

# PROJECT: INVENTING A QUALITY OF LIFE MEASUREMENT

Think about the way most countries measure the quality of life. Some countries determine the market value of all final goods and services and divide it by the population. In other words, most countries use the GDP per capita. Several disadvantages occur when using the GDP per capita. For that reason, some people have tried to think of other ways to measure the quality of life that address these limitations and even include other factors. For this project, invent a measure of well-being that differs from the GDP per capita.

## Directions

Based on your understanding of the components of GDP per capita and the alternative measurements that include other factors used to describe the quality of life, determine what quality of life means and how to measure it. Remember, the measure of well-being should be different from the GDP per capita.

1. Jot down three to four sentences to define quality of life, and note one example that supports your definition. Your definition should reflect your personal belief about what quality of life means to you. This will help you develop your personal statement for the project.

2. Research alternative measurements of quality of life. Gather more information about how a country's quality of life can be measured. Consider how sources affect your personal views. Be sure to use at least two sources to support your views. Cite your sources here:

3. Once you have completed your research, list three alternative factors you would use to measure quality of life. After each, explain why this factor is important using the information, you have found from an outside source. For example, suppose you choose education as a factor. Then, your sentence could be about measuring the number of people who finished high school.

a.

b.

c.

4. After you have discussed your ideas with your peers take a minute to reconsider your own opinions. Ask yourself the following questions.

a. Did your opinion change?

b. What factors, such as more reputable sources or convincing discussions, caused your shift in opinion?