

## Student Worksheet

### DIRECTIONS

Read the following news story and answer the reading comprehension and discussion questions. Use additional paper if necessary.

### STORY

**Hungry in America: New Food Insecurity Numbers Are A Wake Up Call** 11/24/2009

[http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/features/us/july-dec09/hunger\\_11-24.html](http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/features/us/july-dec09/hunger_11-24.html)

### READING COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

**1. How many Americans were food insecure in 2008?**

**2. What is food insecurity?**

**3. Why are more families less food secure in this economy?**

**4. Why are the food insecurity numbers probably even worse than the U.S. Department of Agriculture report suggests?**

**5. Where can families turn to get nutritious food?**

**6. True or False: Families facing food insecurity are all unemployed.**

**7. What are some of the ramifications of food insecurity?**

**8. What is the Child Nutrition Act?**

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (more research might be needed)

**1. Does it surprise you to hear that so many Americans are food insecure? Why or why not?**

**2. Recent reports on the rise of obesity suggest that more people around the world are obese than malnourished. Why do you think that is?**

**3. Think of ways to make the distribution of food more equitable. How could this be done in your own community?**

**4. Is food a fundamental right? Why or why not?**

**5. The abundance of types of food has grown while the individual prices of food have dropped in the last few decades, do some research and find out how food production has changed in your own community. Are you surprised by anything in particular?**

**Extension Activity**

Have students write a 300-500 word essay on this topic providing clear examples. Send your completed editorial to NewsHour Extra ([extra@newshour.org](mailto:extra@newshour.org)). Exceptional essays might be published on our Web site.