

IBS Global Politics - Bridging Work

These tasks are similar to those for the A Level course but have a distinct international focus to them. The course relies on your ability to take key concepts and theories from international relations and apply them to international events and institutions whilst considering the scale of their impact at a national, international or truly global level. If you often see things in the news that seem to be affecting multiple countries and crucially think 'how?' or 'why?' then this is the course for you!

Task 1

Read a series of articles from **quality** newspaper websites (Times, Telegraph, Guardian, Observer (UK) New York Times, LA Times (US) The Indian Time (India), The Daily Nation (Kenya), The Age (Australia) etc.), or **quality** news websites. By **quality** we mean not obviously biased or controlled by the state/government of that country to get in an independent view.

We would then like you to summarise 4 of them by answering the following questions:

- What is the story about? (what has happened, and who is involved)
- What makes it a Global Politics story? (why does this have implications beyond the borders of just this country?)
- What are the key political concepts that are covered in it? (e.g power, sovereignty, democracy, globalisation, human rights, conflict, protest, development etc.)
- Which states are involved? (either directly or indirectly)
- Are there any global institutions involved? (For example, the United Nations, NATO, EU, World Trade Organisation etc.)
- Why do you think this story matters when thinking about global politics? (For example, is it about the amount of people the story affects? Is it about relations between states, or between the citizens of that state? Does it threaten global security and stability? Is this a problem that will affect future generations?)

We would expect to see over half a page of A4 for each of your stories, which will hopefully really make you think about the subject, the world we live in and how your generation is going to change it!

Task 2

It would be helpful to print this overview to get a feel for the course which can be found here:

<https://www.ibo.org/contentassets/5895a05412144fe890312bad52b17044/global-politics-sl-2016-english-final-updated.pdf>

Extension

This isn't compulsory but is for those students who really want to get a basic understanding of global politics before they start the feel free to dip into any of these TED Talks:

<https://www.ted.com/topics/international+relations>