

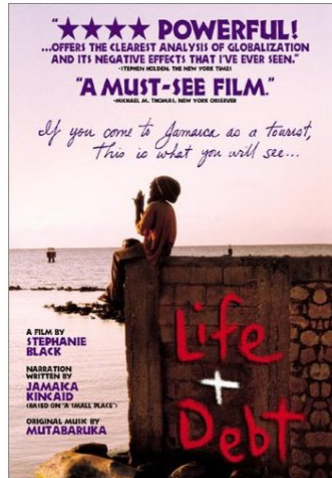
STUDENT'S CHINESE NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT'S ENGLISH NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CLASS \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

This movie is available at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)



## LIFE AND DEBT

CAVEAT: The teacher should prescreen each movie and review the complete workbook chapter before showing the movie to the class. Students have homework before watching the movie and after watching but before any discussion.

## EXERCISES BEFORE WATCHING MOVIE

### 1. READ MOVIE REVIEW

#### Editorial Reviews

##### Amazon.com

Set to a beguiling reggae beat, *Life and Debt* takes as its subject Jamaica's economic decline in the 20th century. The story has reverberations in the plight of other third-world nations blindsided by globalization, like Ghana and Haiti. After England granted Jamaica independence in 1962, the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) stepped in with a series of loans. These loans came with strings attached--the kind that would eventually plunge the country \$7 billion into debt, stranded without the resources to dig themselves out. Although IMF officials get the chance to have their say, it's clear where filmmaker Stephanie Black's sympathies lie--with the country's underemployed farmers

and sweatshop workers. Jamaica Kincaid (*A Small Place*) penned the narration, while the [soundtrack](#) features some of the "imports" with which this island nation remains mostly closely associated: Bob Marley, Peter Tosh, and Mutabaruka, who performs the title track.  
--*Kathleen C. Fennessy*

**From [The New Yorker](#)**

This documentary, directed by Stephanie Black, concerns the effects of globalization and multinational corporations on the island of Jamaica. What could have been a dry-as-dirt lecture on the evils of banking, the closings of farms, and unfair import practices gets shaped by the filmmaker into a comprehensive and involving film about the pillaging of a beautiful island and its people. The poetic, incisive narration is by Jamaica Kincaid. -

Bruce Diones

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**DOES THIS COMMERCIAL MOVIE REVIEW ENTICE YOU TO PURCHASE THE DVD? \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_ NO**

## **2. INTERNET RESEARCH**

The following words and phrases are from the movie. Using an English Internet search engine, and working in pairs or small groups, find the definition for each word and phrase. Write your definition next to the word or phrase in this workbook.

<b>At the end of the day</b>	<b>Discriminatory</b>	<b>Del Monte</b>
	<b>Theoretical</b>	
<b>Colonies</b>		<b>Chiquita</b>
	<b>Container</b>	
<b>European Union</b>		<b>Immoral</b>
	<b>Factories</b>	
<b>WTO</b>		<b>Expectant mother</b>
	<b>Liabe</b>	
<b>IMF</b>		<b>Pierced</b>
	<b>Income tax</b>	
<b>WB</b>	<b>Duties</b>	<b>Global</b>
<b>Export</b>	<b>Duty free</b>	<b>Vanity</b>
<b>Import</b>	<b>Diversification</b>	<b>Financial crisis</b>
<b>Multinationals</b>	<b>Dole</b>	<b>So to speak</b>

<b>Global economy</b>	<b>Unemployment line</b>	<b>Bailout</b>
<b>Millennia</b>	<b>Breakthrough</b>	<b>Burdens</b>
<b>Cabbage</b>	<b>International Market</b>	<b>Sensitive</b>
<b>Mask</b>	<b>Infrastructure</b>	<b>Unbearable</b>
<b>National food Security</b>	<b>Colonial crisis of finance</b>	<b>Strategic economic politics</b>
<b>Double talk</b>	<b>Viable</b>	<b>Walking contradiction</b>
<b>Regional</b>	<b>Dictate</b>	<b>Human Rubbish</b>
<b>Conditionalities</b>	<b>Per capita</b>	<b>Masters</b>
<b>Loans</b>	<b>Financially independent</b>	<b>Slaves</b>
<b>Debt</b>	<b>Productive base</b>	<b>Noble</b>
<b>Co-conspirators</b>	<b>Anabolic steroids</b>	<b>Faith</b>
<b>Exploitation</b>	<b>Injected</b>	<b>Soul</b>
<b>Strike</b>	<b>Cancer causing agents</b>	<b>Almighty God</b>
<b>Time bomb</b>	<b>Slaughterhouse</b>	<b>Tally Count</b>
<b>Influx</b>	<b>Cost of producing</b>	<b>Desperate</b>
<b>Foreign workers</b>	<b>Reconstituted milk</b>	<b>Lifeless body</b>
<b>Skill level</b>	<b>Nasty</b>	<b>Dissent</b>
<b>Accountable to shareholders</b>	<b>Clashed</b>	<b>Discount</b>
<b>Master agreement</b>	<b>Brawl</b>	<b>Self-reliance</b>
<b>Low wage job</b>	<b>Initiatives</b>	<b>Tourist</b>
<b>Hasty departure</b>	<b>International competetativeness</b>	<b>Tropical</b>
<b>Interest on debt</b>	<b>Poverty reduction</b>	
<b>Affluent</b>		

**Acumen**

**Owner**

**Flaccid**

**Gratuity**

**Emulation**

**Contract**

**Destroy**

**Envy**

**Rotten meat**

**Banality**

**Normal**

**Circus pleasure**

**Parch**

**Free Zone**

**Marvelous**

**Components**

**Intermediate**

**Crisis**

**Monetary**

**Local control**

**Expand export**

**Disposed**

**At the expense of**

**Trade barriers**

**Treasury**

**Rationalization of the  
import regime**

**Abandon**

**Sub standards**

**Complaint**

**Honduras**

**Driver license**

**Dead person**

### **3. WATCH THE MOVIE**

The run time is 86 minutes. There are no English subtitles.

### **4. INTERNET RESEARCH**

Use “Google – English” search engine for Internet research assignments

#### **INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND**

Who started the IMF and what is its objective?

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#### **WORLD BANK**

Who started the World Bank and what is its objective?

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#### **WTO**

Who started the WTO and what is its objective?

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## **5. QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION**

A. Why did Jamaica accept loans from the IMF?

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B. What conditionalities were placed on these loans?

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C. How did these conditionalities affect Jamaica's imports and exports?

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D. What are the IMF's arguments for why these changes should be instituted?

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E. What can be learned from the dairy industry example?

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F. What are the reasons for the institution of manufacturing "free zones"?

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**G. How does the documentary build its argument?  
How is it different from how other arguments (e.g. newspaper articles,  
books) are presented?**

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**H. How does the film make you feel?**

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**I. Do you think institutions like the IMF are necessary? Why or why not?**

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**J. Do countries need a regulatory system to structure international  
lending and international trade? Is the IMF fulfilling this role?**

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**K. Should lending countries or lending organizations put restrictions (for  
example, structural adjustment policies) on recipient countries? Why  
is this a good idea? Why is it a bad idea?**

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