

## World Problem Narrative Directions

- *Assume the role of a person affected by the problem you are researching. Adopt this persona as you write in first-person perspective. You could be the person impacted by this issue or you could describe someone you know who is impacted.*
- *Type a 450- 500-word narrative from this person's perspective about this problem. You will need to create some fictional scenario that allows you to share accurate details about the issue while integrating your fictional story. **Bold-face** these details in your writing.*
- *You must use at least three relevant, reliable sources for your writing. In addition, your writing must make reference to international laws or treaties that apply to your topic.*
- *Your writing needs to have the MLA heading as shown in the sample. You must single space your actual writing and indicate the word count at the end.*
- *Turn in your writing to Turnitin.com by May 30. **Failure to do so will substantially lower your grade.***
- *Attach to your writing a properly formatted MLA Works Cited showing what resources you used to write this narrative.*

This is a writing grade for both history and English.

For a check plus (✓+)

- Writing maintains a consistent, clear, and appropriate narrative voice.
- Outstanding research and understanding of topic shown throughout writing.
- Assignment elements show care in presentation and close attention to the model writing and directions.

For a check (✓)

- Writing maintains a mostly clear and appropriate narrative voice.
- Adequate research and understanding of topic shown through most of the writing.
- Assignment elements show some care in presentation and some attention to the model writing.

For a check minus (✓-)

- Narrative voice not present nor consistent throughout writing.
- May show poor research and understanding of topic through most of the writing.
- Work may lack care or seems hastily done.

Chris Davis

Mr./Mrs. Davis

Humanities, Block 2

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### The Scourge of War

Boupha will never walk again. Her legs, her strong legs are no more. All thanks to the Vietnamese and the scourge of the war they have left behind nearly four decades later.

How did this all happen? It's a complicated story of war and outside aggression, but none of that matters much now. Our family relied on Boupha and her ability to help us with the cultivation of rice. And it just took one second. One second, there Boupha was with her group of friends, **playing boules with what she thought was a ball**, and then in the next instant she was laying on her side in a pool of blood, screaming out for me. It wasn't a ball we later found out, **it was a B40 antipersonnel mine**.

How can a mother ever recover from such a thing? It was bad enough to grow up through **the war that the Khmer Rouge waged on us**, and then even worse when the **Vietnamese forcibly used the labor of our people to lay mines along the Cambodian-Thailand border**. And now we — our country and my family, especially — continue to pay the price for this conflict from the past century.

I guess our family was lucky. They say that **20 percent of all children die from their injuries when a landmine explodes near them**. So we are lucky in that way. Still, I don't know where we will get the money for prostheses. I hear there are organizations that will help clear landmines — groups like the **HALO Trust out of Great Britain and the Mines Advisory Group (MAG), also from Great Britain**. In fact, I've heard that **MAG removed and destroyed 3,619 landmines last year**. So perhaps there will be fewer stories such as mine in the future. And there are groups like the **International Red Cross who will pay for prostheses, too**.

However, for many, this comes too late. A neighbor told me that **nearly 20,000 lives have been lost between 1979 and 2011 due to landmines, and another 44,000 (including my daughter) have been injured**. And even more distressing is the fact that **many influential nations in the world, including the United States, have failed to sign on to the Ottawa Treaty which is a United Nations agreement that 164 nations have signed on to in order to commit themselves to stop production and development of land mines**. So while it is good to know that progress has been made in recent years, all of that is hard to think about now. My daughter's future is not the bright sun that our family had hoped for. For now, I just have my tears and my daughter's lost dreams.

(451 words)

## Works Cited

"Cambodia." Mines Advisory Group. Web. 18 Aug. 2016.

<<http://www.maginternational.org/where-mag-works/cambodia/>>.

"Cambodia." *Where We Work*. The Halo Trust. Web. 18 Aug. 2016.

<<http://www.halotrust.org/where-we-work/cambodia>>.

"Land-mines: A Deadly Inheritance." *Impact of Armed Conflict on Children*. UNICEF, n.d. Web.

18 Aug. 2016. <<http://www.unicef.org/graca/mines.htm>>.

Walsh, Nicolas E., and Wendy S. Walsh. "Rehabilitation of Landmine Victims — the Ultimate Challenge." World Health Organization, 1 Jan. 2003. Web. 18 Aug. 2016.

<<http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/81/9/Walsh.pdf>>.