

# A Rally Against Poverty

Fifteen-year-old Matthew Hector called on a crowd of 20,000 people to fight world poverty. He was one of many people who spoke out at a recent **rally**<sup>1</sup>, or large meeting, in London, England. "We believe the world should be fair, so that everyone has the same opportunity to... have a good life," he said.

The rally launched a worldwide campaign called "Make Poverty History." The goal was to challenge world leaders to end poverty.



AP/Wide World

*People who live in poverty do not have enough money, food, and medical care for a healthy life.*

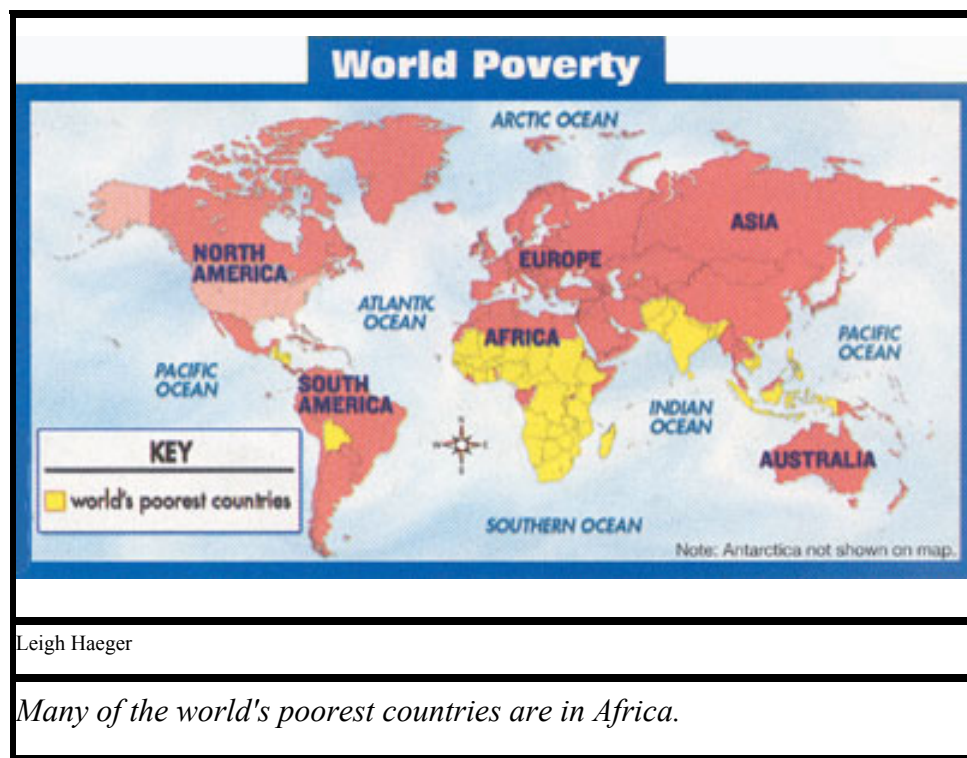
People who live in **poverty**<sup>2</sup> do not have enough money, food, and medical care for a healthy life. More than a billion people around the world are poor. About half of those people are children. Many of the poorest countries are in Africa.

One of the most famous speakers at the rally was Nelson Mandela. He was the former president of South Africa. Mandela urged people to help those in need. He said, "While [there is poverty], there is no true freedom."

<sup>1</sup> **rally**: a big gathering of people intended to get them excited about something

<sup>2</sup> **poverty**: condition of being poor.

## Reading Passage

**Leading the Way**

In his speech, Mandela challenged world leaders not to "look the other way" from the problem of poverty. In July 2005, leaders of the eight wealthiest countries, including the United States, met in Scotland. They promised to take action to end poverty. Mandela and other supporters of "Make Poverty History" hoped that world leaders keep their promise.

## Question Sheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**“A Rally Against Poverty” Questions**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Which do you think best describes Matthew Hector?
- a. selfish
  - b. silly
  - c. immature
  - d. caring
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. What did Nelson Mandela mean when he said, “While there is poverty, there is no true freedom?”
- a. People who live in poverty usually go to jail.
  - b. He thinks that people who live in poverty should go to jail.
  - c. People who live in poverty are controlled by their need for food, clothing, and shelter.
  - d. People who are not helping those living in poverty should go to jail.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Matthew Hector spoke in front of 20,000 people. This shows that he is
- a. brave.
  - b. young.
  - c. loud.
  - d. poor.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. The continent with the most countries living in poverty is
- a. Africa.
  - b. South America.
  - c. Asia.
  - d. Europe.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Describe the type of person you think Nelson Mandela was and give examples of why.

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