

Blue Gold (Water Wars) Documentary Summary Questions

Factors causing the water crisis

1. What percent of the water on the Earth is freshwater? What percent is saltwater?
2. What are some different pollution sources that affect our water supply?
3. What is the effect of bottling water and distributing it globally or nationally?
4. How much groundwater is pumped each day in the United States?
5. What effects are associated with groundwater pumping?
6. How do impermeable surfaces affect infiltration?
7. What are the effects of urbanization?
8. What are some environmental costs and societal benefits associated with building dams?
9. What is desertification?
10. What sector uses the most water? (Agriculture, industry, domestic use)

Politics

1. What did the video mean when it said there was a 'revolving door' between the government agencies and private water companies?
2. What is wrong with giving away water contracts and special considerations given to water companies?
3. Is it better if water is owned by private corporations, government, or jointly owned and operated?
4. How is water viewed by Wall Street, the World Bank, and the IMF (International Monetary Fund)?
5. What types of laws must be passed in order to protect the water supply? What laws must be passed to protect citizen's right to water?
6. What conditions must be present for corruption to occur?

Water Wars

1. In what ways are people fighting over water?
2. What are some historical examples of 'water wars'?
3. What happened in Bolivia before the multinational water companies were asked to leave?
4. What actions has our military or national guard taken to protect the water supply?

Solutions to the water crisis

1. What are some possible solutions to the water crisis?
2. How will desalination become more important and what challenges exist to construct and operate desalination plants?
3. What role does conservation play in the water crisis?
4. What methods are being considered to manage the water supply in local ecosystems?
5. What agricultural practices should be considered in solving or reducing the water crisis?