Internet research on laws governing the ivory trade (Part I) will be necessary to some extent in order to determine the culpability of the traveler bringing ivory into the US. Internet research on bioethical issues (Part II) is more complex and therefore more time-consuming. The teacher might choose to address bioethical issues without the Internet component.

The teacher may choose to do the research for Part I alone, to enlist every student to research every question, or to assign a single question to a group of students to research at home or in class. Expect that at least two or three days of lead time may be needed for students to acquire the necessary information from home and a full class period to find the information using school computers.

Internet research for Part I can be assigned at the beginning of the unit or as the electrophoresis data emerge later in the unit. Results from Part I should be ready for the discussion of the ivory's source and culpability of the traveler.

Worksheets are designed to have students record search terms and Internet citations. The teacher might also want students to provide a brief annotation of each citation.

Grading criteria (page 24) was provided by Sue Black of Inglemoor HS. These can be duplicated, cut into sections, and a copy handed out to each student.

The following information on Internet citations is attributed to Beyond the MLA Handbook: Documenting Electronic Sources on the Internet, by Andrew Harnack and Gene Kleppinger, Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, KY. See http://www.bk.psu.edu/faculty/newnham/MLAWeb.html for more information.

World Wide Web (WWW) Sites
To cite files available for viewing/downloading via the World Wide Web by means of Web browsers, provide the following information:

    the author's name (if known)
    the full title of the document in quotation marks
    the title of the complete work if applicable in italics
    the date of publication or last revision (if available)
    the full http address (URL) enclosed within angle brackets
    the date of visit in parentheses

Example 1:

Burka, Lauren P. "A Hypertext History of Multi-User Dimensions." *MUD History*. 1993. < http://www.ccs.neu.edu/home/1pb/mud-history.html> (5 Dec. 1994).

(Note that this is similar to an article in a magazine, where the article title is put in quotes, and the magazine title is put in italics or underlined.)

Example 2:

The citation for the document from which the information above was taken is as follows:

Harnack, Andrew and Gene Kleppinger. *Beyond the MLA Handbook: Documenting Electronic Sources on the Internet.* 25 November 1996. <http://falcon.eku.edu/honors/beyond-mla/> (17 Dec. 1997).

(Note that this example is similar to a book, which is not part of a larger work, so its title is put in italics or underlined.)

Part I. Elephant Laws

Using web sources, students should find out which countries currently have bans against elephant ivory, which countries allow the sale of stockpiled ivory from culled elephants, and which countries permit the sale of ivory from newly killed elephants. Countries in these categories may change from year to year. Students would do well to check out sites that discuss the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) for an overview of the current law and issues related to the ivory trade.

Note: All URL citations were active as of June 2002.

URLs: http://international.fws.gov/global/cites/cites.html
       http://www.wildnetafrica.com/cites/issues.html
       http://www.cites.org

Part II. Elephant Ethics

Students are asked to conduct web-based research on several topics related to the trade in ivory from African elephants. The following list provides suggested search terms and useful URLS for each question, as well as selected text that is relevant to the question. The teacher might leave the web searching entirely to the students or offer some of this information, depending on the accessibility of the Internet, the web surfing skill of students, and time.

All web sites are active as of June 2002.

Suggested URLs for Researching Ethics Questions on the Web

1. Why would a person choose to kill elephants for ivory? How do you think a person justifies his/her poaching or legal killing of elephants?

Search: **elephant ivory Africa price**

URL: http://www.american.edu/TED/ELEPHANT.HTM
"In the 1960s, raw ivory prices remained between $3 and $10 per pound. In 1975, the price reached $50 because ivory was perceived as a valuable hedge against rising inflation. By 1987, the price was $125 per pound. New manufacturing techniques, which enabled the mass production of ivory carvings, along with rising demand in East Asia led to increased elephant kills."

URL: http://whyfiles.org/043elephant/main3.html
"As a result of the ivory ban and effective conservation work, elephants populations have boomed in southern Africa, and the big beasts have been trampling crops and harassing villagers."

2. Should elephant culling be legalized in countries with an abundance of elephants? Should it be legal for the ivory from culled elephants to be sold on the open market? Do you think elephants should be killed for their ivory in order to pay for maintaining elephant habitat?

Search: **cull Africa elephant**

URL: http://www.wildnetafrica.com/news/elephantculling/newsmessages/1.html
"Southern Africa's national parks have no option but to cull. This is the recently reported conviction of wildlife expert Ron Thomson, someone who has gained his

extensive knowledge of African elephants during 28 years of working with wildlife in parks across the sub-continent."

URL: http://www.chebucto.ns.ca/CommunitySupport/CUSO/cruel.html
"Cruel to be kind? Saving Africa's Elephants." By Allison Auld (Fall '97)
"Is 'culling' – killing some animals to achieve ecological balance and peaceful co-existence with humans – the best way to protect Africa's majestic elephant herds? Is it moral?"

3. If the hunting and killing of elephants is a cultural tradition, should it be allowed to occur for certain groups of people? Should it be banned? If elephants compete with humans for agricultural or forest resources, should those elephants be removed?

Search: **culture ivory Africa elephant forest agriculture**

URL: http://www.artsednet.getty.edu/ArtsEdNet/Resources/Look/Animals/ntan.html
"The physical body of the elephant can also communicate some of the same messages as visual representations of the animal. The ivory, hide, hair, bone, and callus of the animal provide raw material for many objects, from the ceremonial to the utilitarian. These materials are likely to be used in a leadership context, for they often connote status and power. Ivory, admired for its luster, durability, and strength, remains a desired medium for prestige objects. In its rarity, it communicates messages of power, status, and wealth."

URL: http://www.panda.org/resources/publications/species/elephant/elephant4.html
"The extent to which elephants and humans can live side-by-side depends very much on such factors as human and elephant population density, human land-use patterns, and elephant foraging habits. These factors in turn depend on ecological variables such as climate and vegetation that affect human and elephant habitats alike."

4. Can an international group make policy decisions for individual countries and be responsible for enforcing them? Should scientific data alone be used to determine international policy decisions?

Search: **international enforcement ivory elephant opposition**

URL: http://www.traffic.org/cop11/briefingroom/etis.html
"While trade in elephant products, particularly ivory, is just one of many threats to the long-term survival of the species, it is the threat that provokes the most contentious global debate. The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) is the international policy arena where much of this debate takes place. Many vital questions need to be addressed. Did the CITES ban on international trade in ivory work? Should all elephant populations be totally protected or can a limited, well-regulated and sustainable trade in elephant products be allowed? Was the one-off sale of ivory from three southern African countries ill-advised or a great success? Is illegal ivory trade increasing or decreasing? Are more elephants being poached now than ever before?"

URL: http://www.idsnet.org/Papers/Essays-1998/Garforth/page5.html
"When CITES was first agreed upon by the international community in 1973 it was believed that international trade was the main cause of the extinction of various species. Perceptions change, and it is now recognized that other factors (such as habitat loss and introduced species) contribute to the process of endangerment and extinction (Hutton). Unfortunately, CITES has not changed and some now believe that the Convention has become a tool for the developed world's booming animal protection industry to pursue an agenda fundamentally at odds with that of the Convention: the prohibition of trade … For animal protection NGOs, an Appendix I listing for their preferred species has

become a Holy Grail that can be sold to donors as a major victory for conservation. Meanwhile, voting governments with no vested interest in a species find it politically expedient to concede to NGOs' demands in return for cheap green points that can be cashed in when it comes to tackling real issues, such as pollution (Hutton)."

URL: http://www.wildnetafrica.com/cites/info/iss_014_debate.html

"**CITES Debate.** The articles featured here comprise a debate on the role and relevance of CITES. The articles first appeared in *Ecoforum* magazine."