



## UN Ideals

### Part 1

A. How much do you know about the United Nations (the UN)? Read the text and match the underlined words or phrases to the photos.

The United Nations (the UN) is an organization of different countries. It started on October 24, 1945, at the end of World War II. Its main goal was to stop wars and to work for a) world peace. When it started, there were 51 member countries. Today, there are over 190 countries, almost all the countries in the world. The b) headquarters of the UN are in New York City, but there are also important offices in Nairobi in Kenya, Geneva in Switzerland, and Vienna in Austria. Countries send c) representatives to hold meetings and make decisions about world problems. The UN's goals are connected to d) human rights. Some of these goals include e) ending food poverty and helping all children around the world go to school.

Other key facts:

- The UN's World Food Programme (WFP) provides food to 91 million people in 83 countries.
- The UN has more than 100,000 workers that help keep the peace around the world.
- People celebrate UN Day on October 24 every year.



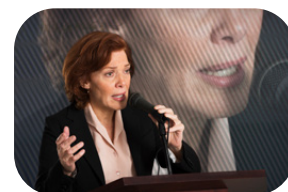
1. \_\_\_\_\_



2. \_\_\_\_\_



3. \_\_\_\_\_



4. \_\_\_\_\_



5. \_\_\_\_\_

### Part 2



A. Read the text. Then choose the correct answers.

https://UDHR.co

### The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)

Representatives from many different countries wrote *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (the UDHR). The United Nations agreed to start using the ideas in the UDHR on **December 10, 1948**. The UDHR is about goals for human rights around the world. Human rights are the human freedoms that everyone in the world should have:

- the right to life,
- the right to work,
- the right to education (from **elementary school** to **college**), and
- the right to think and say what we want (if we don't hurt anyone else).

 December 10, 1948 elementary school college	 10 December 1948 primary school university
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Human rights are based on equality and respect. These are beliefs that people in different countries who speak different languages can understand. Originally, the UDHR was in English and French. Now it is in about 500 different languages. They include the Nyanasan language from Russia, which only about 500 people speak!



Secondary

- The UDHR describes the rights of every person
  - in the countries that signed it.
  - in the world above the age of 18.
  - in the world of all ages and nationalities.
- The goals of the UDHR
  - are different for different countries.
  - are the same for all countries.
  - are not understood in some countries.
- You can read the UDHR
  - in hundreds of different languages.
  - only in English or French.
  - only in languages more than 500 people speak.

**B. Look at the infographic in pairs. Choose the three human rights from the UDHR that you think are the most important. Give reasons for your choices. Then share your ideas with the class.**

**A:** I think that the right to voice your opinions is important. Everyone should be able to say what they think.

**B:** In my opinion, ...

Phrases for giving opinions

- I think / believe that...
- In my opinion, ...
- From my point of view,

# THESE ARE MY HUMAN RIGHTS

We are all born free and equal.

- You have the right to:
  - life, freedom, and safety
  - get married and have a family
  - travel freely
  - think and speak your opinions
  - enjoy culture and science
  - be treated humanely
- practice your religion
- get an education
- have a job and get paid
- have a good standard of living
- have free time and rest
- not go to prison unfairly
- choose the government of your country

**Respect the rights of others!**



**Part 3**

**A. About 1.5 billion people around the world live with disabilities. Many of them are children. Read Misha’s story. Identify which human rights from activity B Part 2 are not protected and write them below.**



Misha is 16. She plans to be a biologist. Two years ago, she had an accident and now uses a wheelchair. Although she went to her local school before the accident, Misha can’t go there now because the school doesn’t have ramps. It is difficult for her to see her friends because local transportation for wheelchair users in her city isn’t very good. As a local community, we don’t think Misha’s human rights are protected.

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**B. In pairs, talk about how Misha, her family, and her community can work to help protect her human rights better. Note down your ideas. Then share them with the class.**

*Misha’s classmates could post her story on social media or write to local newspapers.*

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### Extension

**A. Read about the Model UN. Then read the discussion topics below. Check (✓) the topics that interest you.**



#### Model UN – What is it?

The Model UN started in the 1950s, and it is still happening today. Groups of students meet in a classroom, conference center, or online. They play the roles of representatives from different countries in a UN General Assembly. They discuss world problems and try to find solutions. If you're interested in politics or world problems, it's a great way to improve your public speaking skills!

#### Model UN Discussion Topics

- Should the UN allow all countries in the world to join?
- Can the UN give the same rights to everyone in the world?
- Should animals have the same rights as humans?
- Is world peace possible?

**B. As a class, prepare for and participate in a UN General Assembly. Note down the ideas that you discussed.**

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**C. Did you enjoy the discussion? Why or why not?**