

## Student Worksheet

### DIRECTIONS

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

### STORY

#### **Civil War in Congo Tied to Natural Resources and Ethnic Rivalries** 11/11/08

[http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/features/world/july-dec08/congo\\_11-11.html](http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/features/world/july-dec08/congo_11-11.html)

### READING COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. **Why is there a conflict in the DR Congo right now?**

2. **What event in the 1990s is part of the cause for the invasion?**

3. **What health problem has been diagnosed among Congo refugees?**

4. **How many people have been affected by the fighting?**

5. **Why does General Nkunda claim he is invading DR Congo**

6. **What has Nkunda threatened to do?**

7. **How are the rebels funding their army?**

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (more research might be needed)

**1. Why do you think the Hutu and Tutsi conflict is repeating itself? Do you think Nkunda really wants to help the Tutsis?**

**2. Should the United Nations do more to prevent the rebel army from invading? What are the pros and cons of UN action? Look at what the UN did in the Rwandan genocide for hints.**

**3. Does your cell phone or computer have coltan in it? Do you think it is a problem to buy products that have coltan in them? Why or why not?**

**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.