

Year 9: Conflict - Knowledge Organiser

Sweatshop –

Key points:

- A "sweatshop" is defined by the US Department of Labor as a factory that violates 2 or more labour laws.
- Sweatshops often have poor working conditions, unfair wages, unreasonable hours, child labour, and a lack of benefits for workers.
- In developing countries, an estimated 168 million children ages 5 to 14 are forced to work in sweat-shops.

War in Darfur –

Location: The Darfur region of Sudan located in East Africa.

Key points:

Conflict is caused due to the following three points.

- **Desertification** – leading to famine and reducing nomadic lands.
- **Oil** – leads to international conflict.
- **Ethnicity** – Richer north Arabic and Muslim, poorer south black Christian, Darfur region which has nomadic tribes that are black Muslim. The Janjaweed live and terrorise the Darfur.

Middle East –

Key points:

- Newly rich region due to expanse of oil.
- Oil means that the region has a 'resource curse' – the idea that there will be conflict as the area will be attractive to other countries as they see value in the natural resource.
- War torn region with Iraq, Afghanistan and the emergence of ISIS.
- Middle East also has a hot arid climate that is not suited for growth, needs mass irrigation system – needs money for this.

| Keywords | Definitions |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Conflict | A serious disagreement. |
| Coltan | A metal mined in African countries. |
| Blood Diamond/Conflict Diamond | A diamond that is mined in a conflict zone and the money is not given to the miners. |
| UN (United Nations) | International agreements to maintain peace. |
| Piracy | The practice of attacking and robbing ships at sea. |
| Resource Curse | A poor country, rich in natural resources suffer conflicts due to other countries interest in their produce. |



Blood Diamonds –

Location: Sierra Leone, in West Africa.

Key points:

- Sierra Leone is one of the poorest countries in the world, due to the availability of diamonds, it means it is subject to the resource curse.
- The government and a company called Debeers got very rich through the diamonds, poor working conditions for the workers led to a civil war.
- Revolutionary United Front (RUF) were a rebel group in the civil war that ended up being worse than the government. They attacked the mines and used the money to fund the conflict.

Congo Miners –

Location: Democratic Republic of Congo in Central Africa.

Key points:

- DRC has been invaded by Rwanda and Uganda as they want the minerals in the land.
- 2002 peace treaty has not fully stopped the fighting.
- Coltan mining is huge as it is an ingredient needed for mobile phones. The miners have been forced to mine as they lost their farmlands in the fighting. They get paid very little and have no tools for the job.
- Rwanda soldiers watch over the mine which means they earn well and the miners do not.

Piracy in Somalia –

Location: Somalia, east coast of Africa.

Key points:

- Piracy started as a response to the illegal fishing that had resulted due to the civil war as there was no patrols along the coast.
- Initially, Somali fishermen confronted illegal fishing boats and they also were struggling to make money due to toxic waste that was dumped in their waters.
- Apart from fishing, there are limited ways to make money, therefore fishermen have turned to piracy. This has made local residents uneasy about the presence of weapons and destroyed tourism.

