

**For Further Thought**

**A. EIDs.** The emergence of new infectious diseases is probably due to all of the following *except* a) the need of microbes to cause disease; b) the ability of humans to travel by air; c) changing environments; d) a pathogen crossing the species barrier; e) the increasing human population.

**B. Quality of Life**

	Literacy Rate	% Daily Food Requirement	Life Expectancy (years)	Primary Cause of Death	Infant mortality / 1000 births	% Population w/ Safe Water	Population doubling time (yr)	% Population w/ HIV/AIDS
China	89.9%	116.0	69.0	Perinatal	39.0	67.0	82	0.07
Haiti	48.0%	83.0	47.3	Bacterial & Parasitic infections	98.9	37.0	41	8.0
Mexico	89.6%	133.0	68.6	Cardiovascular disease	25.8	85.6	30	14
Pakistan	37.8%	107.0	59.9	Malaria	84.6	95.0	30	0.10
Sweden	100.0%	116.0	76.9	Heart disease	3.4	100.0	>100	0.01
Uganda	61.8%	95.0	41.9	AIDS	95.2	46.0	22	8.3
United States	85.0%	140.0	73.8	Cardiovascular disease	7.1	99.4	>100	0.3

Data Sources: United Nations FAO and World Bank, 1999.

1. Arrange the countries in order of quality of life.
2. Which country has the best quality of life/standard of living? On what did you base your decision?
3. How would you do to improve conditions in the countries at the bottom of your list?

**C. Emerging Disease & Immigration** Mary Mallon, better known as Typhoid Mary, was a cook responsible for a seven family typhoid fever epidemic before she was caught by Sarah Josephine Baker in 1907. Mallon was confined to a hospital for nearly three years. Upon her release she promised to take up an occupation other than cooking. Mallon disappeared for five years but her trail was picked up, again through epidemiology. Mallon spent the next 23 years, to the end of her life in 1938, in North Brother Island Prison (New York City). Were Mallon’s civil rights violated by her long incarceration?

The 1990 Immigration Act states that persons with “communicable disease of public health significance<sup>\*</sup>” will not be allowed into the U.S. Should people be prevented from emigrating because of their health status?

**D. Microbicides** Advertisements for household cleaning products, laundry detergents, and personal hygiene products often taut the products’ abilities to kill microorganisms. Is it necessary to kill “99%” (as some products do) of the microbes in your household? Is it even desirable to kill them?

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\* Cholera, diphtheria, infectious tuberculosis, plague, smallpox, yellow fever, and viral hemorrhagic fevers, such as Marburg, Ebola and Congo-Crimean.