

Helping those who need it most – UNICEF during the COVID-19 pandemic

1 Match the words (1-6) with their definitions (A-G). Be careful! There is one definition that you do not need to use.

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| 1 a pandemic | A when you go back to a situation you were in before |
| 2 a billion | B a disease that affects people all over the world |
| 3 a priority | C something important, which you have to do first |
| 4 a government | D an important person in an organisation |
| 5 a return | E 1,000,000,000 (a million million) |
| 6 an official | F the biggest part of a plan |
| | G the people who make the decisions about a country's laws and taxes |

2 Read the text and complete the gaps (1-4) with sentences (A-E). Be careful! There is one sentence which you do not need to use.

UNICEF stands for the United Nations Children's Fund, which has been working to improve the lives of children and mothers since 1946. (1) _____ One the most recent problems has been the COVID-19 pandemic, which has changed the world for the worse in many ways. (2) _____ To stop the spread of the disease, at the beginning of the pandemic students were asked to have classes online. UNICEF says that 1.6 billion children all over the world have had to learn from home for over a year now. (3) _____ In March 2021, 51 countries decided to go back to teaching students at school. (4) _____ UNICEF officials say that opening schools again should be a priority for governments. When this happens, however, students will need help to return to the new reality.

- A Now things are changing for the better.
- B So children need adults to make the right decision when the pandemic is over.
- C One of them is the way children learn.
- D But many children on every continent still have to learn from home.
- E It focuses on helping young people who face big problems and difficulties in the world.

3 Work in groups. Answer the questions.

- How has the pandemic changed the way you learn at school?
- What do you miss most about having classes at school?
- Can you remember where every student sat in your English classes before starting online education?

