

Ranking Global Problems

Discuss with a partner or group whether you agree with the following:

Americans rank the following top 10 issues (in order of priority) as most important:

- (1) Trying to solve the problems of crime and drugs
- (2) Trying to find cures for serious diseases
- (3) Taking steps to contain the cost of health care
- (4) Trying to ensure people have jobs and decent wages
- (5) Trying to improve the quality of public school problems
- (6) Taking steps to ensure better leaders in elected positions
- (7) Taking steps to reduce the budget deficit
- (8) Trying to solve the problem of teenage pregnancies
- (9) Trying to improve the quality of our environment
- (10) Trying to solve the nation's racial problems

The top 10 problems to be faced in the next 25 to 50 years (in order of importance).

- (1) Spread of crime and violence to all places
- (2) Starvation in many parts of the world
- (3) Congestion of cities and highways
- (4) Divisions between rich and poor in this country
- (5) Overpopulation
- (6) Racism
- (7) Lack of jobs that pay decent wages
- (8) Severe air pollution
- (9) Severe water pollution
- (10) Health problems caused by man-made chemicals