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Access to Health Care: Globally

Health care provides the stability every community needs for development. Parents who have access to health care can run their farms and businesses with peace of mind, ensuring that their families are fed and their children can go to school.

Simple preventive health measures, like vaccinations for newborns and checkups and vitamins for expecting mothers, could save up to 6.6 million lives every year, and yet in so many regions around the world, families go without even the most basic health care. Without treatment, many kids end up chronically sick and miss too much to progress in school.

Fast facts

- Immunization prevents between two to three million deaths every year, making it one of the world’s most successful and cost-effective health interventions.
- 45% of deaths among children under five occur in the first month of life, most of which are preventable.
- All UN Member States have agreed to try to achieve universal health coverage by 2030.

Taking Action Globally

There are a number of ways that students can take action in their own school and community to help developing communities around the world gain access to basic health care. Some ideas include:

- Volunteer at an organization that works for global issues—many organizations offer ways to get involved on their websites and in their offices
- Collect supplies (in consultation with the organization) or raise funds for an organization that will share the outcomes of the donations
- Create a letter writing campaign to the United Nations, government bodies, and other leaders to ask for added resources on the issue

Another option is to support and fundraise for WE Villages. Students can support this program by visiting WE.org/we-schools/program/campaigns to get ideas and resources for taking action on global education issues.
Getting to Know the Topic

Access to Health Care: Locally

Although the United States spends more health care dollars per person than any other country, it ranks near or at the bottom among other wealthy nations in nine key areas of health* that include infant mortality, homicides, obesity and diabetes, and chronic lung disease. According to a report from the National Research Council and Institute of Medicine, there are many reasons for America’s poor health—lack of health insurance, high rates of poverty and income inequality, reduced physical activity because of environments designed around automobiles, and unhealthy behaviors such as consumption of high calories, to name a few.

Fast facts

- 4.4% of Americans fail to obtain necessary medical care due to cost.
- At the end of 2017, 12.2% of Americans were uninsured—3.2 million more people than at the beginning on 2017.
- National health expenditure (in 2016) was $3.3 trillion—or $10,348 per person. That represents 17.4% of the national Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for the year.

Taking Action Locally

Within their local or national community, students can:

- Work with a local organization addressing the topic
- Collect goods and items that support good health—like toothpaste, toothbrushes, bandages, and vitamins—for the local homeless center
- Create and deliver an educational workshop to raise awareness about the topic and its local impact with a strong call to action that leads to enacting change

With both their global and local actions, encourage students to be creative with the ideas they develop through their action plans.

*In a report from the National Research Council and Institute of Medicine, the United States is compared with 16 affluent democracies that include Australia, Canada, Japan, and many western European countries. The nine key areas of health include: infant mortality and low birth weight; injuries and homicides; teenage pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections; prevalence of HIV and AIDS; drug-related deaths; obesity and diabetes; heart disease; chronic lung disease; and disability.

Among 11 high-income countries surveyed, the U.S. ranks last overall on five key measures health, and is the only one without universal health insurance coverage.
How Ebola Sped Out of Control

For your assigned excerpt, read the article, paraphrase the meaning, and explain why it is important.

"Out of Control" Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXCERPT</th>
<th>PARAPHRASE MEANING (WRITE A SUMMARY OF THE QUOTE)</th>
<th>SIGNIFICANCE (EXPLAIN WHY THIS PARTICULAR IDEA IS IMPORTANT)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chunk 1—From the beginning of the article to the “Ebola’s catastrophic effect on the body” graphic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chunk 2—“This is relatively small still”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chunk 3—“We thought we were in the clear”</td>
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<td>Chunk 4—“Work in that unit? I won’t do it.”</td>
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<td>Chunk 5—“Please come help us”</td>
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<td>Chunk 6—“I’m not being pessimistic”</td>
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<td>Chunk 7—“They were quickly drowning”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chunk 8—“We have been unable to control the spread”</td>
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<td>Chunk 9—“Future of the continent is on the line”</td>
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<td>Chunk 10—“A fire straight from the pit of hell”</td>
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<td>Chunk 11—Stemming the tide</td>
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</table>
Problem Tree

In your Problem Tree graphic organizer, start by writing the problem in the trunk of the tree, and then look at the causes and effects of an issue. Keep digging to go deeper on the issue to find its supporting and root causes.

Leaves/branches: Effects

These are the results created by the problem. At first, this part of the issue appears easy to tackle, but when leaves and branches are trimmed, they grow back quickly. Consider the multi-layered effects, or “effects of effects,” that can arise when a problem goes unaddressed. Always ask: “Then what happens?”

Ex. The spread of contagious diseases.

Trunk: Problem

This is the key issue that is being studied. Because it is not as apparent as the leaves, the core problem itself sometimes takes a little longer to identify.

Ex. The basic problem is access to health care but you may wish to have students break down the problem more specifically (e.g., vaccines).

Roots: Causes

These are the situations or factors that have led to the problem. When exploring the root causes of a problem, ask yourself “Why does this problem exist?” Dig deeper to consider the “causes of causes”—the multiple layers of factors that contribute to a problem.

Ex. Poverty and health education.
Needs Assessment

The following series of questions helps you to analyze and identify ongoing areas of need within organizations addressing your issue.

1. Identify 3-5 organizations working on issues related to the issue your team is working on.

2. What does each organization do well in response to the issue and/or related issues?

3. What could each organization do better in its response?

4. What areas of need related to access to your issue have you learned about that each organization is NOT addressing?

5. Considering all 3-5 organizations, where are there ongoing needs that are not being adequately addressed?

6. Considering all 3-5 organizations, where are there ongoing needs that are being addressed successfully, and to which you can add further efforts to support the issue?
Solution Tree

In your Solution Tree graphic organizer, start by rewriting the problem from your Problem Tree, and reframing it as a goal at the trunk of the tree. Then consider the different solutions (the roots) and possible outcomes of the solutions (the branches).

**Leaves/branches: Outcomes**

These are the results created by the solution. Results may appear as straightforward as having achieved goals, but when you consider the ripple effects and outcomes of sustainable results, the impact is far-reaching and long-lasting. Always ask: “Then what happens?”

**Trunk: Problem**

**Trunk: Goal**

**Roots: Solutions**

These are the actions needed to solve the problem and achieve the goal stated at the center of the Solution Tree. When exploring solutions, ask yourself “How will this solve the problem?” Dig deeper to think holistically, so that you are looking beyond the short-term and addressing not only the symptoms of the problem but the root causes as well.
Programming Concepts

Complete the chart below by addressing the following:

- Identify five programming concepts (e.g., if statements).
- Include example program code that demonstrate each concept, and that were used in your app development.
- Reproduce an equivalent code segment in Java.
- Briefly explain the purpose of the program code.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>APP INVENTOR CONCEPT</th>
<th>CODE SYNTAX</th>
<th>JAVA CODE EQUIVALENT</th>
<th>PURPOSE OF CODE?</th>
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Activity: Question Class

You will apply your knowledge of object-oriented programming in Java to complete the methods in the following two classes. Develop questions and answers for trivia about access to health care.

```java
public class Question {
    private String question;
    private String answer;

    public Question () {
    }

    public Question(String q, String a) {
    }

    public String getQuestion() {
    }

    public String getAnswer() {
    }

    public void setQuestion(String q) {
    }

    public void setAnswer(String a) {
    }
}
```
Activity: Trivia

```java
import java.util.*;

public class Trivia
{
    public ArrayList<Question>listOfQuestions;
    public int totalCorrect;

    public Trivia(ArrayList <Question> qs)
    {
        // Constructor implementation
    }

    public void play()
    {
        // Play method implementation
    }

    public String getAnswer(Question q)
    {
        // Get answer method implementation
    }

    public boolean checkAnswer(Question q, String ans)
    {
        // Check answer method implementation
    }

    public void upDateScore()
    {
        // Update score method implementation
    }

    public int getScore()
    {
        // Get score method implementation
    }
}
```
import java.util.*;
public class SocialIssuesGame
{
    public static void main(String[] args)
    {
        ArrayList<Question> myQuestions = new ArrayList<Question>();
        myQuestions.add(new Question("What is your name?", "Veronica"));
        myQuestions.add(new Question("Access to education is available for everyone?", "false"));
        Trivia game = new Trivia(myQuestions);
        game.play();
    }
}
Reflect: Investigate and Learn

Now that you have investigated problems and potential solutions associated with access to health care, think back over what you’ve learned: How can what you are learning in your AP® Computer Science A class support solutions for access to health care locally and globally?

Record your thoughts on the lines below. If you run out of room on this page, use additional paper to write a lengthier response. As you write, think about the questions on the previous page to help shape your reflection.

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Summarizing Your Investigation

In your teams, you will summarize what you have learned from your investigation. Your work may be supported by multimedia or print materials that synthesize and analyze the topic and issue on local and global levels.

When summarizing your investigation, keep the following in mind:

- What are the key takeaways from your investigation?
- How are the problems you investigated similar at local and global levels? How are they different?
- How are the solutions you investigated similar at local and global levels? How are they different?
- Why may your investigation be important to other AP® Computer Science A students?
Working Independently

Many encoded strings contain *delimiters*. A delimiter is a non-empty string that acts as a boundary between different parts of a larger string. The delimiters involved in this question occur in pairs that must be *balanced*, with each pair having an open delimiter and a close delimiter. There will be only one type of delimiter for each string. The following are examples of delimiters.

**Example 1**
Expressions in mathematics use open parentheses "(" and close parentheses ")" as delimiters. For each open parenthesis, there must be a matching close parenthesis.

\[(x + y) \times 5\] is a valid mathematical expression.

\[(x + (y)\] is NOT a valid mathematical expression because there are more open delimiters than close delimiters.

**Example 2**
HTML uses `<B>` and `</B>` as delimiters. For each open delimiter `<B>`, there must be a matching close delimiter `</B>.

`<B> Make this text bold </B>` is valid HTML.

`<B> Make this text bold </UB>` is NOT valid HTML because there is one open delimiter and no matching close delimiter.
public class Delimiters
{
    /** The open and close delimiters. */
    private String openDel;
    private String closeDel;

    /** Constructs a Delimiters object where open is the open delimiter and close is the close delimiter.
     * Precondition: open and close are non-empty strings.
     */
    public Delimiters(String open, String close)
    {
        openDel = open;
        closeDel = close;
    }

    /** Returns an ArrayList of delimiters from the array tokens, as described in part (a). */
    public ArrayList<String> getDelimitersList(String[] tokens)
    {  /* to be implemented in part (a) */  }

    /** Returns true if the delimiters are balanced and false otherwise, as described in part (b).
     * Precondition: delimiters contains only valid open and close delimiters.
     */
    public boolean isBalanced(ArrayList<String> delimiters)
    {  /* to be implemented in part (b) */  }

    // There may be instance variables, constructors, and methods that are not shown.
}
(a) A string containing text and possibly delimiters has been split into tokens and stored in String[] tokens. Each token is either an open delimiter, a close delimiter, or a substring that is not a delimiter. You will write the method getDelimitersList, which returns an ArrayList containing all the open and close delimiters found in tokens in their original order.

The following examples show the contents of an ArrayList returned by getDelimitersList for different open and close delimiters and different tokens arrays.

**Example 1**

openDel: "("  
closeDel: ")"

tokens: " ("  "x + y"  ")"  " * 5"

ArrayList of delimiters: " ("  ")"  

**Example 2**

openDel: "<q>"

closeDel: "</q>"

tokens: "<q>"  "yy"  "</q>"  "zz"  "</q>"

ArrayList of delimiters: "<q>"  "</q>"  "</q>"

Class information for this question

```java
public class Delimiters {
    private String openDel;
    private String closeDel;

    public Delimiters(String open, String close) {
        this.openDel = open;
        this.closeDel = close;
    }

    public ArrayList<String> getDelimitersList(String[] tokens) {
        // Your implementation here
    }

    public boolean isBalanced(ArrayList<String> delimiters) {
        // Your implementation here
    }
}
```
Complete method `getDelimitersList` below.

```java
/**
 * Returns an ArrayList of delimiters from the array `tokens`, as described in part (a).
 */
public ArrayList<String> getDelimitersList(String[] tokens)
```

(b) Write the method `isBalanced`, which returns `true` when the delimiters are balanced and returns `false` otherwise. The delimiters are balanced when both of the following conditions are satisfied; otherwise, they are not balanced.

1. When traversing the ArrayList from the first element to the last element, there is no point at which there are more close delimiters than open delimiters at or before that point.
2. The total number of open delimiters is equal to the total number of close delimiters.

Consider a `Delimiters` object for which `openDel` is `<sup>` and `closeDel` is `</sup>`. The examples below show different `ArrayList` objects that could be returned by calls to `getDelimitersList` and the value that would be returned by a call to `isBalanced`.

**Example 1**
The following example shows an `ArrayList` for which `isBalanced` returns `true`. As tokens are examined from first to last, the number of open delimiters is always greater than or equal to the number of close delimiters. After examining all tokens, there are an equal number of open and close delimiters.

```
<sup></sup>  <sup></sup>  </sup>  <sup></sup>  </sup>  </sup>
```

**Example 2**
The following example shows an `ArrayList` for which `isBalanced` returns `false`.

```
<sup></sup>  </sup>  </sup>  <sup>
```

↑

When starting from the left, at this point, condition 1 is violated.

**Example 3**
The following example shows an `ArrayList` for which `isBalanced` returns `false`.

```
</sup>
```

↑

At this point, condition 1 is violated.

**Example 4**
The following example shows an `ArrayList` for which `isBalanced` returns `false` because the second condition is violated. After examining all tokens, there are not an equal number of open and close delimiters.

```
<sup>  <sup>  </sup>
```
Class information for this question

```java
public class Delimiters {
    private String openDel;
    private String closeDel;

    public Delimiters(String open, String close) {
    }
    public ArrayList<String> getDelimitersList(String[] tokens) {
    }
    public boolean isBalanced(ArrayList<String> delimiters) {
    }
}
```

Complete method isBalanced below.

```java
/** Returns true if the delimiters are balanced and false otherwise, as described in part (b).
 * Precondition: delimiters contains only valid open and close delimiters.
 */
public boolean isBalanced(ArrayList<String> delimiters) {
```
**DIRECT SERVICE**

**WHAT IS IT?**  
Personally engaging with and providing hands-on service to those in need (usually in conjunction with an organization).

**EXAMPLE GOAL**  
By the end of the semester, we will support a local food bank and shelter by packing and serving food to people in the community. We will also visit our neighboring elementary school and teach a lesson on food insecurity in our community.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIONS</th>
<th>ACTIONS</th>
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</table>
| • Reach out to local shelters and food banks to arrange a day for the class to visit and provide hands-on support  
• Once a date has been decided, make sure students all have permission to travel to the food bank (if during school hours) | • Connect with teachers/administration at local elementary school and arrange to visit a classroom to teach a lesson to young students on food insecurity  
• Create and print worksheets to use with younger students |

**INDIRECT SERVICE**

**WHAT IS IT?**  
Channeling resources to the needs of a community—locally, nationally, or internationally.

**EXAMPLE GOAL**  
By the end of the year, we will create a storage and donation system for local families in need, where they can access furniture and other household items. We will develop a system for donations, pick-ups, and inventory.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIONS</th>
<th>ACTIONS</th>
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</table>
| • Conduct research into which items are most needed by community members (e.g., bed frames, dining tables, household goods, etc.)  
• Reach out to local businesses to try to get a storage space donated  
• Connect with school social workers/administration to gain their support  
• Put up flyers around school and in the community, asking for donations (list specific items needed), including instructions on how/where to donate | • Develop an online database for tracking donations and pick-ups, and maintaining inventory  
• Share pick-up information with local shelters, churches, community centers, etc.  
• Share the donation system with school social workers, so that they can maintain the project in future years |

**ADVOCACY**

**WHAT IS IT?**  
Educating others about an issue to increase visibility and following up with an action that focuses on enacting change. Actions around advocacy often look like raising awareness, but without a strong call to action within the initiative as a whole. Educating others is not considered service in and of itself.

**EXAMPLE GOAL**  
Through an informative art piece, we will educate our school community about the waste created by single-use plastic water bottles, and the impact they have on the environment. Then, we will sell reusable water bottles at school, and the proceeds from the sale will go toward clean water projects in developing countries.

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<tr>
<th>ACTIONS</th>
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</table>
| • Research the impact of single-use plastic water bottles around the school and in the local community  
• Plan out and create a 3D sculpture that incorporates informative text on the issue of single-use plastics  
• Seek permission from school administration to display the piece in a common area of the school | • Design and order water bottles to sell at school  
• Research and select an international organization that focuses on clean water projects  
• Organize a selling schedule for the water bottles, donate profits |
Creating the Action Plan

This outline serves as a basic template for your action plan. Use additional space and resources to help you build out each part with the right amount of detail and flow to ensure you have the strongest action plan that you and your team can implement with ease. Remember, this is your road map for your service project!

TEAM GOAL:

MEASURES OF SUCCESS:

Required Network and Resources
In order to complete this goal, our team will need to develop the following network and access the following resources:

NETWORK:

RESOURCES:

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
Each team member will take on the following roles and associated responsibilities:

TIMELINE
Our team will use the following timeline to complete tasks and successfully carry out the action to meet our goal(s):
Five Action Planning Pitfalls Tip Sheet

Once your team has completed the major components of your action plan (creating your teams and setting goals, timeline, and network), review the five action planning pitfalls provided below to ensure these have been avoided. Review your plans—individually first, then together as a team. After the review, rework your action plans, if necessary.

1. Setting an unclear goal
   The first and most important part of any action plan is defining the goal, or what you want to achieve. It should be clear and easy to understand, for example, “We want to collect 500 cans of food,” or “We want 200 people to learn about WE Villages.” If the goal is not clearly defined, proper planning will be difficult if not impossible. As a best practice, have a peer from another team review your goal to ensure it is as clear as you hope.

2. Planning unrealistic actions
   After the goal is set, begin planning the actions necessary to achieve it. It is important that the steps make sense and are achievable. Do not plan unrealistic actions, such as working at times that will interfere with schoolwork, overestimating how many people can help out, or planning to go to places that would be difficult for you to reach. Consider each team member’s school and community schedule, such as work and extracurricular activities. Before planning an action, ask yourself, “Is this action realistic?”

3. Rushing the process
   Do not be too hasty in planning actions. While you may be excited to start, proper planning takes time. The better the planning and organization, the more success you will achieve. Even if it means slowing down to figure out details, do not rush and leave out important steps.

4. Not asking for help
   Do not be afraid to ask for help. When a network is created, bigger goals can be achieved faster. Reach out to friends, parents, and mentors. People generally enjoy helping, especially if it is for a worthy cause.

5. Not learning from mistakes and giving up too quickly
   We all make mistakes—it is normal and healthy. Mistakes allow us an opportunity to learn and grow. So, learn from the mistakes. Ask, “Why did this happen?” and “How can I avoid this problem next time?” Actively think about the mistakes and how it will be better the second time around. If something does not go as planned, do not stop!
**Reflect: Action Plan**

Your team now has a plan for taking action globally and locally. Think back over what you have learned: What problems associated with health care does your team’s action plan address? How does your individual role in the plan support your team’s action? Record your thoughts on the lines below. If you run out of room on this page, use additional paper to write a lengthier response. As you write, think about the questions on the previous page to help shape your reflection.

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## Student Log Sheet

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<th>DATE / TIME SPENT</th>
<th>ACTIVITY, DESCRIPTION, AND REFLECTION</th>
<th>VERIFIED BY (NAME, ORGANIZATION)</th>
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