



## LESSON 7 RESOURCE SHEET 1

### Death penalty quiz answers for teacher

Display the Death Penalty Worldwide poster map found in the pack's pocket while talking through answers.

**Q1.** How many countries have abolished (or stopped using) the death penalty for all crimes?

**A. 96 (in 2011).**

**Fact:** This is the number of countries that have removed capital punishment entirely from their laws. Many more countries are abolitionist in law or practice, which means that they still have capital punishment on their law books but have not executed anyone in recent years.

**Q2.** Which is the only European country left to use the death penalty?

**A. Belarus.**

**Fact:** Belarus passed two death sentences during 2009 and two prisoners were executed in March 2010.

**Q3.** List the six most common methods of execution used in recent years.

**A.** (In order)

**Beheading**

**Shooting**

**Lethal injection**

**Stoning**

**Hanging**

**Electrocution**

**Fact:** Saudi Arabia publicly beheaded 69 people in 2009.

**Q4.** In 2011, how many recorded executions were there? (Excluding China)

**A. 676 recorded executions in 2011.**

**Fact:** 20 countries carried out executions in 2011, but the figure of 676 does not include China. China executed more people than the rest of the world combined but death penalty statistics are a state secret. Evidence from previous years and current sources indicate that the figure is in the thousands.

**Q5.** Explain why the true figure is likely to be higher.

**A. The authorities in a number of countries do not release official or accurate statistics.**

**Fact:** In 2006, China executed at least 1,010 people but credible reports revealed the actual figure was closer to 8,000 in this period.

**Q6.** Name the six main executing countries in the world in 2011.

**A. 1. China – figure unknown**

**2. Iran 360+**

**3. Saudi Arabia 82+**

**4. Iraq 68+**

**5. USA 43+**

**6. Yemen 41+**

**Fact:** Three prisoners who were under 18 at the time of the offence were executed in 2011. This is unequivocally banned in international law.

**Q7.** Which US state carried out the most executions in 2011?

**A. Texas, where 13 of the 43 executions in 2011 were carried out.**

**Fact:** Since Cuba stopped carrying out executions in 2003, the USA has been the only country in the Americas to carry out executions, with the exception of a single execution in St Kitts and Nevis in 2008.

**Q8.** How many prisoners on death row in the USA have been cleared of the crime and released since 1976?

**A. 130+**

**Fact:** In 2009, nine prisoners sentenced to death in the USA were exonerated and freed – having spent 121 years between them on death row.

**Q9.** How many people, under 18 at the time of the offence, were executed in 2011?

**A. 3**

**Fact:** Since 1990 Iran has executed the highest number of child offenders – at least 46. Five of these executions were carried out in 2009.

**Q10.** What year did the UK formally abolish the death penalty for all crimes?

**A. 1998 (under the UK Human Rights Act).**

**Fact:** The last execution in the UK was carried out in 1964.