

# Grade 7 Social Sciences Worksheet

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## Assessment Task: Poverty and disease

### **Poverty and disease** (Groups: 3 or 4 per group)

What is poverty?

To answer the above question, you will be completing a race track exercise aimed at definition development.

Print out the diagram on the next page to complete this exercise, or simply draw three concentric circles on a piece of paper.

- a) Place the circle diagram at the centre of the group. At the same time, each member of the group writes his/her own definition of poverty outside the outermost circle.  
**No talking!!**
- b) Rotate the diagram so that each person has someone else's definition in front of him/her. Read the definition and then rewrite your definition inside the outer circle, taking into account what your neighbour's definition says. **Still no talking!!**
- c) Repeat b), writing your new definition inside the second circle. **Still no talking.**
- d) **Now talk.** Discuss your group's different definitions and, by consensus, agree on a group definition.
- e) Share all groups' definitions with the whole class and come to a class definition.

1 Compare the class definition with the following definition:  
*"We can say poverty exists where people do not have adequate food, shelter and clothing."*

Would you say that your definition or the above definition is better? Explain your answer. [4]

2 Why is it so hard to define poverty? [4]

3 Do you think different definitions of poverty should be used in different circumstances? [4]

4 Refer to the table below. (Source: Rose and Charlton, 2001)

Food poverty is probably the most important form of poverty.

This table shows the minimum diet needed to sustain a 19-year-old man, using the cheapest, most nutritious foods, for one month.

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### ***Minimum diet to sustain 19-year-old man***

Item	Quantity in Grams
Skimmed milk powder	1200 (3 spoons per day)
Meat (red and chicken)	795 (about 3 hamburger patties)
Fish (pilchards)	397 (1 can)
Eggs (1 egg = 50 grams)	650 (1 egg per day)
Fresh vegetables	9000 (3 portions per day)
Fresh fruit	1083 (about 10 fruit items)
Margarine	600 (1 tub)
Cooking oil (ml)	606 (1 bottle)
Brown bread	8400 (10 loaves)
Maize meal	7200 (240g per day)
Sugar / jam	2100 (4 spoons per day)
Peanut butter	433 (1 bottle)
Legumes (beans and peas)	390 (1 spoon per day)
Coffee and tea	217 (3 cups per day)
Salt	130 ( $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon per day)
Dry spices, condiments e.g. pepper, curry	44
Liquid spices, condiments e.g. vinegar	87

4.1 From this information, draw up a typical menu for 1 day. [6]

In your community, do most people have

- A) less than this amount of food?
- B) about the same as this amount?
- C) more than this amount?
- D) a lot more than this amount?

4.2 Do you think that this is a good measure of food poverty? Explain your answer.

[5]

Refer to the list below. Other definitions of poverty look at the living environment. For each of the following 38 statements, circle the number if you think it is **essential** to enjoy an acceptable standard of living.

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### ***Measures of poverty***

1. Someone to look after you if you are very ill
2. A house that is strong enough to stand up to the weather
3. Street lighting
4. Mains electricity in the house
5. A fridge
6. Clothing sufficient to keep you warm and dry
7. Separate bedrooms for adults and children
8. Tarred roads close to the house
9. A flush toilet in the house
10. For parents or other carers to be able to buy complete school uniform for children without hardship
11. Having an adult from the household at home at all times when children under ten from the household are at home
12. Ability to pay or contribute to funerals/funeral insurance/burial society
13. A place of worship (church/mosque/synagogue) in the local area
14. People who are sick are able to afford all medicines prescribed by their doctor
15. Somewhere for children to play safely outside of the house
16. A radio
17. Having police on the streets in the local area
18. Regular savings for emergencies
19. A neighbourhood without rubbish/refuse/garbage in the streets
20. Being able to visit friends and family in hospital or other institutions
21. Electric cooker
22. Television/ TV
23. Someone to transport you in a vehicle if you needed to travel in an emergency
24. Someone to talk to if you are feeling upset or depressed
25. A fence or wall around the property
26. A bath or shower in the house
27. A large supermarket in the local area
28. A neighbourhood without smoke or smog in the air
29. Burglar bars in the house
30. A landline phone
31. Some new (not second-hand or handed-down) clothes
32. A cell phone
33. Someone who you think could find you paid employment if you were without it
34. Someone to lend you money in an emergency
35. Meat or fish or vegetarian equivalent every day
36. A garden

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37. A car

38. A sofa/lounge suite

Source: Noble, Wright, Magasela and Ratcliffe, forthcoming

It may interest you to know that a scientific survey found that at least 50% of South Africans considered all these items to be essential. 90% thought items 1 to 4 are essential, while 52% thought that a car and a lounge suite are essential.

### 5 ***Class debate (Informal assessment)***

If half of all South Africans think that a car is essential to have an acceptable standard of living, does this mean that you are poor if you cannot afford a car?

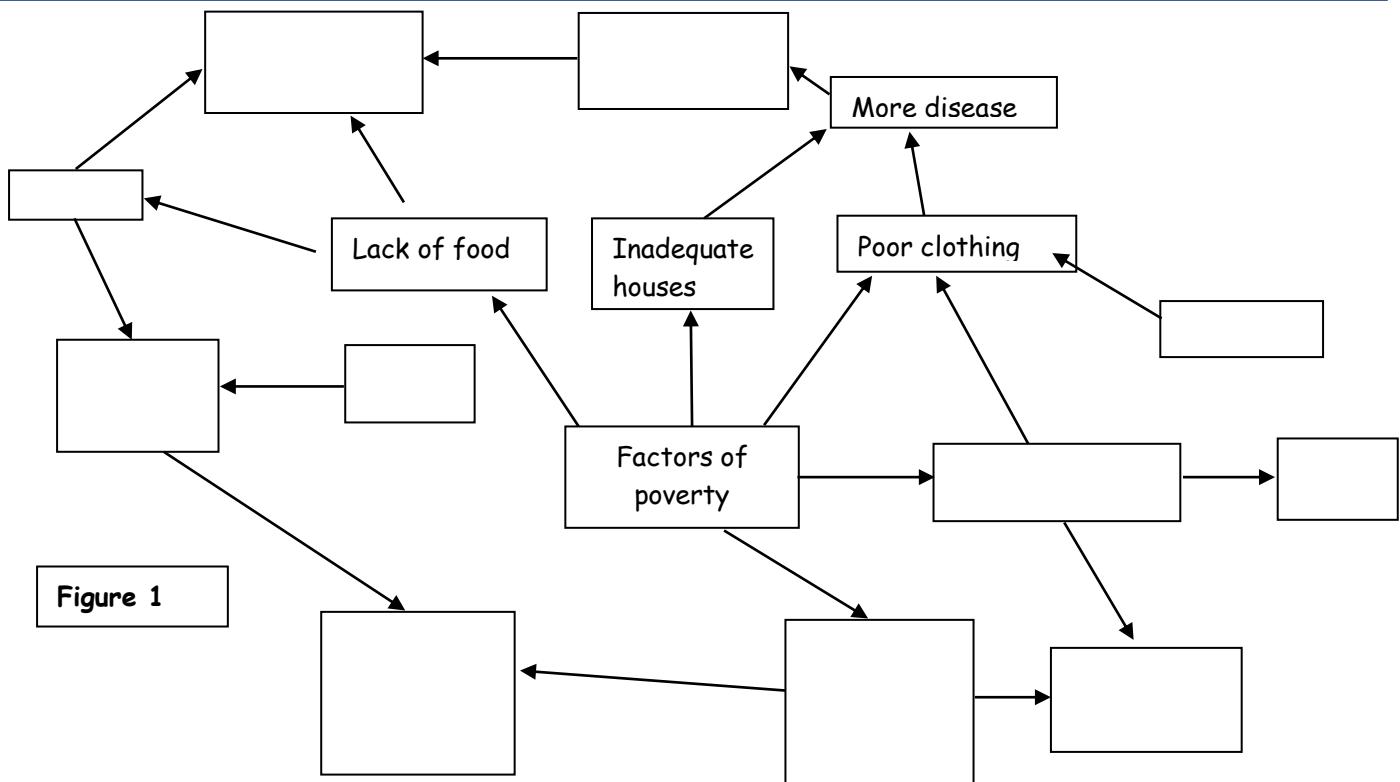
#### ***Causes of poverty***

6.1 Draw a diagram similar to (but not the same as) the concept diagram below to show the factors related to poverty.

[10]

Each connection (arrow) must make sense. The more labels and sensible connections you can draw, the higher the level of thinking you are displaying. You should be able to give an explanation for each arrow.

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6.2 In the concept diagram , what is the connection between inadequate houses, poor clothing and more diseases? [4]

6.3 What other factors might cause more disease in a poor community? [4]

7 Use your concept diagram to write an essay on the causes of poverty in South Africa. [20]

### ***Diseases associated with poverty***

Diseases can be divided into broad groups:

- A Infectious diseases, caused by bacteria and viruses (germs)
- B: Diseases of lifestyle (e.g. over-eating, smoking, living in an unhealthy environment))
- C: Genetic diseases (inherited from your parents)

Infectious diseases can be made worse if someone lives in an unhealthy way. If unhealthy living is a result of poverty and this then causes other diseases (such as tuberculosis (TB)) to increase, then we call these diseases of poverty.

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8.1 In addition to TB, name three other diseases that are common in poor countries. [3]

8.2 For each disease that you have named, state how it is caused and why it is more common in poor areas than wealthy areas. [6]

9 Name two diseases that may be considered to be diseases of wealth. State what causes each. [4]

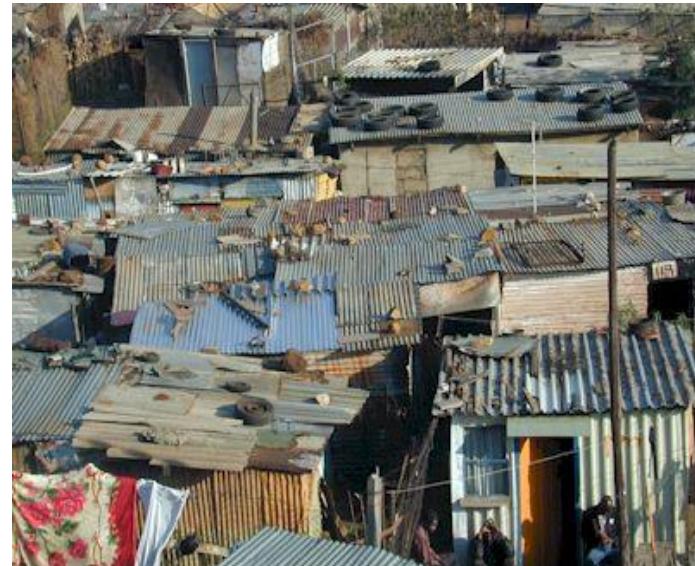
10 Write an explanation of why infectious diseases such as TB and diarrhoea are associated with a poor living environment. [6]

11 Malaria, a disease spread by mosquitoes, kills millions in Africa. Poverty is one of the major reasons why malaria kills so many people in Africa, but an important factor is the warm tropical climate. Name 3 other common diseases are only found in warm tropical climates. [3]

12 Many diseases of poverty are made worse by people living in overcrowded conditions, such as the shack settlement in the picture.

Explain why overcrowding increases the chances of catching an infectious disease. [5]

13 Draw a map of South Africa, showing where malaria, bilharzia and TB are most common. [10]



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### **Suggested Solutions**

- 1 Almost any sensible answer is acceptable. The point of this question is to demonstrate that poverty is in the 'eye of the beholder'.
- 2 If the whole country is poor, then people who would be regarded as wealthy may be regarded as of only average income in another country. Also, people's expectations of material wealth and their desire for material wealth vary enormously within one country. Social factors of poverty, such as exposure to high crime rates, are very difficult to measure.
- 3 This can be argued both ways. However, to place the whole world on the standard of poverty of, say, the USA would make it very difficult to identify the people in real need in a poor country. Nevertheless, judging against the wealthiest countries would highlight the poverty problem on a global scale.
- 4.1 The answer here is obviously dependant on the community from which the learner comes and must be assessed accordingly.
- 4.2 This is largely dependent on the answer to 4.1 and must be assessed accordingly. The logic of this answer must follow the logic of answer to 4.1.

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### 5 *Class debate (Informal assessment)*

Criteria	Levels of performance			
	1	2	3	4
<b>1. Organisation and clarity</b>  Viewpoints and responses are outlined both clearly and orderly.	Unclear in most parts	Clear in some parts but not overall	Mostly clear and orderly in all parts	Completely clear and orderly presentation
<b>2. Use of arguments</b>  Reasons are given to support viewpoint.	Few or no relevant reasons given	Some relevant reasons given	Most reasons given: most relevant	Most relevant reasons given in support
<b>3. Use of examples and facts</b>  Examples and facts are given to support reasons.	Few or no relevant supporting examples/facts	Some relevant examples/facts given	Many examples/facts given: most relevant	Many relevant supporting examples and facts given
<b>4. Use of rebuttal</b>  Arguments made by the other teams are responded to and dealt with effectively.	No effective counter-arguments made	Few effective counter-arguments made	Some effective counter-arguments made	Many effective counter-arguments made
<b>5. Presentation style</b>  Tone of voice, use of gestures, and level of enthusiasm are convincing to audience.	Few style features were used; not convincingly	Few style features were used convincingly	All style features were used, most convincingly	All style features were used convincingly

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6.2 People who live in cold, damp conditions are more susceptible to disease.  
 Inadequate (leaky and cold) housing and clothing will lead to more diseases, such as TB and pneumonia.

6.3 Poor diet, air and water pollution, overcrowding.

7 Essay on the causes of poverty in South Africa [20]

Level	Content 4	Layout and presentation 4	Argument 8	Sources and evidence 4
<b>4</b>	All the necessary information is provided to support the arguments made.	The essay is neatly laid out; sources are presented well (for example in frames) and logically related to the text.	The argument is well thought out, presenting more than one point of view, supported by a variety of sources. Discussion is developed and conclusions are clearly stated, showing that the learner has his/her own thoughts on the topic.	An excellent variety of sources and forms of evidence are accessed and properly acknowledged, supporting the argument fully.
<b>3</b>	The content supports the argument, although there may be some omissions.	The essay is neat, but layout is a bit haphazard.	The argument is sound, supported by sources, although lacking in depth and originality.	At least 3 sources are referred to.
<b>2</b>	Little evidence that the learner has developed own thoughts based on the sources.	The essay is untidy and sources are not well presented.	The argument is not always logical in relation to the sources and has no originality.	Only 1 or 2 sources are referred to.
<b>1</b>	Content is inadequate and	Presentation is mess; errors	The argument is not logical	Sources do not support the

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	does not support the arguments.	are scribbled out; sources are not separated from the text in style in any way.	and not supported by the sources	argument and have little relevance.
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8.1 In addition to TB, name three other diseases that are common in poor countries. [3]  
 Bilharzia (north of the Witwatersrand in poor areas) – a parasitic disease in warm fresh water; malaria – a parasitic disease of the tropics; diseases of malnutrition; diarrhoeal diseases (polluted water), e.g. cholera.

8.2 See above.

9 Heart disease – protein- and fat-rich diets.  
 Type 1 diabetes – caused by obesity.  
 Stroke – high-cholesterol diet and stress.  
 Lung cancer – smoking.

10 TB is associated with overcrowding and cold, damp living conditions. It is an airborne, bacterial disease, so living in crowded cold damp conditions encourages its spread, especially amongst undernourished people. Diarrhoeal diseases, which cause rapid loss of water from the body, are associated with eating rotten food or drinking contaminated water.

11 Bilharzia, Trachoma (a tropical disease that causes blindness); tick-borne diseases such as tick bite fever and Congo fever and sleeping sickness (Trypanosomiasis), carried by the Tsetse fly.

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12 People living in overcrowded conditions are more likely to cough / sneeze on other people or touch them. Sewage systems are more likely to overflow. Flies moving around in this environment may move from faeces to food, so spreading germs.

13

