

The world needs 69 million more teachers

6th October, 2016



A report from the United Nations (UN) says the world needs another 69 million teachers by the year 2030. The UN agency UNESCO made a promise in 2015 that every child in the world is to receive a

primary and secondary education within the next 14 years. The agency says a lot of work needs to be done to find the number of teachers for schools. The biggest numbers of teachers needed are in sub-Saharan Africa and southern Asia. UNESCO says there needs to be a huge effort to get the 69 million teachers. At the moment, UNESCO says there are "massive shortages" of teachers around the world. There are currently 263 million children who do not go to school. Around 25 million of these might never get an education.

The UN report warns that there are shortages of teachers in countries with rising populations. This makes it harder to find enough teachers as there are more and more children being born. The report says: "Without urgent and sustained action, the situation will deteriorate in the face of rising demand for education." UNESCO is also worried about the quality of teachers in some countries. In countries like Ghana, Liberia and Sierra Leone, fewer than 60 per cent of teachers in primary school have been trained. There are also worries about class sizes. The UN says: "In countries like Malawi, it is common to find over 100 children in classes...This has been a persistent problem for many years."

Sources: bbc.com / tes.com / uis.unesco.org

Writing

The job of a teacher is the most important job in the world. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

United Nations / teachers / promise / child / education / schools / shortages / world / countries / population / urgent / situation / quality / demand / trained / class sizes

True / False

- The world needs 69 million more teachers by the end of the next decade. T / F
- In 2015, UNESCO promised all children an education. T / F
- The biggest number of teachers needed is in China. T / F
- There are 263 million children who do not go to school. T / F
- There are no teacher shortages in countries with a growing population. T / F
- UNESCO is not worried about the quality of teachers. T / F
- In Ghana, only 40% of teachers are trained. T / F
- Malawi has class sizes of over 100 children. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| 1. needs | a. inside |
| 2. promise | b. may |
| 3. within | c. emergency |
| 4. huge | d. requires |
| 5. might | e. concerns |
| 6. rising | f. usual |
| 7. urgent | g. standard |
| 8. quality | h. pledge |
| 9. worries | i. increasing |
| 10. common | j. big |

Discussion – Student A

- What do you think about what you read?
- How important are teachers?
- Why don't more people become teachers?
- What can UNESCO do to get the teachers it needs?
- How would the world be different if everyone had an education?
- What did you think of your education?
- Why is there a shortage of teachers?
- What advice do you have for teachers?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|---|------------------------|
| 1. The UN agency UNESCO made | a. Saharan Africa |
| 2. receive a primary and | b. trained |
| 3. teachers needed are in sub- | c. get an education |
| 4. massive shortages" | d. in classes |
| 5. Around 25 million of these might never | e. for many years |
| 6. there are more and more | f. of teachers |
| 7. worried about the | g. secondary education |
| 8. teachers in primary school have been | h. quality of teachers |
| 9. it is common to find over 100 children | i. a promise |
| 10. This has been a persistent problem | j. children being born |

Discussion – Student B

- Who was your favourite teacher, and why?
- Why do teachers get paid so little?
- Would you be a good teacher?
- What was the most important thing teachers taught you?
- What are the good and bad things about being a teacher?
- What is the best present for teachers, and why?
- What jobs are more important than the job of a teacher?
- What questions would you like to ask a teacher?

Spelling

- A ptreor from the United Nations
- UNESCO made a irmspoe in 2015
- eeeicvr a primary and secondary education
- sub-Saharan Africa and unroseth Asia
- there needs to be a huge otffer
- There are eurtncryl 263 million children
- there are soaretghs of teachers
- rising itulnsoopap
- egrnut and sustained action
- rising mednad for education
- the lqyuiat of teachers
- it is oomncm to find over 100 children in classes

Answers – Synonym Match

1. d	2. h	3. a	4. j	5. b
6. i	7. c	8. g	9. e	10. f

Role Play

Role A – Sense of humour

You think a sense of humour is the most important thing for a teacher. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): intelligence, giving no homework or being strict.

Role B – Intelligence

You think intelligence is the most important thing for a teacher. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): a sense of humour, giving no homework or being strict.

Role C – Giving no homework

You think giving no homework is the most important thing for a teacher. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): intelligence, a sense of humour or being strict.

Role D – Being strict

You think being strict is the most important thing for a teacher. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): intelligence, giving no homework or a sense of humour.

Speaking – Good teacher

Rank these with your partner. Put the things that make a good teacher at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| • funny | • young |
| • strict | • gives no homework |
| • intelligent | • answers questions well |
| • good-looking | • likes students |

Answers – True False

a	T	b	T	c	F	d	T	e	F	f	F	g	F	h	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.