

Social Justice: Modern-Day Slavery

Lesson Plan by Margarita Kosior

Level: Upper-Intermediate/Advanced

Duration: 90 minutes

Theme: Social Justice: Modern-Day Slavery

Aims:

- Raise students' awareness of a social issue
- Practice speaking, listening and reflective skills
- Motivate learners to take action against social injustice

Objectives

By the end of this lesson students will be able to:

- Understand and define the notion of human trafficking and modern-day slavery
- Understand and use vocabulary related to the topic of modern-day slavery
- Recognize different types of modern-day slavery
- Take a stance and write a reflective essay on the topic

| Stage | Time | Procedures | Stage Aims | Resources needed |
|-------------------------------|--------|--|--|---|
| Lead-in | 5 min | Trying to elicit the definition of the words "slave" and "slavery" Talking about the connotations associated with the term | Introducing the students to the topic of the lesson | PPT (sample slides in Appendix 1) and projector |
| Vocabulary preparation | 5 min | Introducing vocabulary items related to modern-day slavery which will later appear in the main task and anticipating in what ways these words may be related to the topic: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mine shaft• Atrocity• Debt• Disposable• Brick kiln• Abolitionist• Back-breaking work• Brothel• Trapped• Panning for gold | Vocabulary work; intriguing the students and getting them to think | Online dictionary, projector |
| Presentation | 10 min | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Historical outline of slavery• Fact sheet with statistics on slavery• Forms of modern-day slavery | Making the students more aware of the topic discussed | PPT and projector |
| Main Task | 25 min | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading the comprehension questions (Appendix 1)• Watching the talk available | Improving listening comprehension skills: | Projector and good sound system; Internet connection of |

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|-----------------------|--------|---|---|--|
| | | at http://goo.gl/t0dKl1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listening for the gist • Listening for details Provoking and intriguing the students | recording of the talk; handout with the questions or access to its online version at http://ed.ted.com/on/8Le9f3sB |
| Follow-up 1 | 10 min | Discussion including checking the answers to the listening comprehension questions and talking about the causes of and solutions to the problem of modern-day slavery | Opportunity for the ss to express personal opinions on the topic | PPT and projector |
| Follow-up 2 | 10 min | Online quiz - How Many Slaves Work for You? | Raising awareness | Internet connection; projector |
| Follow-up 3 | 20 min | Discussing the other dimension of modern-day slavery - the case of sweatshops | Enhancing critical thinking skills | Hand-out of the article "Where Sweatshops are a Dream" by Nicholas D. Kristof available at http://www.nytimes.com/2009/01/15/opinion/15kristof.html?_r=0 |
| Wrap-up | 5 min | Engaging students in a wrap-up discussion during which they express their opinions on the topic. | Consolidation | |
| Follow-up work | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizing a debate to take place during the next session. Title: Sweatshops are a form of exploitation of the poor; and/or • Assigning an essay topic: "Sweatshops: Exploitation or a Form of Assistance to the Poor. Discuss"; and/or • Starting a discussion on the TEDEd platform at http://ed.ted.com/on/8Le9f3sB#discussion • Recommending a documentary, possibly for screening during the next session: <i>Santa's Workshop</i>, available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yF8jUDzz5bE | | |

APPENDIX 1

PPT slides - samples (full PPT available on the blog)



Modern-Day Slavery

No More

By
Margarita Kosior

Modern slavery forms

- Forced Labour
- Sex Trafficking
- Bonded Labour
- Debt Bondage Among Migrant Laborers
- Involuntary Domestic Servitude
- Forced Child Labor
- Child Soldiers
- Child Sex Trafficking

TED Talk

- As you are watching, answer questions 1-14



Photo credit: Lisa Kristof

Causes

- What are the causes of modern slavery?



Photo credit: Lisa Kristof
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https://www.flickr.com/photos/lisa_kristof/



- A culture that accepts treating people as objects that can be bought and sold
- The ready market for cheap labor and cheap goods.
- Poverty and desperation which maintain a pool of vulnerable victims.

(Fight Slavery Now!, 2009)

Sweatshops

The other side of the story



(Kristof, 2009)

APPENDIX 2

TED Talk "Photos that bear witness to modern slavery" by Lisa Kristine

Available at http://www.ted.com/talks/lisa_kristine_glimpses_of_modern_day_slavery

Customized lesson available at <http://ed.ted.com/on/8Le9f3sB>



"For the past two years, photographer Lisa Kristine has traveled the world, documenting the unbearably harsh realities of modern-day slavery. She shares hauntingly beautiful images — miners in the Congo, brick layers in Nepal — illuminating the plight of the 27 million souls enslaved worldwide" (http://www.ted.com/talks/lisa_kristine_glimpses_of_modern_day_slavery)

*Note: Although the talk mentions 27 million of slaves worldwide, it is now known that the number is much higher, adding to almost 46 million people (source: <http://www.globalslaveryindex.org/findings/>).

As you watch, answer the following questions:

1. Lisa Kristine starts her talk by narrating an experience in an illegal mineshaft in Ghana. How does she describe the conditions there?
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.....
2. Based on the context of the talk and on your personal research, what is "Free the Slaves" and what is their mission?
.....
.....
3. What do these numbers refer to?
 - a. 27 million -

- b. \$50,000 -
- c. \$18 -
- d. \$13 billion -

4. In what ways can people be tricked in slavery?

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5. Based on the context, what is a brick kiln?

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6. What is it that, among others, makes work at a brick kiln unbearable?

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7. Why does the speaker mention her camera?

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8. The speaker explains that some of the slaves don't even know that they are enslaved. How is it possible?

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9. What is a cabin restaurant?

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10. What is it that makes a job in the textile industry in India unbearable and dangerous?

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11. What is it that makes a fishing job on Lake Volta unbearable and dangerous?

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12. What is it that makes a job extracting gold unbearable and dangerous?

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13. Why are the victims of slavery photographed holding candles in their hands?

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14. What is the purpose of this talk?

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APPENDIX 3

TED Talk “Photos that bear witness to modern slavery”

By Lisa Kristine

ANSWER KEY

Available at http://www.ted.com/talks/lisa_kristine_glimpses_of_modern_day_slavery

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“For the past two years, photographer Lisa Kristine has traveled the world, documenting the unbearably harsh realities of modern-day slavery. She shares hauntingly beautiful images — miners in the Congo, brick layers in Nepal — illuminating the plight of the 27 million souls enslaved worldwide”

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*Note: Although the talk mentions 27 million of slaves worldwide, it is now known that the number is much higher, adding to almost 46 million people (source: <http://www.globalslaveryindex.org/findings/>).

As you are watching, answer the following questions:

1. Lisa Kristine starts her talk by narrating an experience in an illegal mineshaft in Ghana. How does she describe the conditions there?

- a. **150 feet down**
 - b. **Air thick with heat and dust**
 - c. **Hard to breath**
 - d. **Dark**
 - e. **Coughing**
 - f. **Stone broken with primitive tools**
2. Based on the context of the talk and on your personal research, what is "Free the Slaves" and what is their mission?

An NGO dedicated to eradicating modern-day slavery

3. What do these numbers refer to?
- a. 27 million - **number of people enslaved in the world on the day of the talk**
 - b. \$50,000 - **the price of an agricultural slave 150 years ago**
 - c. \$18 - **a whole family can be enslaved for generations over a debt as small as \$18**
 - d. \$13 billion - **slavery generates profit of \$13 billion worldwide each year**

4. In what ways can people be tricked in slavery?

False promises of a good education, a better job

5. Based on the context, what is a brick kiln?

Where bricks are made/burnt

6. What is it that, among others, makes work at a brick kiln unbearable?
- a. **Monotony and exhaustion**
 - b. **16-17 hours a day**
 - c. **No breaks**
 - d. **Severe dehydration**
 - e. **Heat and dust**
7. Why does the speaker mention her camera?
- a. **It ceased working because of the heat.**
 - b. **Her camera was getting a far better treatment than the people working in the kiln**
8. The speaker explains that some of the slaves don't even know that they are enslaved. How is it possible?

This has been the case all their lives. They have nothing to compare it to.

9. What is a cabin restaurant?

Venues for forced prostitution with small private rooms

10. What is it that makes a job in the textile industry in India unbearable and dangerous?

- a. **The dye they use for silk is toxic**
- b. **No freedom**

11. What is it that makes a fishing job on Lake Volta unbearable and dangerous?

- a. **Children**
- b. **Don't know how to swim**
- c. **Working since 1 a.m. on cold windy nights**
- d. **Heavy nets**

12. What is it that makes a job extracting gold unbearable and dangerous?

- a. **Long hours underground in mine shafts (72 hours). Carrying heavy bags of stone to the surface**
- b. **Panning for gold wading in water poisoned with mercury**
- c. **Health problems: tuberculosis, mercury poisoning, injury, illness, violence**

13. Why are the victims of slavery photographed holding candles in their hands?

- a. **To illuminate their stories**

14. What is the purpose of this talk?

- a. **Awaken a force in those who view the images**
- b. **The force will ignite a fire**
- c. **Fire will shine a light on slavery**