The challenges of Primary Education [especially girls]

You must copy all the notes into your geography book, and stick in all the graphs, diagrams and photographs. Copy out each question, giving the number [1 to 7] and answer in full.

1. What are the challenges related to Primary Education?
2. What are the solutions for improving education?

1. What are the challenges relating to Primary Education?

Across the African region, in 47 of the 54 countries, girls have a less than 50% chance of completing primary school.

Millennium Development Goal 2 was a target set by the UN to increase primary school enrolment from 83% [2000] to 91% [2015] and to halve the number of children missing from primary schools by 2015. Globally the number fell from 104 million [1990] to 57 million [2015]. Of these, 33 million are girls. In countries such as India, where more women than men are uneducated, there are serious consequences, for example:

Pupil activity 1: Copy out the following 3 consequences in rank order and justify your choices.

A] The child of an uneducated mother is twice as likely to die before the age of one as a child whose mother had a full education.
B] Women who are well educated tend to marry later and have small families.
C] Education [especially at secondary and university level] empowers women, i.e. it gives them a higher status and better chances in life.

The challenges relating to primary education and especially the education of girls in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia are socio-cultural and socio-economic.

Pupil activity 2: see task
Pupil activity 3: Use figure 5 to extend the explanation of each of the following statements:

* An educated mother...
* Spots the signs of ill health in her child....
* Understands the importance of a balanced diet so....

* Recognises the importance of a full education for her daughter so...

2. What are the solutions for improving education?

Pupil activity 4: rank the following in terms of their importance in tackling child labour and primary education amongst girls

1. In many countries, the abolition of school fees at primary level led to huge and sudden increases in enrolment for girls and boys, including many who were over age.
2. In Ethiopia, primary enrolment has gone from 30% to 75%!
3. Plan International's global advocacy campaign, Because I Am A Girl aims to advance equality for girls.
4. Transition programme focus on maintaining girls' long term capabilities and life chances.
5. Flexible approaches can reach the most marginalised and offer other educational opportunities for those who have already missed out on mainstream education.
6. Girl friendly schools increase the number and quality of teachers available, with a particular focus on female teachers

1. Sub-Saharan Africa has an estimated 48 million child workers.
2. Almost one child in three (29 per cent) below the age of 15 is economically active.
3. Accra is the location of a project called "Street Academy".
4. Part-time school is available for working children.
5. Community-based school projects exist.
6. In the United Republic of Tanzania, UNICEF and ILO have worked to raise awareness about child labour and support training and mobilisation for representatives from trade unions, NGOs and other groups.
The causes & consequences of Child Labour

You must copy all the notes into your geography book, stick in all the graphs, diagrams and photographs. Copy out each question, giving the number [1 to 7] and answer in full.

1. What is child labour?
2. What are the impacts/consequences of child labour?
3. What are the possible causes of child labour?
4. How is the challenge of child labour being tackled?

1. What is child labour?

**Definition:** work that deprives children of their childhood, their potential and their dignity.

Child labour means work that is prohibited for children of certain age groups. It is work performed by children who are under the minimum age legally specified for that kind of work, or, work which because of its detrimental nature or conditions, is considered unacceptable for children and is prohibited.

![Graph showing child labour trends]

**Pupil activities:**

1. Study the graph. Describe the trends shown in the graph. Remember to look at the overall trend first and then add the detail.
2. Explain why some poor parents don’t send all of their children, often girls, to primary and secondary school.
3. Annotate the photograph to show the impacts of child labour.
4. Annotate the data to show the impacts of child labour.
2. **What are the impacts/consequences of child labour?**

1. More boys than girls are involved in child labour
2. Children are expected to look after the family
3. Child labour has a negative impact on a child's health and safety
4. Access to education is a key step in ensuring protection against child labour
5. Children are often seen as an economic resource/asset to be employed to help support a family and local community
6. An estimated 246 million children are engaged in child labour
7. Sub-Saharan Africa has the world's worst record of child labour

3. **What are the possible causes of child labour?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Possible reasons for child labour</th>
<th>Possible solutions to child labour</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poverty and unemployment levels are high.</td>
<td>Introduce more AID / foreign direct investment (FDI).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overpopulation; there are limited resources and too many mouths to feed.</td>
<td>Develop education programmes to inform girls about contraception.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Existing laws or codes of conduct are often violated.</td>
<td>UN to make regular visits to factories.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laws and enforcement are often inadequate.</td>
<td>Raise public awareness, especially with TNCs investing in developing nations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to compulsory, free education is limited.</td>
<td>Enforce the MDGs and use of NGOs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literacy: children cannot read so cannot access better paid jobs e.g. technology. Therefore they are forced to work in low paid, informal jobs.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Pupil activity 5:** Using the above information, list the main causes and consequences of child labour

**Pupil activity 6:** In your opinion, what are the top three causes of child labour. Explain how each one leads to an increase in child labour.

4. **How is the challenge of child labour being tackled?**

1. Improving access to education, so that all children are in school.
2. Improving social security systems, so that the poorest and most disadvantaged members of society can rely on the state to give them support rather than relying solely on their children.
3. Solutions to the problem are difficult because there are so many countries involved and many causes of child labour. As a result, an international approach is required. Consequently there are a range of international organisations working together to try and end child labour, such as the ILO [International Labour Organisation], the UN [United Nations] and various charities.
4. International World Day Against Child Labour aims to raise the profile of the fight against child labour.

**Pupil activity 7:** Give reasons why the ILO cannot prevent child labour?