

Student worksheet – Sustainable development

Saving lives

Read the text below and watch the interview hidden behind the QR code below. Then discuss the assignment with the nearest classmate who is working with the same theme as you. You will find the discussion questions on the next page.



Each person's life has inestimable value. With the help of science, we can save human lives in ways that were impossible before. At the same time, conflicts continue to result in the deaths of many people.

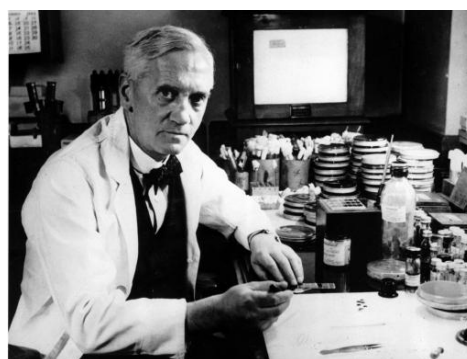
Several Nobel Prizes in Physiology or Medicine have been awarded for discoveries that led to a cure for deadly diseases and health problems. Many Peace Prizes have been awarded for efforts to save lives during wars and conflicts.

Which roads lead toward the pharmaceutical of the future? How can we counteract war and violence and help refugees?

ANTIBIOTICS

Infections caused by microorganisms can sometimes lead to life-threatening illnesses.

In 1928 Alexander Fleming discovered that a certain mold formed a substance, penicillin, that inhibited the growth of bacteria. Could this be used as medicine? Ernst Boris Chain, Howard Florey and their colleagues succeeded at the beginning of the 1940s in producing penicillin in pure form and investigating its properties in more detail. Additional efforts led to a drug that could be produced in greater quantities.



Alexander Fleming in his laboratory.

Antibiotics are still vitally important drugs. A growing problem, however, is that some bacterial strains have developed resistance to antibiotics. Can we find new ways to combat these resistant microorganisms?



Watch the interview with a researcher by scanning the QR code with your mobile phone. The interview can also be found at this internet link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=osaFGkFfUB8&feature=youtu.be>

Assignment

Use the text you read, the interview you watched and the picture below of the global goals.

You have spoken earlier about the global Sustainable Development Goals. Now you should think about whether the contributions of Nobel Laureates Fleming, Chain and Florey have helped the world move closer to achieving the global goals.

1. Which of the global goals have been affected the most by the work of the three Laureates? (Find at least two goals.)

2. In what way has their work had a positive impact on efforts to achieve these goals?

3. Has the work of the three Laureates had any negative impact on efforts to achieve one of the global goals?

