



Viewing Guide
“The Dollar Menu” from Food, Inc.

Name: _____

Directions: Answer the questions below as you watch the video clip “The Dollar Menu” from the documentary, *Food, Inc.*

Key term: *Agricultural subsidy* – Tax dollars paid to farmers and large agribusinesses as additional income to allow the government to manage the cost and supply of specific crops. In the United States, corn growers receive the most federal assistance, resulting in an abundance of corn being grown and then sold at a low price. Other subsidized crops include soybeans, wheat, rice, sugar and cotton.

1. What factors influence the Gonzalez family’s choices about what to eat?

2. What types of food at the market and fast food restaurants cost less than fresh fruits and vegetables?

3. In the video, journalist Michael Pollan says, “We’ve skewed our food system to the bad calories, and it’s not an accident.” What does he mean by that?

4. How do farm subsidies affect the prices of certain types of food?

5. Why might income level be a predictor of obesity?

6. What is the health impact of a diet that includes lots of high fructose corn syrup and refined carbohydrates? How is it affecting the Gonzalez family?