



Fill in the following survey to the best of your ability:

Name:

Age:

Sex:

Place: of birth:

Parents place of birth: *mother -*

father-

Place of grandparents birth: *mothers side -*

fathers side-

Place of great grandparents birth: *mothers side -*

fathers side-

Religion:

Approximately how many people in the world share your religion?

Do you know the approximate populations of the following? *Lethbridge-*

Alberta-

Canada-

The United States-

China -

The World-

What are your three most important beliefs?



What are your three most important rights and freedoms?



If you had to describe yourself to someone from another place, who you didn't know, what three things would you tell them?



What are the three most important responsibilities you have as a citizen of Canada?



Find a quote that that would help to describe your personal philosophy about life?



Take a few minutes to look back on these questions and think about why you gave the answers you did. Your answers reflect the experiences that you have had up to this point in your life. The answers expose your perspective of the world (your frame of reference with respect to our community, country and world). It is important to realize that not everyone in the world, or for that matter not even everyone in the room, shares your perspective. Of the 6.3 billion people that inhabit our world, very few see it the same way you do. In order to begin to understand why people do and say the things they do, you must first understand the perspective you now own – your ideological beliefs. Hopefully these questions have started you on a path towards this end.

You can approach living in many ways, but taking the time to understand your own ideology can allow you to think more critically about the world, and subsequently about the things we discuss in class. Fostering critical thinking and an understanding of yourself and your place in the world are key goals within the realm of social studies. In the end it is hoped the process will help make you more empathetic to ideas and perspectives that are different from your own, which you will inevitably encounter throughout the course of your life.

It is important to understand that as Canadian citizens we are extremely fortunate. The United Nations has consistently ranked Canada as one of the best countries in which to live. Furthermore, our generations are even more fortunate than those before us because we have not had to face hardships of any magnitude and scale – no massive economic depression or the devastating scourge of war. To put it in simple terms we are, within the global community, spoiled! We should at least appreciate this, and at best take full advantage of our position and strive to make the world a better place.

What do you really know about the vast planet we call our world? What do you know about the people that have and do inhabit it? What do you know about the ideologies and beliefs of the past and the present? What do you know about the hundreds of countries and their historical pasts? What do you know about the amazing physical geography of the planet? What do you know about the incredible array of cultures and languages of the past and present?

We live on a fascinating planet and it is a true challenge trying to understand it and its diversity. In this class you will be encouraged to engage that challenge!



Geography Challenge

How many of these countries can you identify on the map below? Many of these countries you will be exploring during the course of our studies.

China	Russia	Iraq
Iran	Saudi Arabia	France
Mexico	Brazil	Panama
Chile	Germany	Poland
Great Britain	Japan	New Zealand
Israel	Italy	Egypt
India	Morocco	Sudan
Zimbabwe	Indonesia	Vietnam
North Korea	Ukraine	Democratic Republic of the Congo
Peru	Afghanistan	Sweden



