

# Conflict Minerals

While watching today's videos, answer the following questions.

**Conflict Minerals 101 (Enough Project):** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aF-sJgcoY20>

1. What are "conflict minerals"? What are the four elements found in the most commonly mined "conflict minerals" in the Congo?
2. What type of products do these minerals end up in?
3. Why do armed groups in the Congo try to control and tax trade of these conflict minerals?
4. What do the armed groups use all of the money they make off of the conflict minerals to purchase?
5. How do the armed groups maintain control over the people in the Congo who might belong to other groups or oppose them?

**How to Avoid Conflict Minerals? (PBS):** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OzMCJk9zzv0>

6. Is it easy for electronics manufacturers to avoid using conflict minerals in their products?
7. What does the US law discussed in the video require manufacturers to do?

**Africa's Dilemma over Conflict Minerals (Financial Times):** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=05bRNbl8x1E>

8. Are the world's governments doing anything to try to stop the flow of conflict minerals from central Africa? What?
9. What has happened to the workers of some of the illegal mines that have been shut down?
10. What do some of the armed groups do now for money since many illegal mines have been shut down?
11. Has the mining of illegal conflict minerals been completely stopped by new laws and the "tagging" system?
12. Is the conflict between armed groups in central Africa still going on? What progress has the world made in trying to end the conflict and the flow of conflict minerals in Africa?

## Writing Assignment:

Write a minimum of one page on the subject of conflict minerals. Use your answers above to help guide your writing, you may do additional research if you wish.

First create a "thesis" or "topic statement" on how you feel about the issue of conflict minerals and what should be done for your introduction paragraph.

Your paper should include at least three paragraphs that cover the following issues:

- What do you think YOU should do about conflict minerals?
- What do you think OTHERS should do? (parents, family, friends)
- What do you think our GOVERNMENT should do, if anything?