

# Activities

## Activity 4

### *Israeli Hi-Tech Quiz*

#### **Preparation:**

**Estimated Time:** 1-2 class periods • **Materials:** “Israeli Hi-Tech Guide” (attached), *Israel 101*.

**Background and Lesson Plan:** Most people don’t realize how many of the innovations and gadgets in their lives come from Israeli inventions and innovations. In this activity, students will divide into two teams. Each group will collectively design a quiz about these inventions and innovations and will give it to the other team.

#### **Activity:**

1. Divide the students into two groups. Each group will design a quiz on Israeli inventions and innovations, which it will give to the other group. Tell the students that they can create questions which can come from two sources: (a) *Israel 101* (pages 36-7) and (b) the Internet (see “Israeli hi-tech guide” below).
2. Have the students in each group create quiz questions by (a) reading *Israel 101* (pages 36-7) and (b) using the links in the “Israel Hi-Tech Guide.” The questions can be true/false, multiple choice or open-ended. Here are examples of each, taken from *Israel 101*:

**True/False:** While Israel has many hi-tech companies, it does not have as many of its own patents as most other countries. (Answer: *False*. “Israel ranks third in the world in per capita patents, behind only the US and Japan,” p. 36.)

**Multiple Choice:** The following Israeli agricultural invention has revolutionized modern agriculture.

- (a) the combine
- (b) a new kind of pest-resistant tobacco
- (c) drip irrigation
- (d) a new kind of tractor, based on the Merkava tank

(Answer: *c*. “Israelis developed drip irrigation systems that revolutionized agriculture,” p. 37.)

**Open-Ended:** Some people argue that while Israel has many scientific inventions, it doesn’t invest much effort in humanitarian programs. Others disagree. What do you think? Back up your answer with facts.

(Answer: *Israel conducts many development courses for emerging nations on a wide variety of topics, such as desert agriculture, water management, refugee absorption and employment programs. Israel’s missions have included assistance to Turkey and Greece after devastating earthquakes. Israel’s Save a Child’s Heart (SACH) is the largest program in the world for children from poor nations who need heart surgery. See blue box on bottom of page 37.*)

3. Give the students a limited amount of time to create their quizzes. Then have each team give its quiz to the other team. An alternative is to use a game format and to have each team alternatively ask the other team questions from the quiz it has created. Points are awarded for each correct answer. The team with the most points wins.

## *Israel Hi-Tech Guide*

Below are some Web links that can help you find out more about Israeli inventions and innovations.

- *Forbes* called the Answers.com Web site “the most useful, smartest, coolest, easiest-to-use Web innovation to come around in years.” It is a “super-encyclopedia” application developed in Israel. See [Answers.com](http://Answers.com) and [israel21c.com/bin/en.jsp?enDispWho=Articles%5E1864&enSearchQueryID=52&enPage=BlankPage&enDisplay=view&enDispWhat=object&enVersion=0&enZone=Profiles&](http://israel21c.com/bin/en.jsp?enDispWho=Articles%5E1864&enSearchQueryID=52&enPage=BlankPage&enDisplay=view&enDispWhat=object&enVersion=0&enZone=Profiles&).
- Given Imaging is an Israeli company that uses “camera-in-a-capsule” technology for intestinal endoscopy. See [www.givenimaging.com](http://www.givenimaging.com).
- Copaxone is the first innovative drug to be developed in Israel. It was discovered by scientists at the Weizmann Institute of Science and developed by the large Israeli pharmaceutical company Teva. See [www.tevapharm.com/copaxone](http://www.tevapharm.com/copaxone).
- Checkpoint is a leader in securing the Internet. This Israeli company is a world leader in such security systems as firewall, personal firewall and data security. Gil Shwed is the company’s founder and CEO. See [checkpoint.com/corporate/corporate.html](http://checkpoint.com/corporate/corporate.html) and [checkpoint.com/corporate/gilshwed.html](http://checkpoint.com/corporate/gilshwed.html).
- Power Paper is the leading supplier of micro-electric patch solutions to the cosmetic and pharmaceutical industries. See [www.powerpaper.com](http://www.powerpaper.com).
- Israel’s “I Can Do It” Competition challenges middle school students to design useful inventions for the disabled. See [israel21c.com/bin/en.jsp?enDispWho=Articles%5E11345&enSearchQueryID=10&enPage=BlankPage&enDisplay=view&enDispWhat=object&enVersion=0&enZone=Culture&](http://israel21c.com/bin/en.jsp?enDispWho=Articles%5E11345&enSearchQueryID=10&enPage=BlankPage&enDisplay=view&enDispWhat=object&enVersion=0&enZone=Culture&)
- Go to the Web site [Israel21.com](http://Israel21.com) and enter different fields of innovation in the search engine (e.g., “Internet technology,” “homeland security,” “counterterrorism,” “agriculture,” “biomedical applications” or “humanitarian programs”). Scan the resulting articles for interesting leads.