

Decode a Secret Message

An activity of "Children's lives are improving but..."

A. Read "**Children's lives are improving but food crises remain a big problem**" (page 1 & 28, *What's Up* May 2026). Then, tick the letters next to the correct answers. The first one has been done as an example.

1. Last month, the United Nations released *The Global Report on Food Crises* which
 (s) focuses on serious situations where people are not getting enough food.
 (t) celebrates the abundance of food available for everyone on Earth.

2. Most children today are safer and healthier than ever before, but
 (d) children in war zones are not taking their health seriously enough.
 (e) children in war zones are at high risk of malnutrition.
 (f) children in peaceful places are taking their health too seriously.

3. There is ample food in this world for everybody. The problem is that
 (o) there are people who are not able to get the food they need.
 (p) too many people are extremely fussy about what to eat.
 (q) leftover food at hotel buffets has to be discarded too quickly.

4. When a child suffers from malnutrition, the child
 (c) may get very weak but can easily resist illnesses.
 (b) is usually still able to stay strong and resist illnesses.
 (a) may get very weak and fall seriously ill.

5. The biggest problem preventing food from reaching people is
 (p) any army of rats and other creatures invading food stores.
 (q) wealthy people hoarding food in case prices go up.
 (r) situations like wars where civilians are displaced.

6. When Ricardo Pires visited Sudan, he saw that health workers there were
 (s) pleased that they could distribute ample food and medicines to everyone.
 (t) working hard, but they were short of supplies, time and even space.
 (u) working hard despite being unhappy about their low wages.

7. The UN report names four places where children were most affected in 2025 —
 (h) two of them are in Asia and the other two are in Africa.
 (i) two of them are in Africa and the other two are in Europe.
 (j) three of them are in Asia and one is in Africa.

8. An agency of the United Nations, UNICEF helps children
 (g) only in the Southern Hemisphere.
 (h) only in the Northern Hemisphere
 (i) all over the world.

B. Transfer the ticked letters above to the corresponding boxes below (e.g. "s" for No. 1). When all the spaces have been filled, you will discover a beautiful quote by Nigerian poet, actor, and writer Chinonye J. Chidolue.

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