

DRC True/False Quiz

The deadliest worldwide conflict since World War 2 is in the DRC. True – The deadliest war in modern African history, it has directly involved nine African nations, and more than 5.4 million people have been killed since 1998. Despite signing peace accords in 2003, fighting continues in the east. More than 90% were not killed in combat. They died from diseases that were both preventable and treatable (malaria, diarrhea, pneumonia and malnutrition) aggravated by displaced populations living in unsanitary and over-crowded conditions that lacked access to shelter, water, food and medicine. Forty seven percent of those deaths were children under five.
<http://www.raisehopeforcongo.org/content/crisis>

The DRC is the poorest country in the world. False – Niger is currently ranked one place lower on the Human Development Index (HDI). The HDI is a comparative measure of life expectancy, literacy, education, standards of living and quality of life for countries worldwide. (UK no. 26 Norway no.1)
http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/2015_human_development_report.pdf

The DRC is the richest country in the world. Depends on your definition of rich! Could be considered true in that the DRC is widely considered to be the richest country in the world regarding natural resources; its untapped deposits of raw minerals are estimated to be worth in excess of US\$ 24 trillion. The DRC has more than 30% of the world's diamond reserves and 70% of the world's coltan.
[http://www.thefreelibrary.com/DR+Congo's+\\$24+trillion+fortune.-a0193800184](http://www.thefreelibrary.com/DR+Congo's+$24+trillion+fortune.-a0193800184)
<http://www.newsaboutcongo.com/2009/03/congo-with-24-trillion-in-mineral-wealth-but-still-poor.html>

The DRC is raking in \$millions in taxes from its mineral wealth. False – the legal mining industry should generate \$200 million every year in taxes. In 2007, the government received just \$13 million.
<http://www.christianaid.org.uk/Images/breaking-the-curse.pdf> p.43

Minerals are smuggled out of DRC to neighbouring countries. Tanzania earned \$32 million in tax and royalty revenues from its domestic gold production in 2010, although it exported an estimated \$1.4 billion of gold. Tanzania is Africa's third largest producer of gold, but conflict-gold from eastern Congo still flows into Tanzania's trade stream in return for money and arms. According to trade statistics, Uganda exported an estimated \$212 million worth of gold over the past three years despite a minuscule \$167 in officially reported production.
<http://www.enoughproject.org/files/Conflict-Gold.pdf> p.9

We're all carrying a bit of the DRC in our pockets. Most likely true - **Coltan** (short for **columbite–tantalite** and known industrially as tantalite) is a dull black metallic ore from which the elements niobium (formerly "columbium") and tantalum are extracted. The DRC has more than 70% of the world's coltan, used to make vital components of mobile phones.
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-15722799>