

Global Studies	Name:
Measuring Air Quality	Section:
Leveled Assessment:/4	Score:/5

Directions: Use the Air Quality Index calculators online (linked below) to find the current air quality index ratings for the following places.

Your Location:	Copenhagen, Denmark	New Delhi, India
Current Air Quality:	Current Air Quality:	Current Air Quality:
Beijing, China	Los Angeles, California	Your Choice:
Current Air Quality:	Current Air Quality:	Current Air Quality:

For Locations within the United States - <u>https://www.airnow.gov/</u> For Locations within China – <u>www.aqicn.org</u> For Copenhagen - <u>http://aqicn.org/city/copenhagen/</u> For New Delhi - <u>http://aqicn.org/city/india/new-delhi</u>

## **Thought Questions:**

<u>Directions</u>: Use the AQI readings from above, information from the websites, and information from the table on the back of this page to answer the following series of questions.

- 1. What is the AQI and what specifically does it measure?
- 2. What types of problems can prolonged exposure to high levels of air pollutants lead to?
- 3. What type of lifestyle changes/impacts on daily life can high levels of pollution have?
- Why might countries not wish to allow access to their AQI measurements? Explain two reasons.
  a.
  - b.
- List and explain two reasons why it is important for countries to address the issue of air quality?
  a.
  - b.
- 6. Explain something the international community can do to help with the issue?

Air Quality Index (AQI)	PM2.5 Health Effects Statement	PM 2.5 Cautionary Statement
<b>Good</b> (0-50)	PM2.5 air pollution poses little or no risk.	None
<b>Moderate</b> (51-100)	Unusually sensitive individuals may experience respiratory symptoms.	Unusually sensitive people should consider reducing prolonged or heavy exertion.
Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups (101-150)	Increasing likelihood of respiratory symptoms in sensitive individuals, aggravation of heart or lung disease and premature mortality in persons with cardiopulmonary disease and the elderly.	People with heart or lung disease, older adults, and children should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion.
<b>Unhealthy</b> (151-200)	Increased aggravation of heart or lung disease and premature mortality in persons with cardiopulmonary disease and the elderly; increased respiratory effects in general population.	People with heart or lung disease, older adults, and children should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion; everyone else should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion.
<b>Very Unhealthy</b> (201-300)	Significant aggravation of heart or lung disease and premature mortality in persons with cardiopulmonary disease and the elderly; significant increase in respiratory effects in general population.	People with heart or lung disease, older adults, and children should avoid all physical activity outdoors. Everyone else should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion.
<b>Hazardous</b> (301-500)	Serious aggravation of heart or lung disease and premature mortality in persons with cardiopulmonary disease and the elderly; serious risk of respiratory effects in general population.	Everyone should avoid all physical activity outdoors; people with heart or lung disease, older adults, and children should remain indoors and keep activity levels low.