Advanced Conversation

Warm up questions

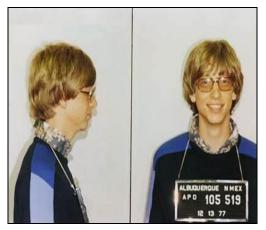
- Do you think that super rich people have a responsibility to donate their money to help others?
- Who do you have more respect for, Bill Gates or the late Steve Jobs?
- If you were married to one of the richest people on earth (as Melinda Gates is), what would you do with your free time?

Pictures

Imagine that these pictures are advertisements for Microsoft. Think up a suitable slogan for each one then share with the class.









Bill Gates India scheme 'spared 100,000 from HIV'

1. About 100,000 people in India may have escaped HIV infection over five years because of a scheme funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, a study by the Lancet suggests.

- 2. The Avahan project was launched in 2003 in six states which had the highest rate of HIV in India at the time.
- 3. The aim was to invest in HIV prevention by targeting high-risk groups such as sex workers and truck drivers.
- 4. The Lancet study said it showed such an investment can reduce HIV prevalence.
- 5. The initial findings of the study had some data limitations, AFP reports, but the study's authors make it clear that investing in prevention can have a positive impact.
- 6. "The results of our analysis suggest that Avahan had a beneficial effect in reducing HIV prevalence at the population level over five years of program implementation in some of the states," the assessment said.
- 7. It said that the findings supported investment in well-managed HIV prevention programs in low and middle-income countries.
- 8. The \$258m (£164m) Avahan project targeted high-risk groups such as sex workers, injecting drug users and truck drivers with tactics such as safe-sex counselling, free condoms and exchanging used needles for new ones.
- 9. It found that the campaign was most effective in the districts that got the most resources but it also had a greater impact in the highly-populated southern Indian states.
- 10. Indian authorities say the number of annual new HIV infections has declined by more than 50% during the past decade.
- 11.India also runs government Aids control schemes, many done in partnership with international donors.
- 12. There was some criticism of the Avahan project when it was launched for being poor value for money, AFP reports, but the study disputes this assertion.
- 13. The authors of the study were funded by the Gates Foundation, but as a peer-reviewed journal material for publication is examined by outside experts.

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Questions about the article

- A. When and where was the project launched?
- B. What was the aim of the project?
- C. What kind of limitations did the initial findings of the study have?
- D. How much did the project cost?
- E. What kind of people were targeted by the project?
- F. What is happening to the number of new annual HIV infections in India?
- G. Who funded this study?

Helping others

How much would you be willing to spend on each of the following:

- ... a red envelope at your best friend's wedding?
- ... a Mother's Day present?
- ... a sibling's birthday present?
- ... a farewell present for your teacher?

Altruism quiz

Do you know what an altruist is? Do you anyone who is an altruist? Take the quiz by yourself and don't share your answers with your partner. Next, try to predict what your partner's answers are for each question. You may then share and discuss your answers.

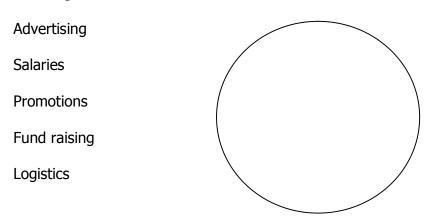
- 1. You see an old lady struggling to cross a street with heavy shopping bags.
 - a. You ignore her.
 - b. You help her cross the street.
 - c. You help her cross then help her carry her bags wherever she is going.
- 2. At a party there's only one piece of chocolate left on the plate.
 - a. You eat it when no one is looking.
 - b. You offer it to others first.
 - c. You insist that someone else have it, even though you are hungry.
- 3. You run over a cat in your car or on your motorcycle.
 - a. You keep on driving.
 - b. You stop and look for the owner.
 - c. You find the owner and offer to take the cat to the vet.
- 4. Your neighbor's car alarm goes off at midnight. (you know this neighbor)
 - a. You close the window and go back to sleep.
 - b. You try to wake up your neighbor.
 - c. You run down to try to investigate.
- 5. You are driving late at night and see an injured motorcyclist.
 - a. You keep driving.
 - b. You call the police and keep driving.
 - c. You stop to help.

Put it to good use

Obviously, the best thing about having a lot of money is that you can help people with it, right? Work with your partners and create a charity. You will have one billion US dollars to spend this year. Use the questions below and plan your charity, adding any information that you wish. You will also have to create a budget for how you will spend your money. Each group will present their ideas to the class.

- Will your charity have an international or domestic focus?
- Who will your charity benefit?
- Will you have any celebrities working with you?
- Who in your group will be the president, secretary and treasurer?
- How do you plan to solicit donations?
- How will you make sure that the money raised will get to the people who need it?
- What kind of salary will you pay yourselves (yes, people at nonprofits also get paid)?
- What will be the name of your organization and its slogan?

Fill in the pie chart below showing how you will allocate your one billion dollars for categories like:



Created by Rob, at David's English, Taipei, Taiwan
Amended slightly by Luc

This article is stored online at <u>Peacemakerfoundation.com</u>.

Campaigns & Projects to Promote Health & Wellbeing