Thinking about poverty

How do the statements below make you feel? What do they make you think? What do they make you want to ask?

“... poverty is not natural. It is man-made and it can be overcome by the actions of human beings.”
— Nelson Mandela

Each year, 17 million people die of diseases that we can cure.

100 million children in poor countries cannot go to school.

How many children do you know who have died from drinking water? In poor countries a child dies every 15 seconds from water related diseases.

There is enough food in the world to feed everybody, but millions of people go hungry every day.

1 billion people in the world live on less than 65p a day.

These statements are from MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY: How you can help defeat world poverty in seven easy steps. Penguin 2005
G8 Bingo

Find someone who:

1. Knows where the G8 met in 2005
2. Knows what MPH means
3. Can name two musicians who played at Live 8
4. Can name two countries in Africa
5. Knows what Fair Trade is
6. Watched Live 8 and can tell you what it was for
7. Can name or guess three G8 countries
8. Can name a famous person who campaigns against poverty
9. Can name another country recently in the news, and can tell you why

What do you think this cartoon is about?

What are the main differences between the two G8 statements?

Which statement is more likely to be read in the news? Why?
Live 8 - what’s your verdict?

Do you agree or disagree with these statements:

- Most people who went to Live 8 went for the music, not the cause.
- Live 8 was successful in raising awareness about poverty.
- It was wrong that African musicians weren’t invited to play at Hyde Park.
- Live 8 distracted people from the protests in Edinburgh.
- Live 8 encouraged people to campaign against poverty.
- Live 8’s decision to only have big name bands was a good idea.
- Live 8 gave a negative image of Africa.

Why wear a white band?

If you were going to wear a white band what would your reasons be?

- It looks cool.
- To spread the message - people ask why I’m wearing it.
- A visible reminder to keep up my commitment to the campaign.
- Because we should all be aware of poverty.
- It’s fashionable.
- It’s a political statement.
- My friends wear them.
- Celebrities wear them.

What does the white band symbolise?

Why do you think some celebrities wear the white bands?

Do you wear any other wristbands? How do you choose which ones to wear?

Do you think wristbands are useful for campaigns to use? Why?
# Personal promises

Could you keep any of these promises to make the world a better place?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Promise</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I promise to turn the TV off at the plug.</td>
<td>Because keeping the little red light on uses 85% as much electricity as watching TV.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I promise to watch the news and read the newspapers.</td>
<td>Because we all need to be more aware of what’s going on in the world.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I promise to vote for Trade Justice.</td>
<td>Because it is easy! Go to <a href="http://www.tjm.org.uk/action">www.tjm.org.uk/action</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I promise to recycle my old mobile phone.</td>
<td>Because the cadmium in one phone is sufficient to poison a small swimming pool.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I promise to make sure all the paper used in my bathroom is from recycled sources.</td>
<td>Because your bottom deserves it!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I promise to make the Millennium Development Goals.</td>
<td>Because to make sure our leaders achieve them we need to remember them ... er ... let’s just check at <a href="http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals">www.un.org/millenniumgoals</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I promise to learn the Millennium Development Goals.</td>
<td>Because we all need to be regularly reminded of the importance of the campaign against poverty.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I promise to wear a white band.</td>
<td>Because we all need to be regularly reminded of the importance of the campaign against poverty.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I promise to keep trying new Fair Trade products.</td>
<td>Because there are over 300 Fair Trade products, and you’ve only tried a few of them!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I promise to tell my Prime Minister what I would like him to do on behalf of the developing world.</td>
<td>Because you can! Write to 10 Downing Street, London SW1A 2AA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I promise to find out more about world religions.</td>
<td>Because all major religions advocate peace. Understanding decreases suspicion and increases friendship.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I promise to speak out against injustice!</td>
<td>Because whether it is racism, bullying or something on the news, speaking out or writing a letter could make a difference.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I promise to keep trying new Fair Trade products.</td>
<td>Because there are over 300 Fair Trade products, and you’ve only tried a few of them!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I promise to learn the Millennium Development Goals.</td>
<td>Because we all need to be regularly reminded of the importance of the campaign against poverty.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I promise to wear a white band.</td>
<td>Because we all need to be regularly reminded of the importance of the campaign against poverty.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I promise to keep trying new Fair Trade products.</td>
<td>Because there are over 300 Fair Trade products, and you’ve only tried a few of them!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"Sometimes it falls upon a generation to be great. You can be that generation." ... Nelson Mandela