



Before the discussion

Do you know the following words and phrases?

globalization
multicultural
free trade
outsourcing
Multinational corporation

developing country
developed country
consumerism
Capitalism
exports

Understanding different viewpoints

We asked three students from around the world for their views on globalization. Here are their replies.



Amir

*“I live in a conservative country and **a lot of people here are against globalization**. They feel that globalization means the spread of Western values and our own culture would suffer as a result. But the world is changing so rapidly these days and I am worried that we may be left behind. Globalisation is happening whether we like it or not and I feel we need to accept it.”*



Jake

“It seems to me that globalization mainly benefits big businesses. I heard that many factories around here have closed down and shifted operations to poorer countries where workers are paid less and are willing to work longer shifts. The companies get to save money, but what about the employees in our country? Their jobs have gone overseas.”



Devi

“Globalisation means the world is getting smaller and I feel this is a good thing. Through the Internet, I have made friends from many different countries. I am improving my English so that I can study overseas and I hope that I can eventually work for a multinational company. Twenty years ago, I would have never had an opportunity like this.”

Discussion

- 1 What is globalization?
- 2 What are the pros and cons of globalization?
- 3 Has globalization been good or bad for your country?
- 4 What role does English play in globalization?
- 5 Do you feel that globalization is really just Westernization?
- 6 Do you think that the world will ever speak with one voice?
- 7 Would you ever live overseas?
- 8 What role has technology played in globalization?
- 9 Do you think the world will eventually only have one single government?
- 10 Do you feel that you are a 'citizen of the world'?

