

**World Food Problems
Fall 2009**

The World Food Problem: Toward Ending Undernutrition in the Third World.
Leathers and Foster, 2009 (4th Edition)

Questions to Think About

1. Introduction

1. What happens when a person dies of hunger?
2. Describe how the “four Ps” (Population, Propensity, Pollution (or environmental quality), and Productivity (in agriculture) influence future prospects for food supply and demand.
3. Discuss interactions between the “four Ps”.

Part 1

2. Famines

1. Is famine a fairly important part of the world food problem? Explain.
2. Discuss one or more famines you are aware of: what caused them, how long did they last?
3. A natural disaster strikes an area. When is food aid not needed, yet given anyway?
4. What are good general policies in response to famine?

3. Malnutrition Defined

1. Describe the four types of malnutrition as defined by Jean Mayer.
2. List three significant micronutrient deficiencies and their implications on the human body.
3. Define Kwashiorkor and Marasmus.
4. Define how energy is measured in the food we consume.
5. Which is a bigger problem: Protein deficiency or calorie deficiency? Why?
6. How many calories do you need each day?