Name:	**Date:**
Teacher:	**Period:**
Group members, if any:	

1. **Please work on this <u>individually</u>:**

Is food security relevant? Is the topic of food security important to you personally? Is the topic important to your community?

Please circle the choice below that best matches how you feel about the topic's relevance.

Food security is **not important** to me *and* is **not important** to my community	Food security is **not important** to me, *but* is **important** to my community
Food security is **important** to me, *but* is **not important** to my community	Food security is **important** to me *and* is **important** to my community

When instructed, flip over to Page 2.

2. Please work on this <u>individually</u> and read the following information carefully.

*Humans create **models** to help explain things.*
Below are three models. These provide different ideas about the role of soils in providing food for our growing global population.

Model A: Our use of natural resources has negative effects on soil health. This places risks on food access for our growing population.

A person who supports this model makes the following argument:
As our growing population increases, so does the pressure placed on our natural resources. Together; these pressures affect soils, making them unusable to grow food. Soils are too wet, too dry, or lack the ingredients needed for crop production. Climate change is making the problem even worse.

Model B: Increased knowledge has resulted in improved farming methods and soil health. These improvements will solve food challenges.

A person who supports this model makes the following argument:
Human advances in agriculture and soil science will solve food security challenges. Farming is better when people take care of their soil in different ways. They can use soil improvement and conservation methods.

Model C: Soil is not necessary for food security. Other farming methods that do not rely on soil will solve food security problems.

A person who supports this model makes the following argument:
While soil is important for farming, farming methods that don't use soil can provide new sources of food. These crops will be grown in water or come from ocean plants.

Plausibility is a judgment we make about the potential truthfulness of one explanatory model compared to another. The judgment may be tentative (not certain). You do not have to be committed to that decision.

Circle the plausibility of each model. [Make three circles, one for each model.]

	Greatly implausible (or even impossible)									Highly plausible
Model A	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Model B	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Model C	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10