

Anticipation Guide: More-Developed and Less-Developed Nations - Key Ideas

7.1.3

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Statement	
1. Population increases more rapidly in the less-developed nations.	This is a true statement (2003), although the rate of increase in less-developed nations has not been steady and can fluctuate considerably. A major factor is that more-developed nations have a significantly lower birth rate than less-developed nations.
2. More-developed nations are countries in which there is no poverty.	This is a stereotype or oversimplification. Poverty exists in all the more-developed nations of the world. Some studies indicate a widening gap between the richest and the poorest members of these nations.
3. Better technology can solve the problems of the less-developed nations.	This is a debatable statement. Encourage students to exchange ideas and consider diverse perspectives on the subject by thinking of a variety of types and applications of technology.
4. Most of the more-developed nations have strong democratic institutions.	This is, in general, a true statement. Encourage students to consider why this may be the case.
5. Urbanization, or the movement of people from rural areas to cities, is strongest in the more-developed nations.	This is not true. Urbanization is a phenomenon of population movement in most nations of the world, both more-developed and less-developed. Urbanization has resulted in greater social and economic problems in the less-developed nations, where there is often less infrastructure in place to accommodate the influx of large numbers of people (water and sanitation facilities, housing, etc.).
6. There are no skyscrapers, modern communications systems, or industries in the less-developed countries.	This is a stereotype about less-developed countries. Encourage students to find photographs of cities in less-developed nations of the world. These will show that elements of modern culture (skyscrapers, television, high-speed transportation, and communications) often exist side-by-side with elements of a traditional way of life.