

Questions for discussion

Episode 15
2nd June 2015

Conscience Votes

1. Summarise the BtN *Conscience Votes* story.
2. Which country recently held a referendum allowing same sex marriage?
3. Australia is the last developed English-speaking country not to allow same sex marriage. True or false?
4. Why do politicians in the same political party vote the same on most issues?
5. What is a conscience vote?
6. When do conscience votes usually happen?
7. Give an example of an issue that might bring about a conscience vote.
8. Conscience votes happen all the time in parliament. True or false?
9. What is a referendum?
10. What do you understand more clearly since watching the *Conscience Votes* story?

Write a message about the story and post it in the comments section on the story page.

Waste Ban

1. Discuss the *Waste Ban* story with another student. Record the main points of your discussion.
2. How much food gets thrown away each year in Australia?
3. About how much is that food worth?
 - a. 8 Million
 - b. 8 Billion
 - c. 80 Billion
4. Why are some fruit and vegetables rejected by shops?
5. What percentage is rejected?
6. Describe what France is doing to tackle the problem of food waste.
7. What does Oz Harvest do to help reduce the amount of food being thrown away?
8. Brainstorm a list of things you could do to help reduce food waste at home and at school.
9. Should Australian supermarkets be forced to donate their waste food to charities? Why or why not?
10. How has your thinking changed since watching the BtN story?

Check out the BtN [Waste Ban resource](#) on the Teachers page

Vote in the Behind the News [online poll](#).

Leap Second

1. What was the main point of the *Leap Second* story?
2. Give an example of how people told the time before clocks were invented.

3. How does a sun dial show the time of day?
4. What is the most accurate clock that humans have ever made?
5. The spinning of the earth is gradually slowing down. True or false?
6. Why did scientists decide to introduce a leap second?
7. At the end of June 2015, clocks all around the world will have _____ added to them.
8. In which decade were leap seconds first introduced?
9. What impact might it have on some computer systems?
10. Name three facts you learnt watching the *Leap Second* story.

Do the [Leap Second](#) quiz on the BtN website

China Kids

1. Before watching the BtN *China Kids* story, predict what the story is about.
2. Which landmarks in China did the students visit?
3. Where in Tasmania do the students come from?
4. Which language do they learn at school?
5. How did their trip to China come about?
6. Who is Xi Jinping?
7. The students were invited as special guests of the president. True or false?
8. How did the students prepare for the trip?
9. How do the students describe the experience of travelling to China?
10. What did you learn watching this story?

Check out the BtN [China Kids resource](#) on the Teachers page.

Hope Street

1. In your own words, describe the Dear Hope Street project.
2. How do the kids find Hope Streets around the world?
3. What sorts of messages do they write on the postcards?
4. What does Alex, the creator of Dear Hope Street, want kids to learn from the project?
5. Why is the project also teaching kids about internet privacy?
6. Describe the responses from people who have received a postcard.
7. What did the kids like about Dear Hope Street?
8. What message would you include on a postcard to someone living on a Hope Street?
9. Illustrate an aspect of this story.
10. How did this story make you feel?

Write a message about the story and post it in the comments section on the story page.