by unarmed guards and with no protection from attack from the air.) In summer 2004, 20,000 Europeans died because of the extreme heat, attributed to global warming. However, none died from radiation related to nuclear power. Some people say this shows the best solution to global

warming is to build many more nuclear reactors. But at present only one country – Finland – has a permanent storage facility for radioactive waste.

## **Unit 7**

### Further information

The UN Millennium Goals for the year 2015 include halving the number of people living below the official poverty line of \$2 a day, providing elementary school education for every child and guaranteeing clean drinking water for everybody. As of January 2007 there were 1.37 billion people surviving on less than \$2 a day. At a meeting of the G8 nations in July 2005, ideas on how to help Africa were discussed. The 3 main ideas are aid, trade and debt cancellation.

**Aid:** More than 30 years ago, developed countries including Japan made a commitment to give 0.7% of their GNP to poor countries as Official Development Assistance. In the year 2004, Japan gave just 0.19% - one of the lowest among all OECD countries. There are two types of aid: grant aid and loans. According to World Bank guidelines, grant aid should be given to countries with a GDP per person of less than \$1400 per year. However, most of Japan's ODA is in the form of loans. Moreover, much of the money loaned is used to buy Japanese goods and to pay Japanese trading companies and consultants. Nevertheless, Japan is either the biggest or 2nd biggest donor nation every year, together with the US, which has a much larger economy and population.

**Trade:** Sugar growers in Mozambique, rice farmers in Ghana and cotton farmers in Mali earn almost nothing from their products because the world market is flooded with subsidized products from the EU and US. Ten million African cotton growers earn less than \$1 a day, because of the subsidies paid to US cotton farmers. In 2004, those subsidies amounted to \$3.2 billion. According to Oxfam, the cost of producing rice in the US is \$415 per tonne, yet it is sold on the world market for \$274 per tonne.

**Debt:** For every \$2 received in ODA, Africans pay \$1 on debts to international banks. Members of the G8 agreed to cancel the debts of 18 well-governed African countries owed to the World Bank, the IMF and the African Development Bank, and to consider canceling the debts of 20 other countries if they are able to prove good governance. This highlighted the problem of corruption. Some African governments are extremely corrupt, and aid money often ends up in their private bank accounts. Debts owed by those countries will not be cancelled. However, the people who suffer most from poverty are not responsible either for the debts or for corruption.

## Section 6

An organization named World Concern actually exists, and is providing active assistance to poor people in developing countries. The writer was unaware of this at the time of publication, and regrets any misunderstanding which may have resulted from his use of the name in this textbook.

Useful sites

[www.actionaid.org](http://www.actionaid.org)

[www.oxfam.org](http://www.oxfam.org)

[www.savethechildren.org](http://www.savethechildren.org)

## Unit 8

### Section ½ Answers

1. Belarus, Burma, China, Cuba, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Iran, Libya, North Korea, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Zimbabwe.

2. There appears to be no country at present that permits only one religion. However, Muslims who convert to other religions have been executed in Saudi Arabia and Afghanistan. China allows public worship only for members of certain approved religious organizations. The treatment of Falung Gong worshippers as criminals is a clear violation of their human rights.

For the answers to other questions, please refer to the Teachers' Manual.

### Section 5 Answers

A He can't get a job because he went on strike. Article 23 refers to the right to work, but not the right to strike. No violation.

B She was sent to prison for 7 years for smoking marijuana at home. This is a crime in almost every country. Did the police have a right to enter without permission? The UDHR does not mention this. She was in jail for a month before being brought to court. Article 10 does not say a trial must be prompt. No violation.

C He was sent to prison for not joining the army. The UDHR does not mention this issue because in 1948 most UN members had compulsory military service. Now it is much less common, and there is usually an alternative. No violation.

D Her bag is searched by teachers every day. This appears to be a violation of Article 12, the right to privacy. Many schools in the US now conduct searches with metal detectors, in order to find weapons. This

would appear to be supported by Article 3, the right of schoolchildren to life and safety.

E He was evicted from his own home, and taken away by the police; and his house was deliberately destroyed. This is a violation of Article 9, since he had not committed any crime, but not a violation of Article 17, as the government had 'a proper reason'. Article 17 does not mention fair compensation.

F She was born in Japan but refused Japanese nationality because her mother was an illegal immigrant. She is now stateless. This is a violation of Article 15. Unless there is proof that both her parents were from the Philippines, the Japanese government is required to give her Japanese nationality. Having done that, they must then give her a passport or commit another violation: Article 13.

## Section 6

Pastor Martin Niemoller survived the Nazi concentration camp, and died in 1984.

## Section 8

Caution: A lot of students have grown up without learning about the Dowa (Burakumin) discrimination problem. If they don't know about it, they can't discriminate. Some people feel it is therefore better not to mention the problem at all, especially if there may be students from Dowa communities in the class. This could be a very sensitive issue. Naishinsho (secret reports about students) were abolished after it was clearly established that they were a violation of human rights. Ohm Shinrikyo is a religion. It was banned after some of its followers committed a terrorist act on the Tokyo subway. Its leader was sentenced to death. It now operates under a different name.

## Further information

### Human rights in Japan

The human rights group Freedom House rates countries according to the degree to which human rights are respected. In 2003, only 34 nations received their top rating. Japan was not among them. Students may want to read the annual Amnesty International reports on Japan. The main criticisms relate to human trafficking (77 cases reported in 2004), abuse of prisoners' rights (hopefully the new Prison Law of 2006 will improve the situation) and harsh treatment of refugees. Japan also has a serious problem of child abuse. In the year 2005, 34,472 cases were reported.

In 2006, teachers at a prefectural high school in Sendai forced a student to dye her hair black. A court ruled that her rights had been violated and the school apologized and paid compensation of 500,000 Yen.

#### Human rights in the US

The US was among the 34 nations that received a top rating in 2003, but now receives severe criticism for its continued detention without trial of hundreds of prisoners in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, for the use of torture during its occupation of Iraq, and for its 'extraordinary renditions' in which suspects were kidnapped in foreign countries and flown to secret prisons in other countries, where they were tortured during interrogations.

#### The death penalty

In the year 2003, 1146 executions were carried out in 28 countries. 90% of all executions were carried out in one country: China. The death penalty exists in a total of 78 countries, including Japan. In the year 2006, Japanese judges sentenced 44 people to death.

#### Other

A current controversy is whether or not to add environmental rights to the Japanese constitution. Some European countries now include animal rights in their constitutions.

#### Useful sites

[www.amnesty.org](http://www.amnesty.org)

[www.hrw.org](http://www.hrw.org)

[www.freedomhouse.org](http://www.freedomhouse.org)

[www.unhcr.ch](http://www.unhcr.ch)

### **Unit 9**

Tourism is now one of the world's 3 biggest industries in terms of income and employment. However, most jobs are poorly-paid and seasonal. In the year 2006, 8.1 million foreign tourists visited Japan.

#### Section 3

We apologise to Cecil Rajendra for mis-spelling his name, and recommend that you read his other works.

#### Sections 4 & 5

Many organizations now provide guidelines for ethical or responsible tourism, including Tourism Concern and the World Tourism Organization. However, very few of the major tour operators follow

these guidelines. A notable exception is STA (Student Travel Association). In Japan, My Ticket operates responsible tours, and Nippon Alpine Tourism is a pioneer of nature tourism. If you worry about causing global warming when you fly somewhere, contact Climate Care, who will help you to offset your carbon emissions.

#### Section 9

Sydney, Australia, also celebrates the Mardis Gras.

#### Useful sites

[www.tourismconcern.org.uk](http://www.tourismconcern.org.uk)

[www.ecotourism.org](http://www.ecotourism.org)

[www.ecotour.org](http://www.ecotour.org)

[www.responsibletravel.com](http://www.responsibletravel.com)

### **Unit 10**

#### Section 4

Aung San Suu Kyi remains under house arrest in Burma. Indonesia withdrew its army from East Timor in 1999, the UN administered the country until 2002, and then East Timor gained its independence. Mother Theresa is now recognized as a saint by the Catholic church. Jimmy Carter was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2002. More recent winners are:

2003, Shirin Ebadi (an Irani lawyer); 2004, Wangari Maathai (a Kenyan environmentalist); 2005, Mohammed El Baradei of Egypt and the International Atomic Energy Agency; 2006, Mohammed Yunus and the Grameen Bank, of Bangladesh.

#### Section 6

Teacher's Manual 1: Sadako Ogata is no longer the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

#### Further information

##### Nuclear proliferation

183 nations have ratified the 1970 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, promising not to build nuclear weapons in exchange for a promise that the US, Russia, Britain, France and China would make efforts to eliminate their nuclear weapons. Those 5 nations did not keep their promise. Now Israel, India, Pakistan and North Korea have nuclear weapons too. Iran is suspected of trying to develop them. In March 2006, the US concluded a nuclear exchange technology agreement with

India, despite India's refusal to ratify the NPT. The US thus violated the NPT itself. Japan has a strict policy not to possess, make or allow the entry of nuclear weapons.

#### Land mines

144 nations including Japan have signed the UN Convention banning land mines. The US, Russia and China have not. Every year about 2.5 million new landmines are made, 1 million are newly laid, and 15,000 to 20,000 victims are killed. In 2007, Pakistan proposed to mine its entire border with Afghanistan.

#### Useful sites

[www.nobel.se/peace/laureates](http://www.nobel.se/peace/laureates)

[www.thelandminesite.com](http://www.thelandminesite.com)

## Unit 11

### Section 2

The following countries have or had female heads of state (presidents, prime ministers, caretaker presidents, and widow presidents): Israel, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Turkey, Argentina, Nicaragua, Guyana, Panama, Bolivia, Haiti, Ecuador, New Zealand, Iceland, Norway. More recently: Germany, Liberia, Finland, Chile, Jamaica, Latvia.

### Section 4

According to a 2005 World Economic Forum report, the top 8 nations for gender equality are Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, New Zealand, Australia, Canada and the UK. The US was ranked 17th, and Japan 38th.

### Section 5

The story of Maria and Antonia come from Latin America, but the problem is widespread in Japan too. According to a government survey conducted in 1999, one in five Japanese wives had experienced domestic violence. A new law passed in 2001 offered only temporary protection. As of December 2002, Japan had no official refuges for victims of domestic violence.

### Section 6

A law in Norway requires at least 40% of all the directors in any company to be female.

A survey of the world's top 200 companies found Japan had the lowest number of female directors: less than 1%, compared to 17.5% in US companies. In Sweden, 45% of legislators are female; in Japan, only 7%. A survey in Tokyo, 2004, found that 64% of women aged 20 to 39 had been molested on a train or in a station. This has led to the introduction of trains with women-only sections in Kanto and Kansai.

#### Further information

About one in four American women have experienced domestic violence. In Texas in the year 2003, 153 women were killed by their partner. In the UK, one third of domestic violence victims are men, and several refuges have been established for battered husbands.

#### Useful sites

[www.worldbank.org/gender](http://www.worldbank.org/gender)

[www.now.org/](http://www.now.org/)

## **Unit 12**

### Section 4

Some estate agencies in Japan continue to discriminate against foreign residents, even though this is illegal.

#### Further information

##### Foreign residents

In 2004, Japan had about 1,970,000 foreign residents - 1.55% of the total population. Of those, 30% were ethnic Korean, 24% Chinese, 14% Brazilian and 10% Filipino. 774,836 were permanent residents; the rest were in training or education. In the year 2001, 15,291 foreign residents became Japanese citizens. About two thirds of them were ethnic Koreans. In 2004, one in every 20 marriages in Japan involved a foreign partner. An OECD report suggested that Japan would need to import large numbers of foreign workers to offset a decrease in the number of young Japanese workers caused by falling birth rates. The Justice Ministry and Immigration Bureau are strongly opposed to any increase in immigration. Does Japan have a problem of too many immigrants? As a proportion of the total population, no:

% of foreign-born residents in Japan (1.55%), the US (11.1%) and the UK (8.3%).

#### Discrimination

Arudo Debito, a Caucasian with Japanese citizenship, was refused entry to a public bathhouse in Otaru, and then sued the bathhouse and the city government. He won his suit against the bathhouse, but lost his claim against the city. He then sued the Japanese Government for failing to make Japanese laws conform with the International Convention on All Forms of Racial Discrimination, which Japan ratified in 1995. The bathhouse, in its defense, claimed that it banned foreigners because it had problems with drunken Russian sailors who did not understand the customs of the sento.

A Ministry of Home Affairs regulation prohibits foreigners from working for local governments.

All foreign residents who live in Japan for more than 6 months must carry an alien registration card at all times, and may be stopped by the police any time for no reason and asked to show this card. If they don't have it with them, they can be fined 60,000 yen or jailed for 6 months.

At Japanese city offices, Japanese women with foreign husbands are registered as single. Their children therefore have no father, according to the *juminhyo*.

Japan does not recognise dual nationality beyond the age of 22. Many other countries have similar restrictions.

Useful sites

[www.ADL.org](http://www.ADL.org)

[www.debito.org/thecommunity](http://www.debito.org/thecommunity)

## **Unit 13**

Further information

There are over 12 million refugees in the world, and over 7 million of them have spent more than 10 years in refugee camps, unable to settle or return home.

Some important concepts:

internally displaced: those living in refugee camps in their own country

economic migrants: those who seek work in other countries

asylum seekers: those who claim to be political refugees

What is a refugee?

The UN Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees came into force in 1951. It defines a refugee as 'anyone who leaves his country owing to a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion'.

The definition excludes two significant types of refugee who may also be in danger: economic and environmental refugees.

#### Japanese policy

Japan ratified the Convention in 1981, after accepting about 10,000 refugees from the wars in Vietnam and Cambodia, but then began rejecting almost all applications, even from people whose lives were at risk. In 2003, the US accepted 11,434 refugees, while Japan accepted just 10. Why so few? The Japanese Government puts priority on diplomatic relations with the countries from which refugees come (e.g. Turkey); it sees refugees as troublemakers, rather than victims of human rights abuses; and it does not want to encourage more applicants by appearing to welcome asylum seekers. In January 2005, Japan deported two Kurdish refugees who had already been awarded refugee status by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. This was condemned as a violation of international law. The Government has finally allowed a new appeal process in which refugees can have a lawyer present during interviews; but most lawyers have refused to participate because the Ministry of Justice refuses to explain their reasons or criteria for rejecting or approving applications.

#### Useful sites

[www.unhcr.ch](http://www.unhcr.ch)

[www.refaid.org.uk](http://www.refaid.org.uk)

[www.refugee.or.jp](http://www.refugee.or.jp)

[www.refugeecouncil.org.uk](http://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk)

### **Unit 14**

#### Section 1

Switzerland joined the UN in 2002, followed by East Timor and then in 2006, Montenegro, the 192nd member. In January 2007, Ban Ki-Moon of South Korea became the new Secretary-General of the UN. As of 2006, the head of the UNHCR was Ruud Lubbers, of the Netherlands (not Sadako Ogata).

#### Section 4

The president of the World Bank is always an American; the head of the IMF is always from an EU member nation.

#### Section 5

In 2005, several proposals have been made to reform the UN, and in particular, the very undemocratic Security Council, which now has 5 permanent members with veto powers (the US, Russia, Britain, France, China). Under one proposal, 6 new permanent members would be added: Germany, Brazil, India, Japan, South Africa and Nigeria. Germany and Japan pay a significant share of the UN budget. India is the world's second most populous nation. Brazil, South Africa and Nigeria represent two continents with no members at all on the Security Council. The present permanent members of the Security Council rejected the proposal. The only way forward may be for all non-Security Council members to quit the UN and form a new, more democratic organization.

Useful site

[www.un.org](http://www.un.org)

## **You, Me & the World**

### **Modifications to Tapescripts and Reading & Sharing Activities.**

The situation regarding global issues is constantly changing. We have provided regular updates on the Kinseido home page (2003, 2005 and 2007) and hope to publish a completely new edition within the next year or two. In the meantime, we encourage you to use these modifications.

#### **Tapescripts**

These are designed to be read aloud in place of the listening sections that need to be changed (Units 1, 8, 10, 14). There is also a small change to be made in the listening for Unit 2, as follows (Teachers' Manual I page 12):

Also, within a few years, all existing landfill sites will be full.

#### **Reading and Sharing Activities**

We suggest replacing the reading passages for Units 3 and 10 with those provided below.

## Unit One, Section 1, tapescript

### Part 1

1. Although it has achieved remarkably low birthrates, China still has a larger population than any other country.
2. The first country in the modern era to abolish its armed forces was Costa Rica. Two other countries later followed Costa Rica's example: Panama and Haiti.
3. All of its neighbors have been members of the United Nations for almost half a century, but Switzerland did not join the UN until the year 2002.
4. The so-called nuclear club consists of five nations: the US, Russia, Britain, France and China. But several other countries are known to have nuclear weapons: Israel, India and Pakistan. North Korea is thought to have developed them, and Iran is suspected of trying to.

### Part 2

1. The World Wildlife Fund was established in 1961 with the aim of protecting endangered species.
2. Amnesty International received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1977 for its work on behalf of human rights.
3. Oxfam is involved in fighting hunger, disease and poverty in developing countries all over the world.
4. The Nobel Peace Prizes of 1954 and 1981 were awarded to the same organization: the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

### Part 3

1. Nelson Mandela was one of the leaders of the African National Congress, which fought against apartheid in South Africa. After spending over 20 years in prison, he was released and went on to become his country's first black president.
2. Burma is ruled by the army, but most of its citizens still support the woman who they elected president in 1991, Aung San Suu Kyi. She has refused to recognize the dictatorship, and remains under house arrest.
3. The Dalai Lama is the leader of the world's Tibetan Buddhists. When the Chinese invaded Tibet in 1959, he escaped to India. Ever since then, he has been campaigning peacefully for his people's freedom.
4. The most important person in the United Nations is its Secretary-General. At present, that position is held by a Korean named Ban Ki-Moon.

## Unit Eight, Section 1, tapescript

1. Many citizens have been put in jail for criticizing their governments. This happens a lot in countries such as China and Burma. The situation is even worse in North Korea: people may be killed for expressing their opinions about the government.
2. Some countries have an official religion, and discriminate against people who practice a different faith. In Saudi Arabia, for example, the official religion is Islam. The penalty for converting to another religion is death.
3. The Kurds have their own language and culture, but not their own nation. They lost it in the 7th century, and never got it back. This is also true of the Tibetans, the Basques, the Hawaiians and many other peoples.
4. It is very difficult for North Koreans to leave their country. Only public officials are allowed to travel abroad. Ordinary people who try to cross the border into China may be imprisoned and even killed.
5. Until the election of 1994, black citizens were not allowed to vote in elections in South Africa.
6. One of the most shocking movies I have ever watched is the Killing Fields. It was about Cambodia during the time when it was ruled by the Khmer Rouge. Millions of people were executed, tortured or starved to death.
7. Martin Luther King is best known for his civil rights campaign in the United States. His efforts were successful, but he paid for them with his life.
8. In 1977, Amnesty International received the Nobel Peace Prize for its efforts to protect human rights all over the world.
9. Singapore has no enemies. Neither do Finland or Mexico. Yet these, along with many other countries, have a system of compulsory military service, and young men, and sometimes women, have to spend a year or more in the armed forces.
10. The death penalty has been abolished in more than 80 countries, but it's still used in many others, including the US and Japan, for serious crimes such as murder.

## Unit Ten, Section 3, tapescript

1. The Nobel Peace Prize of 1994 was shared by 3 men who helped create peace between Israel and Palestine. Yasser Arafat, leader of the Palestinian Liberation Movement, met Shimon Peres, Israel's Foreign Minister, and Yitzak Rabin, the Prime Minister, and negotiated a peaceful solution to their conflict. Unfortunately, peace didn't last.
2. The presidents of the world's two most powerful countries – the US and the USSR – held a summit meeting which led to the end of the Cold War. One of them, Michael Gorbachev, was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1990.
3. Most Tibetan Buddhists recognize the Dalai Lama as their spiritual leader. In 1959, the Chinese invaded and 14th Dalai Lama escaped to India. Although his people have been treated harshly by the Chinese, he continues to call for a peaceful solution to the issue of Tibetan independence. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for this in 1989.
4. The Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs have for many years campaigned against nuclear weapons. The organization and its leader, Joseph Rotblat, won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1995.
5. The people of Central America experienced a long period of civil war. Peace was restored thanks to the efforts of the president of Costa Rica, Oscar Arias Sanchez, who was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1987.
6. Nelson Mandela is widely known as the first black president of South Africa, but we should not forget the man who released Mandela from prison and gave blacks the right to vote: Fredrik Willem de Klerk, former president of South Africa.
7. The United Nations Peacekeeping Forces have worked to maintain peace and protect civilians in many dangerous situations around the world.
8. Thanks to the International Campaign to Ban Land Mines and its leader, Jody Williams, over 150 nations have signed the Mine Ban Treaty that came into force in March 1999.

## **Unit Fourteen, Section 2, tapescript**

The history of the United Nations begins soon after the end of the First World War, when the League of Nations was formed with the aim of maintaining world peace. This was not successful, and collapsed in the 1930s. The idea was revived during the Second World War, and the United Nations was established in 1945 with 51 member nations. That number has now grown to 192, including all major nations. The UN originally met in San Francisco, but since 1952, its headquarters has been in New York. The most important post in the UN is the Secretary-General. That position today is held by Ban Ki-Moon, a popular diplomat from South Korea.

The United Nations works not only for peace but also in many other fields. One of its most active organizations is the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, which was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1981. At one time, the UNHCR was headed by Sadako Ogata, but she retired in the year 2001 and was replaced by Ruud Lubbers of the Netherlands.

The UN is also very active in protecting the global environment. A good example is the Framework Convention on Climate Change which was held in Kyoto in 1997 to promote efforts to stop global warming.

The emblem of the United Nations consists of a globe enclosed by two olive branches, a symbol of peace.

### **UNIT 3, Section 4, Reading and Sharing**

The **black rhinoceros** lives on the plains of South and East Africa. In the 1960s there were over 70,000 of them. Now there are fewer than 3000. Most of them were killed by hunters for their horns, which are used to make Chinese medicine and knife handles. It's illegal to kill rhinos and sell their horns, but people still try, because they can make a lot of money. In some countries, park rangers shoot poachers. In 1991, conservation officers cut off the horns of live rhinos so that poachers would have no reason to kill them.

The **mountain gorilla** lives in the forests of the Virunga Mountains of Central Africa. Its major enemy is humans. At one time hunters killed adult gorillas for meat and sold the babies to zoos. This is now banned. Another problem is that villagers cut down the forest in order to grow crops. Then elephants moved deeper into the forest, disturbing the gorillas. The area has now been made into a national park in order to protect the forest and the animals that live there. There are estimated to be about 1000 mountain gorillas in the region. Many tourists come to see them. They spend a lot of money, so the local people are very eager to protect the gorillas now.

The **Yangtze dolphin**, locally known as baiji, is one of the few dolphin species that live in rivers. At one time it thrived in China's second biggest river, but in the late 20th century, many were caught in fishermen's nets, hit by boats and poisoned by pollution. The catching of dolphins was banned in 1975 and a reserve was later established. But then the world's biggest dam was built upstream from the dolphins' habitat, and by the year 2006, they were presumed to be extinct.

The **Lear's macaw** is one of the world's rarest birds. It lives only in Bahia State, Brazil. Many were caught by hunters and sold to foreign collectors, but now this attractive bird is protected by law. Population estimates vary from 60 to 200. The Lear's macaw eats nuts from the licuri palm, which is easily damaged by cattle. Conservationists have bought large areas of land where the macaws live and no longer allow the grazing of cattle.

The **condor** is one of America's largest birds. It inhabits both North and South America, but now very few are to be found north of the Andes. Until the 1980s, many were shot by hunters or poisoned by farmers. In 1987, there were just 27 condors in California, all in captive breeding programs. But the programs were successful, condors were released into the wild, and now the wild population has increased to around 140, all in California and Arizona. The biggest threats now are high voltage power lines and lead in the carcasses of dead animals shot by hunters.

There are about 1600 **pandas** left in the wild. Most of them live in mountainous areas of Szichuan Province in China. They used to be hunted for their skins, but this is now strictly forbidden. They are sometimes caught in animal traps or injured by wild dogs. But their biggest threats now are loss of habitat and food sources. Pandas live in the forest and depend on bamboos for food. But forests and bamboo groves are cut down by villagers and farmers. The government is now trying to stop this. Another problem is that the panda only eats a certain kind of bamboo that flowers and dies every 60 years. Scientists have recently managed to breed pandas in captivity, and the population is now increasing.

## **UNIT 10, Section 4, Reading and Sharing**

No change to: Alfred Nobel, Aung San Suu Kyi, Rigoberta Menchu, and Mother Theresa.

### **Carlos Belo**

In 1975, Portugal abandoned its remaining colonies, and one of them, East Timor, was immediately occupied by soldiers from Indonesia. The Timorese resisted, and many died owing to lack of food, disease, war and oppression. Most of the people are Catholics, and the church worked hard to protect them. The head of the church in East Timor, Bishop Carlos Belo, shared the 1996 Nobel Peace Prize with a resistance leader named Jose Ramos-Horta. Indonesia withdrew its army from East Timor in 1999, and the UN administered the country until independence in 2002.

### **Jimmy Carter**

Jimmy Carter was born in Georgia, USA, in 1924. He served as President of the US from 1976 to 1980. In 1982, he and his wife Rosalyn established the Carter Center, a peace institute, in Atlanta, Georgia. The Center works to ease conflict, to fight hunger and disease, to protect human rights and to promote understanding among people of different races and nationalities. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2002.

# **YOU, ME AND THE WORLD: THE CHARITIES WE SUPPORT**

## **Teachers' Notes**

This is a very relevant classroom activity with which to start the program.

- 1 Introduce the activity.
- 2 Divide the class into groups. In each group, give each member information about a different charity organization. Give them time to read it and then have them introduce it to the rest of the group.
- 3 Have each group discuss which of the charities they would most like their contribution (10% of the price of the book) to support.
- 4 Have them come up with other suggestions regarding worthy charities.
- 5 Have them discuss the questions provided.
- 6 You may wish to have them check out the home page of each organization for homework, and then present a short report in class. Some of the charities have branches in Japan, with Japanese websites.

## **YOU, ME & THE WORLD      Charitable Donations**

All royalties (money paid to the writer) from the sales of this book are donated to charity. When you bought this book, you automatically donated 10% of the total price to charity. THANK YOU!

Total donations since publication 1998 - 2006: **3,038,000 Yen**

The charities which have received these donations are:

WWF (Worldwide Fund for Nature)	Nippon Foster Plan
Amnesty International	Save the Children
Child Welfare Scheme	Greenpeace
Friends of the Earth	Tree Aid
VSO (Voluntary Service Overseas)	

Would you like to know more about their activities?  
Your teacher will give you some information to share with your friends.  
Read it carefully. Then answer your friends' questions.

### **Questions**

Where was this organization founded?  
When was it founded?  
What issues does it address?  
How does it achieve its goals?  
Can you give us some examples?  
Can you tell us anything else about them?

### **Discussion**

- 1 If you had a lot of money, would you donate to any of these organizations?
- 2 If you had a lot of free time, would you like to work for any of these organizations as a volunteer?
- 3 Do you support any charities, either with donations or help?

**WWF** was founded in England in 1961. It is the world's biggest conservation organization. Its goal is to protect endangered species and their habitats. It conducts research, education, training and conservation campaigns. The WWF has contributed to saving the tiger, the African elephant and many other species. It has many supporters in Japan, but also many enemies: those who profited from trade in endangered species involving products such as ivory (from elephants' tusks), tortoiseshell (from turtles) and musk (from the Himalayan musk deer). Japan was the biggest consumer of these products until trade in them was banned. The symbol of the WWF is the panda.

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**International Foster Plan** was founded in Britain in 1937. Its aim is to improve living standards in developing countries. Donors are invited to sponsor a child from a Third World community, usually a village in Asia, Africa or Latin America. Donors receive photographs of the child, and also letters. However, donations are not spent on the individual child, as this would be unfair to other children. Instead, the money is used for the whole village, paying for the construction of wells and irrigation systems, schools and clinics, vocational training centres and so on. In Japan, foster child donations are set at 6000 Yen per month, but Nippon Foster Plan also accepts larger donations for specific projects, such as the women's literacy campaign in Nepal and micro-credit projects in South America. There were about 60,000 IFP foster parents in Japan when we started donating.

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**Save the Children Fund** was established by an English woman named Eglantyne Jebb around 70 years ago. The Fund promotes children's welfare in all aspects, including education, health, food security and human rights. It is active in more than 50 countries. Some examples of projects supported by SCF: community homes for abandoned children in Vietnam; returning child soldiers to their communities in Liberia; drama therapy to heal traumatized children in Palestine; training workers in Chinese orphanages.

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**The Child Welfare Scheme** is a small British charity which has been building daycare and health centers in remote mountain villages in Nepal since 1995. It has also completed a water project serving seven villages, and is promoting the widespread use of a simple, locally built smokeless fuel stove to reduce diseases caused by smoke pollution in people's homes. Their next project is a rehabilitation center for street children. The CWS also operates two trekkers' hotels in Pokhara. Because of their extensive use of foreign volunteers and local labor, over 90% of their funds are spent on improving children's lives.

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**Greenpeace** was founded in Canada in 1971 to oppose the testing of nuclear weapons near Alaska. In 30 years it has grown into a global organization with over four and a half million members, and its goals include not only the abolition of nuclear weapons but also the protection of forests, the banning of toxic substances such as PVC and the promotion of clean energy. Greenpeace has been very critical of the Japanese Government for its policies on nuclear energy and whaling, and of the role of Japanese companies in destroying tropical rainforests; and the Japanese Government refused to recognise Greenpeace until 1993, when Greenpeace filmed Russian ships dumping nuclear waste into the Japan Sea, and gave the film to the Japanese Government.

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**Friends of the Earth** was founded in the US in 1969. In 1971 they began a campaign against soft drink manufacturers using non-returnable bottles. Since then, they have fought governments in various countries on many different issues, including nuclear energy, logging, agricultural chemicals and highway construction. They now have active members in over 50 different countries. Friends of the Earth Japan - Chikyu no Tomo - is working hard to protect the remaining forests in East Siberia, and wildlife including the Amur tiger.

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**Tree Aid** is a small charity founded to promote the planting of trees in African villages. Since it was founded in England in 1987, it has supervised the planting of more than six million trees in 14 countries, protecting communities from the advancing desert and providing them with fruit, berries, nuts and leaves, and wood for fuel and housing. Tree Aid has trained 13,000 Africans in skills related to raising, planting and caring for trees. In Mali and Burkina Faso, it has paid for the introduction of efficient stoves which burn less wood.

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**Amnesty International** was founded in England in 1961. It is the world's largest private organization dedicated to the protection of human rights. It was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1977. In countries around the world, people are arrested, tortured and killed for their religious or political beliefs, for forming labour unions and for other activities guaranteed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. When AI finds out about such violations of the UDHR, they immediately investigate and then demand an official explanation. If the government concerned fails to take appropriate action, AI begins an international campaign, with phone calls and letters to influential politicians, demands for economic sanctions and daily reports in the mass media. AI condemns human rights abuses everywhere, including Britain, the US and Japan.

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**Voluntary Service Overseas** is Britain's equivalent to the US Peace Corps. VSO sends skilled, qualified volunteers to over 70 different developing countries to provide training in medical care, forestry, farming and other essential skills. For example, in Kiwoko, Uganda, two VSO nurses from Britain are training local women to work as nurses in the local hospital. At present there are just 150 hospital beds for a population of half a million people. Not far from Kiwoko, another VSO worker is helping local villagers to develop an eco-tourism project. Providing one VSO worker costs just 5000 Yen per month, and results in a better life for thousands of people.