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WHO ARE REFUGEES AND HOW CAN I HELP?*

Go globetrotting to get the facts and get involved!

And "Be Prepared!" ... there may be more than one correct answer!

What does UNHCR do?

Q1: UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, protects and assists...

- a. people displaced by war and persecution
- b. people who want to work or study overseas
- c. people who lost their homes in natural disasters

Q2: How many displaced persons does UNHCR care for worldwide?

- a. 10 million
- b. 30 million
- c. 120 million

Q3: There are more people displaced within their own countries ('internally displaced persons') than people who have fled to another country ('refugees'). True or False?

Q4: Of the millions of displaced persons UNHCR cares for, how many are refugees?

- a. 9 million
- b. 20 million
- c. 100 million

Q5: Which continent has the most refugees?

- a. Africa
- b. Asia
- c. Europe

Some definitions...

Q6: What is the legal definition of a refugee?

- a. A person who has been persecuted in their own country
- b. A person who has come to another country to claim asylum
- c. A person who has a well-founded fear of persecution in their own country

Q7: What is the definition of an asylum seeker?

- a. Some one who has made an application to be considered a refugee
- b. Some one who is not a real refugee
- c. Some one who has come to find a better job and life for themselves

Q8: Everyone has the right to seek and enjoy asylum

True or False?

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Where do refugees come from, where do they go?

Q9: Which are the top three countries from which refugees come in the world?

- a. Afghanistan, Iraq, Sudan
- b. Iraq, Colombia, Russian Federation
- c. Sudan, Afghanistan, China

Q10: Which three countries in the world host the biggest refugee populations?

- a. Pakistan, Kenya, Thailand
- b. Pakistan, Iran, USA
- c. Kenya, Iran, Ecuador

Q11: In the last five years, the number of people claiming asylum in 'industrialized countries' (Europe, Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea & United States) has:

- a. Risen
- b. Fallen
- c. Stayed roughly the same

Q12: The UK was home to 40,000 scouts for two weeks, but what percentage of the world's refugees does it host?

- a. 3%
- b. 13%
- c. 23%

How can you help?

Q13: In the past, scouts have supported UNHCR's work by:

- a. raising funds for UNHCR projects around the world
- b. supporting vaccination programmes in Tanzania's refugee camps
- c. organizing fun activities for vulnerable children in Croatia

Q14: In the UK, <u>STAR (Student Action for Refugees)</u> offers students and young people the opportunity to help refugees by:

- a. learn about and raise awareness of refugee issues in innovative ways
- b. support refugees in a practical way in their local communities through volunteering
- c. campaign with and for the rights of refugees everywhere

Q15: In your country, you can help refugees by:

- a. trying this quiz out on your family and friends
- b. inviting refugees to join in your activities
- c. asking UNHCR what local groups and campaigns you can support

^{*}Adapted from STAR's 'Refugee Right 2007' quiz, answers correct as of July 2007

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WHO ARE REFUGEES AND HOW CAN I HELP? - Quiz Answers (July 2007)

1c A refugee is a person who "owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality, and is unable to or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country, or who not having a nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence as a results of such events, is unable, or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it..."

Article 1, The 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees

Although the 1951 UN Refugee Convention does not specifically mention people fleeing conflict, regional instruments such as Africa's OAU Convention and the Cartagena Declaration in Latin America support UNHCR's opinion that people fleeing civil wars and ethnic, tribal and religious violence should be considered refugees if their own state is unwilling or unable to protect them.

2b UNHCR cares for 30 million displaced persons worldwide, including refugees, internally displaced persons (due to conflict), returnees, stateless persons, asylum seekers and other persons of concern.

- **3 True -** There are more people displaced within their own countries than people who have fled to another country.
- 4a There are 9 million refugees of concern to UNHCR.
- **5a** Africa hosts the most refugees over 2,400,000 at the start of 2007. Europe hosts 1,733,700, the Americas 1,035,900 and Asia 875,100.
- **6c** You do not need to have actually been persecuted to be a refugee. If you have a well-founded *fear* of persecution then you could be a refugee. See answer to question one for full legal definition.
- 7a An asylum seeker is someone who has applied to a government or UNHCR to be considered a refugee.
- **8 True -** Article 14 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that everyone has the right to seek and enjoy asylum.
- **9a** There are 2.1 million refugees from Afghanistan spread across 71 different asylum countries. The number of Iraqi refugees has increased dramatically in the last 18 months to over 2 million. Sudan is next with 686, 000 refugees worldwide.
- **10b** At the start of this year, Pakistan hosted 1.1 million refugees, Iran 1 million and the USA 844,000. In other words, Pakistan and Iran host more than 1 in 5 (over 20%) of the world's refugees. By the time the next global statistics are published, it is likely that Syria and other countries surrounding Iraq will feature in the official top three due to the worsening situation in Iraq. In fact, latest statistics show that Syria already has 1.4 million Iraqi refugees.
- 11 Fallen This is the fifth consecutive year that asylum claims in industrialised countries have dropped.
- 12a The UK hosts three per cent of world's refugees (14th highest out of all European Union member states).

And for questions 13, 14 & 15 all possible answers are true!

Want to find out more?

Go to <u>www.unhcr.org/scouts</u> for more ideas of how you can get involved and check out UNHCR's Basic Facts page – <u>www.unhcr.org/basics</u> - for the latest stats and facts.