

Name: _____

Water: The Facts
(The New Internationalist, March 2004, Issue 354)

- 1) What sub-regions (e.g. south Asia, Middle East, etc.) have the least fresh water availability per person? Which of the catastrophically low water availability countries has the largest population?

 - 2) What is most of the world's fresh water used for? (See the graphic "World water use")

 - 3) Compare the general water use trends between developed and developing countries. (See the section "Where's it going?")

 - 4) The chart "Average water needed to produce a kilo of food" shows that 42,500 litres of water are needed to produce 1 kg of beef. Other than water that is directly used by cattle for drinking, list 3 other ways water is used in the production of beef.
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- 5) Explain 5 ways health is improved when people have access to clean freshwater. (See the section "In sickness and in health", but also think of the importance of clean freshwater for things such food production)
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- 6) Read the section “Needing and Getting”. If you had only 30 litres of water, how do you think you would use it?
- 7) Is there progress in providing clean drinking water and sanitation services? (See the section “Progress”) Explain.
- 8) Describe any parts of Canada that have inequitable access to clean drinking water. (from your own knowledge)
- 9) Read the section on “Tapping Groundwater”. In your own words explain the concept of **groundwater overdraft**, and explain why this is occurring.

Read and Consider:

The United Nations estimates it would cost about \$23 billion a year over 8-10 years to bring low-cost safe water to the 1.4 billion people who do not have access to clean drinking water...

Currently the world is spending only about \$16 billion a year on clean water efforts. The \$7 billion shortfall is about equal to what the world spends every 4 days for military purposes.

Military Spending 2005 (in billions of US dollars)

Country	Amount
USA	420.7
China	62.5
Russia	61.9
UK	51.1
Japan	44.7
France	41.6
Canada (#14)	10.9

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