

Directions: As you travel in the material world, examine at the picture of the families and their material possessions. Use the picture and other information in the packet to answer the following questions. **You will not necessarily meet the families in the order listed.**

Mali: The Natomo Family

A. List 2 *observations* from the photograph and 2 things you might *infer* from your observations

Observation	Inference
1.	
2.	

B. Write down two *questions* this photograph raises in your mind:

- 1.
 - 2.
1. How many people does Soumana support and what is his average income per year?
 2. If Soumana were an average male, how many more years would he be expected to live?
 3. Why do you think the bicycle is the most valued possession?
 4. *Describe* 2 family possessions you find interesting:
 5. Do you think it is remarkable that Soumana has 2 wives? Do you think people in their culture think it strange?

Japan: The Ukita Family

A. List 2 *observations* from the photograph and 2 things you might *infer* from your observations

Observation	Inference
1.	
2.	

B. Write down two *questions* this photograph raises in your mind:

- 1.
 - 2.
1. If the first child were born 2 years after Kazuo and Sayo were married, how old would they have been when they were married? Do you think this is average for Japanese? Why?
 2. How does Japan rank in affluence (wealth) among United Nations members? How do the Ukita Family's possessions show this?
 3. Are there any possessions that seem typically "Japanese?" Explain.
 4. What are some similarities between the Ukita Family and your own?

India: The Yadav Family

A. List 2 *observations* from the photograph and 2 things you might *infer* from your observations

Observation	Inference
1.	
2.	

B. Write down two *questions* this photograph raises in your mind:

1.

2.

1. What is the average living space per person (divided house by people) in the Yadav Family? How does this compare to your family?

2. What is the family's wish for the future? Do you think of animals as possessions or pets? What is the difference?

3. What is the families most valued possessions? Why do you think that is so?

4. Why do you think firewood is listed as a possession? Do you consider food to be a possession? Explain.

Uzbekistan: The Kalnazorov Family

A. List 2 *observations* from the photograph and 2 things you might *infer* from your observations

Observation	Inference
1.	
2.	

B. Write down two *questions* this photograph raises in your mind:

1.

2.

1. Describe the families bathing arrangements. Do you think this is a result of the climate or economy? Explain.

2. What seems to be the family's most numerous possession? Why?

3. What might the possession of a butter churn tell you about how often the family goes to the store?

4. *Describe 2 other possessions.*

Western Samoa: The Lagavale Family

A. List 2 *observations* from the photograph and 2 things you might *infer* from your observations

Observation	Inference
1.	
2.	

B. Write down two *questions* this photograph raises in your mind:

1.

2.

1. Why doesn't the family house have any walls? How do you think they feel about privacy? Do you have your own room? How do you feel about it?

2. How much of the family income is spent on food? How much do you think your family spends?

3. How does the country rank in teen suicide? Why do you think it is so high?

4. Describe the family that lives together. How do you feel about extended family living with you?

Kuwait: The Abdulla Family

(Note: The family home is in the back with a refrigerator in the driveway)

A. List 2 *observations* from the photograph and 2 things you might *infer* from your observations

Observation	Inference
1.	
2.	

B. Write down two *questions* this photograph raises in your mind:

1.

2.

1. *Describe* the family home.

2. How does the number of TVs, VCRs, telephones and cars compare to your family.

3. What does Saif wish for in the future?

4. How long is the basement sofa? What do you think it is for?

Mexico: the Castillo Balderas Family

A. List 2 *observations* from the photograph and 2 things you might *infer* from your observations

Observation	Inference
1.	
2.	

B. Write down two *questions* this photograph raises in your mind:

- 1.
- 2.

1. How do the amount of possessions compare to the average income? Do you think you could have that much on the same income here? What does that tell you about the cost of living in other places?

2. What are the family's most valued possessions? How do they compare to your most valued possessions?

3. This family is considered "middle class" in Mexico. What possessions do you think show they are middle class?

4. What do you think is middle class in the United States?

Pit Stop

A. List 2 *observations* from the photograph and 2 things you might *infer* from your observations

Observation	Inference
1.	
2.	

B. Write down two *questions* this photograph raises in your mind:

- 1.
- 2.

1. Examine the toilets of the world. What is the relationship between income and comfort?

2. How much time do you spend in the bathroom per day (bathing, hair, etc)? How much time do you think a person in Kuwait might spend? In Mali? In England?

3. In our country, the bathroom is one of the most expensive rooms to build per sq. foot. How many bathrooms do you have? Do you think the time you spend is worth the expense?

4. Do different cultures view privacy differently? Explain.

Upon completion of this activity, answer the following:

What did you find most interesting about this activity?

What surprised you the most?

What did the families in richer countries tend to have in common?

What did the families in poorer countries have in common?

Why is there such a big difference between rich and poor countries?

Why do you think the poorer families are so poor?