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Level 3

Almost no poor countries by 2035

25th January, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1401/140125-poor-countries.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1401/140125-poor-countries.html>

The man who started Microsoft, Bill Gates, has predicted that by 2035, there will be almost no poor countries in the world. Today, the World Bank says there are 35 poor countries. Most of the people who live in them are on low or no incomes. Gates said that nearly all these countries will be richer in the next 20 years. He wrote: "Every nation in South America, Asia, and Central America (with the possible exception of Haiti), and most in coastal Africa will have joined the ranks of today's middle-income nations." He added: "When I was born, most countries in the world were poor. In the next two decades desperately poor countries will become the exception rather than the rule."

Mr Gates said some countries will still be poor. These include North Korea, Haiti and nations in central Africa. He said the good news was that: "Nearly 90% will have a higher income than India does today." He believes countries will become richer by copying their more successful neighbours. Countries will also benefit from new medicines, better seeds for farmers, and the Internet. Gates said many countries that were very poor just a few decades ago are now doing well. He said China, India, Brazil and Botswana were poor thirty years ago but now have growing economies. He said there was still a lot of work to do and that, "more than one billion people live in extreme poverty, so it's not time to celebrate".

Sources: <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/europe/No-poor-countries-by-2035-Bill-Gates/articleshow/29226518.cms>
<http://latino.foxnews.com/latino/money/2014/01/22/bill-gates-world-will-have-almost-no-poor-countries-by-2035/>

WARM-UPS

1. POOR COUNTRIES: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about poor countries. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

Microsoft / predicted / World Bank / income / richer / Asia / the next two decades / nations / good news / copying / successful / neighbours / medicine / growing / poverty

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. PREDICTIONS: What do you predict will happen by 2035? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Your prediction	Is this good or bad? Why?
The Internet		
World peace		
English		
Technology		
Education		
Money		

4. RICHER: Students A **strongly** believe there will be no poor countries in 50 years from now; Students B **strongly** believe there will be. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. GOOD NEWS: Rank these (good?) news items and share your rankings with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- no more poor countries
- humans reach Mars
- the last ever war ends
- now we can live to be 200
- energy made from air
- free Internet everywhere
- world becomes vegetarian
- whole world speaks English

6. POOR: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "poor". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1401/140125-poor-countries.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- | | |
|---|-------|
| a. The founder of Microsoft predicted countries would get richer. | T / F |
| b. The World Bank says there are 38 poor countries in the world today. | T / F |
| c. It says in the article Haiti might still be poor in 20 years from now. | T / F |
| d. Bill Gates said most countries were poor when he was born. | T / F |
| e. Mr Gates said North Korea would become a rich country in 20 years. | T / F |
| f. Countries will get richer by copying countries that have become rich. | T / F |
| g. The economy in Botswana is getting smaller. | T / F |
| h. Bill Gates said we should all be celebrating. | T / F |

2. SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article.

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 1. predicted | a. earnings |
| 2. incomes | b. getting bigger |
| 3. nation | c. almost |
| 4. decade | d. forecasted |
| 5. desperately | e. party |
| 6. nearly | f. imitating |
| 7. copying | g. country |
| 8. growing | h. maximum |
| 9. extreme | i. ten years |
| 10. celebrate | j. seriously |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. The man who | a. income nations |
| 2. there will be almost no poor | b. economies |
| 3. on low or | c. poor countries |
| 4. joined the ranks of today's middle- | d. in extreme poverty |
| 5. desperately | e. to celebrate |
| 6. good | f. started Microsoft |
| 7. better seeds | g. no incomes |
| 8. growing | h. for farmers |
| 9. one billion people live | i. countries in the world |
| 10. it's not time | j. news |

GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1401/140125-poor-countries.html>

The man who started Microsoft, Bill Gates, has (1) _____ that by 2035, there will be almost no poor countries in the world. Today, the World Bank says there are 35 poor countries. Most of the people who live in them are on low or no (2) _____. Gates said that nearly all these countries will be richer in the next 20 years. He wrote: "Every (3) _____ in South America, Asia, and Central America (with the (4) _____ exception of Haiti), and most in (5) _____ Africa will have joined the ranks of today's (6) _____ -income nations." He added: "When I was born, most countries in the world were poor. In the next two (7) _____ desperately poor countries will become the exception (8) _____ than the rule."

possible
decades
predicted
rather
middle
incomes
nation
coastal

Mr Gates said some countries will still be poor. These (9) _____ North Korea, Haiti and nations in central Africa. He said the good (10) _____ was that: "Nearly 90% will have a higher income than India does today." He believes countries will become richer by (11) _____ their more successful neighbours. Countries will also benefit from new (12) _____, better seeds for farmers, and the Internet. Gates said many countries that were very poor just a (13) _____ decades ago are now doing well. He said China, India, Brazil and Botswana were poor thirty years ago but now have (14) _____ economies. He said there was still a lot of (15) _____ to do and that, "more than one billion people live in extreme poverty, so it's not time to (16) _____".

few
celebrate
news
medicines
include
work
copying
growing

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1401/140125-poor-countries.html>

- 1) Most of the people who live in them are on low _____
 - a. or not incomes
 - b. or non incomes
 - c. or no incomes
 - d. or know incomes
- 2) Gates said that nearly all these countries _____
 - a. will be richest
 - b. will be richer
 - c. will be rich
 - d. will be richly
- 3) Every nation in South America, Asia, and _____
 - a. Centrally America
 - b. Central America
 - c. Centre America
 - d. Sent to America
- 4) joined the ranks of today's middle-_____
 - a. income nations
 - b. income nationals
 - c. income nay shuns
 - d. income nation
- 5) In the next two decades, desperately poor countries will _____
 - a. become the exceptions
 - b. become the exceptional
 - c. become the expectation
 - d. become the exception
- 6) countries will become richer by copying their more _____
 - a. success full neighbours
 - b. successfully neighbours
 - c. success fall neighbours
 - d. successful neighbours
- 7) Gates said many countries that were very poor just _____
 - a. a few decades ago
 - b. a phew decades ago
 - c. a flew decades ago
 - d. a full decades ago
- 8) Brazil and Botswana were poor thirty years ago but now have _____
 - a. grow in economies
 - b. growling economies
 - c. grew in economies
 - d. growing economies
- 9) more than one billion people live in _____
 - a. extremist poverty
 - b. extremely poverty
 - c. extreme poverty
 - d. extremes poverty
- 10) it's not time _____
 - a. to celebrate
 - b. to celebrates
 - c. to celebrated
 - d. to celebrating

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1401/140125-poor-countries.html>

The man who started Microsoft, Bill Gates, (1) _____ by 2035, there will be almost no poor countries in the world. Today, the World Bank (2) _____ 35 poor countries. Most of the people who live in them (3) _____ incomes. Gates said that nearly all these countries will be richer in the next 20 years. He wrote: "Every nation in South America, (4) _____ America (with the possible exception of Haiti), and most in coastal Africa will have joined the ranks of today's (5) _____." He added: "When I was born, most countries in the world were poor. In the next two decades desperately poor countries will become the exception (6) _____."

Mr Gates said some countries will still be poor. These include North Korea, Haiti and (7) _____ Africa. He said the good news was that: "Nearly 90% will have (8) _____ India does today." He believes countries will become (9) _____ their more successful neighbours. Countries will also benefit from new medicines, better seeds for farmers, and the Internet. Gates said many countries that were very (10) _____ ago are now doing well. He said China, India, Brazil and Botswana (11) _____ years ago but now have growing economies. He said there was still a lot of work to do and that, "more than one billion people live (12) _____, so it's not time to celebrate".

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1401/140125-poor-countries.html>

1. How many poor countries are there (according to the World Bank)?

2. When will most of these poor countries be richer?

3. Which Central American country might not be richer?

4. What did Bill Gates say most countries were like when he was born?

5. What countries will be the exception rather than the rule in 20 years?

6. In which part of Africa will countries still be poor?

7. How does Mr Gates think countries will become richer?

8. What will farmers get?

9. How many countries did the article mention that were doing better?

10. How many people live in extreme poverty?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1401/140125-poor-countries.html>

1. How many poor countries are there (according to the World Bank)?
 - a) 25
 - b) 28
 - c) 35
 - d) 38
2. When will most of these poor countries be richer?
 - a) in the next 20 year
 - b) by the end of the century
 - c) in 2050
 - d) by 2082
3. Which Central American country might not be richer?
 - a) Haiti
 - b) Cuba
 - c) Belize
 - d) Panama
4. What did Bill Gates say most countries were like when he was born?
 - a) far away
 - b) poor
 - c) exotic
 - d) unknown
5. What countries will be the exception rather than the rule in 20 years?
 - a) those in the U.N.
 - b) Austria and Australia
 - c) ones that have many resources
 - d) desperately poor ones
6. In which part of Africa will countries still be poor?
 - a) the south
 - b) central Africa
 - c) the Indian Ocean countries
 - d) north of the Sahara
7. How does Mr Gates think countries will become richer?
 - a) by copying their neighbours
 - b) with foreign aid
 - c) by using the Internet
 - d) they will find gold
8. What will farmers get?
 - a) more rain
 - b) money from the World Bank
 - c) better seeds
 - d) new tractors
9. How many countries did the article mention that were doing better?
 - a) 7
 - b) 6
 - c) 5
 - d) 4
10. How many people live in extreme poverty?
 - a) more than one billion
 - b) 897,652,002
 - c) less than 1,000,000,000
 - d) 500,000,000

ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1401/140125-poor-countries.html>

Role A – Humans reach Mars

You think humans reaching Mars is the best news. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things about there news that aren't so great. Also, tell the others which is the most impossible of these (and why): the last ever war ending, free Internet being everywhere or there being no more poor countries.

Role B – The last ever war ends

You think the last ever war ending is the best news. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things about there news that aren't so great. Also, tell the others which is the most impossible of these (and why): humans reaching Mars, free Internet being everywhere or there being no more poor countries.

Role C – Free Internet everywhere

You think free Internet being everywhere is the best news. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things about there news that aren't so great. Also, tell the others which is the most impossible of these (and why): the last ever war ending, humans reaching Mars or there being no more poor countries.

Role D – No more poor countries

You think there being no more poor countries is the best news. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things about there news that aren't so great. Also, tell the others which is the most impossible of these (and why): the last ever war ending, free Internet being everywhere or humans reaching Mars.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1401/140125-poor-countries.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'poor' and 'country'.

poor	country
-------------	----------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• started• 35• 20• joined• born• rule	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• still• 90• copying• few• 30• billion
--	---

POOR COUNTRIES SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1401/140125-poor-countries.html>

Write five GOOD questions about poor countries in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

POOR COUNTRIES DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'poor'?
- c) Do you think Bill Gates' prediction will come true?
- d) Why are countries poor?
- e) Is your country rich or poor? Why do you say so?
- f) How will the world change if no country is poor?
- g) What can rich countries do to help poor countries?
- h) How has the Internet helped countries to become richer?

Almost no poor countries by 2035 – 25th January, 2014
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POOR COUNTRIES DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) What is the biggest thing that keeps a country poor?
- c) What needs to happen in North Korea and Haiti for them to be richer?
- d) How important is education in making a country richer?
- e) Are the richest countries the best ones in which to live?
- f) Will there always be millions of people living in poverty?
- g) How would your society change if no one was poor?
- h) What questions would you like to ask Bill Gates?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1401/140125-poor-countries.html>

The man who started Microsoft, Bill Gates, has (1) _____ that by 2035, there will be almost no poor countries in the world. Today, the World Bank says there are 35 poor countries. Most of the people who live in them are on (2) _____ or no incomes. Gates said that nearly all (3) _____ countries will be richer in the next 20 years. He wrote: "Every nation in South America, Asia, and Central America (with the (4) _____ exception of Haiti), and most in coastal Africa will have joined the ranks of today's middle-income nations." He added: "When I was (5) _____, most countries in the world were poor. In the next two decades desperately poor countries will become the exception rather than the (6) _____."

Mr Gates said some countries will still be poor. These (7) _____ North Korea, Haiti and nations in central Africa. He said the (8) _____ news was that: "Nearly 90% will have a higher income than India does today." He believes countries will become richer by (9) _____ their more successful neighbours. Countries will also benefit from new medicines, better (10) _____ for farmers, and the Internet. Gates said many countries that were very poor just a few decades ago are now doing well. He said China, India, Brazil and Botswana were poor thirty years ago but now have (11) _____ economies. He said there was still a lot of work to do and that, "more than one billion people live in extreme poverty, so it's not (12) _____ to celebrate".

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. | (a) predicted | (b) contradicted | (c) addicted | (d) conscripted |
| 2. | (a) slow | (b) flow | (c) low | (d) glow |
| 3. | (a) them | (b) this | (c) these | (d) that |
| 4. | (a) impossible | (b) possibility | (c) possibly | (d) possible |
| 5. | (a) born | (b) birth | (c) baby | (d) birthday |
| 6. | (a) ruled | (b) rule | (c) ruling | (d) ruler |
| 7. | (a) inclusive | (b) includes | (c) including | (d) include |
| 8. | (a) well | (b) good | (c) fine | (d) right |
| 9. | (a) echoing | (b) reproducing | (c) copying | (d) aping |
| 10. | (a) swedes | (b) speeds | (c) steeds | (d) seeds |
| 11. | (a) grows | (b) growling | (c) grew | (d) growing |
| 12. | (a) party | (b) time | (c) now | (d) soon |

SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1401/140125-poor-countries.html>

Paragraph 1

1. ecdipdert that by 2035, there will be...
2. Every noiatn in South America,
3. most in staaolc Africa
4. middle-ocinme
5. In the next two caeedsd
6. become the epxoicnte rather than the rule

Paragraph 2

7. antelcr Africa
8. their more cuslsseufc neighbours
9. benefit from new scndemiie
10. have growing oainemosc
11. one lioblin people
12. it's not time to acblreet

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1401/140125-poor-countries.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

()	Africa. He said the good news was that: "Nearly 90% will have a higher income than India
()	of Haiti), and most in coastal Africa will have joined the ranks of today's middle-
()	years ago but now have growing economies. He said there was still a lot of work to do and that, "more than one
()	income nations." He added: "When I was born, most countries in the world were poor. In the next two
()	poor just a few decades ago are now doing well. He said China, India, Brazil and Botswana were poor thirty
()	decades, desperately poor countries will become the exception rather than the rule."
()	no poor countries in the world. Today, the World Bank says there are 35 poor countries. Most of the people who
(1)	The man who started Microsoft, Bill Gates, has predicted that by 2035, there will be almost
()	live in them are on low or no incomes. Gates said that nearly all these countries will be richer in
()	does today." He believes countries will become richer by copying their more successful neighbours. Countries will also
()	Mr Gates said some countries will still be poor. These include North Korea, Haiti and nations in central
()	the next 20 years. He wrote: "Every nation in South America, Asia, and Central America (with the possible exception
()	billion people live in extreme poverty, so it's not time to celebrate".
()	benefit from new medicines, better seeds for farmers, and the Internet. Gates said many countries that were very

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1401/140125-poor-countries.html>

1. be almost no poor countries By 2035 , there will.

2. incomes no or low on are them in live who People.

3. be richer in the next 20 years These countries will.

4. born, When were in I poor the most was world countries.

5. the Become rule the than rather exception.

6. higher income than India Nearly 90% will have a.

7. more richer successful by neighbours copying their Become.

8. new from benefit also will Countries medicines.

9. there said He do to work of lot a still was.

10. people extreme More billion in one live poverty than.

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1401/140125-poor-countries.html>

The man who started Microsoft, Bill Gates, has *prediction / predicted* that by 2035, there will be almost *not / no* poor countries in the world. Today, the World Bank says there are 35 *poor / poorly* countries. Most of the people who live in them are on *short / low* or no incomes. Gates said that *near / nearly* all these countries will be richer in the *past / next* 20 years. He wrote: "Every *nation / national* in South America, Asia, and Central America (with the possible *exception / expectation* of Haiti), and most in coastal Africa will have joined the ranks of today's middle-income nations." He added: "When I was *birth / born*, most countries in the world were poor. In the next two decades desperately poor countries will become the exception *rather / instead* than the rule."

Mr Gates said some countries will still *be / do* poor. These include North Korea, Haiti and nations in *centre / central* Africa. He said the good news was that: "*Nearly / Nearby* 90% will have a higher income than India *is / does* today." He believes countries will become richer by *pasting / copying* their more successful neighbours. Countries will *also / too* benefit from new medicines, better seeds for farmers, and the Internet. Gates said many countries that were very poor just a *few / two* decades ago are now doing well. He said China, India, Brazil and Botswana were poor thirty years ago but now have *grows / growing* economies. He said there was still a lot of work to do and *this / that*, "more than one billion people live in extreme poverty, so it's not time *to / for* celebrate".

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1401/140125-poor-countries.html>

Th_ m_n wh_ st_rt_d M_cr_s_ft, B_ll G_t_s, h_s
pr_d_ct_d th_t by 2035, th_r_w_ll b__lm_st n_p__r
c__ntr__s _n th_w_rld. T_d_y, th_W_rld B_nk_s_ys
th_r__r_ 35 p__r c__ntr__s. M_st_f th_p__pl_ wh_
l_v__n th_m_r__n l_w_r_n__nc_m_s. G_t_s_s__d
th_t n__rly _ll th_s_c__ntr__s w_ll b_r_ch_r_n th_
n_xt 20 y__rs. H_wr_t_: "_v_ry n_t__n _n S__th
_m_r_c_, _s__, _nd C_ntr_l _m_r_c_ (w_th th_
p_ss_bl__xc_pt__n _f H__t_), _nd m_st _n c__st_l
_fr_c_w_ll h_v_j__n_d th_r_nks _f t_d_y's m_ddl_
_nc_m_n_t__ns." H__dd_d: "Wh_n _w_s b_rn, m_st
c__ntr__s _n th_w_rld w_r_p__r. _n th_n_xt tw_
d_c_d_s d_sp_r_t_ly p__r c__ntr__s w_ll b_c_m_ th_
_xc_pt__n r_th_r th_n th_r_l_."

Mr G_t_s_s__d s_m_c__ntr__s w_ll st_ll b_p__r.
Th_s__ncl_d_N_rth K_r__, H__t__nd n_t__ns _n
c_ntr_l_fr_c_. H_s__d th_g__d n_ws w_s th_t:
"N__rly 90% w_ll h_v__h_gh_r_nc_m_ th_n _nd__
d__s t_d_y." H_b_l__v_s c__ntr__s w_ll b_c_m_
r_ch_r by c_py_ng th_r m_r_s_cc_ssf_l_n_ghb__rs.
C__ntr__s w_ll _ls_b_n_f_t fr_m n_w m_d_c_n_s,
b_tt_r_s__ds f_r f_r_m_rs, _nd th__nt_rn_t. G_t_s_s__d
m_ny c__ntr__s th_t w_r_v_ry p__r_j_st _f_w_d_c_d_s
_g__r_n_w_d__ng w_ll. H_s__d Ch_n_, _nd__, Br_z_l
_nd B_tsw_n_w_r_p__r th_rty y__rs _g_b_t n_w h_v_
gr_w_ng _c_n_m__s. H_s__d th_r_w_s st_ll _l_t _f
w_rk t_d__nd th_t, "m_r_th_n _n_b_ll__n p__pl_
l_v__n _xtr_m_p_v_rty, s__t's n_t t_m_t_
c_l_br_t_".

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1401/140125-poor-countries.html>

the man who started microsoft bill gates has predicted that by 2035 there will be almost no poor countries in the world today the world bank says there are 35 poor countries most of the people who live in them are on low or no incomes gates said that nearly all these countries will be richer in the next 20 years he wrote "every nation in south america asia and central america (with the possible exception of haiti) and most in coastal africa will have joined the ranks of today's middle-income nations" he added "when i was born most countries in the world were poor in the next two decades desperately poor countries will become the exception rather than the rule"

mr gates said some countries will still be poor these include north korea haiti and nations in central africa he said the good news was that "nearly 90% will have a higher income than india does today" he believes countries will become richer by copying their more successful neighbours countries will also benefit from new medicines better seeds for farmers and the internet gates said many countries that were very poor just a few decades ago are now doing well he said china india brazil and botswana were poor thirty years ago but now have growing economies he said there was still a lot of work to do and that "more than one billion people live in extreme poverty so it's not time to celebrate"

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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The man who started Microsoft, Bill Gates, has predicted that by 2035, there will be almost no poor countries in the world. Today, the World Bank says there are 35 poor countries. Most of the people who live in them are on low or no incomes. Gates said that nearly all these countries will be richer in the next 20 years. He wrote: "Every nation in South America, Asia, and Central America (with the possible exception of Haiti), and most in coastal Africa will have joined the ranks of today's middle-income nations." He added: "When I was born, most countries in the world were poor. In the next two decades desperately poor countries will become the exception rather than the rule." Mr Gates said some countries will still be poor. These include North Korea, Haiti and nations in central Africa. He said the good news was that: "Nearly 90% will have a higher income than India does today." He believes countries will become richer by copying their more successful neighbours. Countries will also benefit from new medicines, better seeds for farmers, and the Internet. Gates said many countries that were very poor just a few decades ago are now doing well. He said China, India, Brazil and Botswana were poor thirty years ago but now have growing economies. He said there was still a lot of work to do and that, "more than one billion people live in extreme poverty, so it's not time to celebrate".

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about poor countries. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. POOR COUNTRIES: Make a poster about poor countries. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. POVERTY: Write a magazine article about poverty. Include imaginary interviews with rich people and poor people.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to Bill Gates. Ask him three questions about poor countries. Give him three ideas on how to help poor countries become rich. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a T b F c T d T e F f T g F h F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 1. predicted | a. forecasted |
| 2. incomes | b. earnings |
| 3. nation | c. country |
| 4. decade | d. ten years |
| 5. desperately | e. seriously |
| 6. nearly | f. almost |
| 7. copying | g. imitating |
| 8. growing | h. getting bigger |
| 9. extreme | i. maximum |
| 10. celebrate | j. party |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. 35
2. In the next 20 years
3. Haiti
4. Poor
5. Desperately poor ones
6. Central Africa
7. By copying their successful neighbours
8. Better seeds
9. Four
10. More than 1 billion

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. c 2. a 3. a 4. b 5. d 6. b 7. a 8. c 9. d 10. a

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)