



World Affairs Challenge

Research Planning Guide





The Topic



- Choose an issue relating to the yearly theme
- Search online resources and resource guide for topics of interest
- Start with two or three topics then narrow down to one
- After you select your topic, you will need great depth and width of information relating to your topic—dig deep
- Majority of your time will be spent doing research and your presentation is the culmination of your study



The Question



- **Make sure your question will provide the framework and purpose for your research**
- **Create a question that is both arguable and relevant**
- **Be sure it addresses the heart of the issue**
- **The question should encourage inquiry-not a question that can be answered with yes or no**
- **Include important political or philosophical issues**



Guided Research



- Who?
- Where?
- What?
- Why?
- When?
- How?



Guided Research: Who?



- Ask yourself who is involved in the selected topic area?
- Are there individuals or groups who base their research on the topic?
- Are there national or international organizations who deal with the topic?
- Who is trying to address the problem?
- Are there specific nations who are dealing with the issue?
- Who suffers or benefits?
- Do different groups have different viewpoints?



Guided Research: **Where?**



- In what areas of the world is this topic a concern or priority?
- Are there specific nations, regions, or states that deal with the issue?
- Where do the funds come from to finance solutions?
- Where do the funds come from that finance the problem?



Guided Research: What?



- What is the issue? Define terms that may not be familiar or are specific to your topic.
- What causes the problem?
- What is being done to resolve the issue?
- What has been proposed or attempted in the past to resolve the issue?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages to possible solutions?
- What strategies have been successful-or unsuccessful?



Guided Research: Why?



- Is the topic historically a problem? Why?
- Why is it currently a problem?
- Do people, organizations or companies deal with the issue? Why?
- Why is this issue a global problem?



Guided Research: **When?**



- When did the issue become a problem?
- Is the problem occurring now?
- Has this issue been a problem in the past?
- Will it be an issue in the future?
- When will a solution be feasible?



Guided Research: How?



- How will the problem be solved?
- How has it effected the present?
- How will it effect the future?
- How does this problem affect us at the global, national and local levels?
- How do different cultures or people view the issue?
- How do international, national or local laws effect the problem?



The Solution



As part of the study of a global issue, it is vital to know what can be done, what has been successful and what has been unsuccessful. You should also understand that often there is more than one perspective on a global issue.

Some things students want to consider when developing their solutions:

- Identify the problem
- Look at the problem through different eyes (the individual, the town, the region, the state, the corporation or organization, the nation, the world).
- What has been done in the past? What has worked and not worked?
- What are some things that might alleviate the problem? You may elaborate on an existing resolution or create an original solution.
- Who should act? Think about actors at each level.





Formal Presentation Ideas



- Re-enactment
- Slide Show
- News Broadcast
- Puppet show
- Play/Skit
- Documentary
- Power Point Presentation
- Web Page
- Simulation
- Role Playing
- Movie
- Point-Counterpoint/ Debate
- Press Conference
- TV/Radio Show
- Model/Product demonstration
- Talk Show
- Game Show
- Time Travel
- Case Studies



Things to do Before the Big Day



- Write your speech or other information on index cards
- Practice your presentation in front of your class or parents
- Have an English teacher give you feedback on your grammar and presentation skills
- Do a dress rehearsal
- Strengthen your research with details, examples, quotes, biographies, names of organizations and support
- Divide up the responsibilities
- Use the checklist to evaluate yourself



Checklist

Use the following checklist to evaluate your presentation rehearsal



_____ Do you approach the problem on a global level?

_____ Do you use relevant facts?

_____ Do you propose a innovative yet reasonable solution at the local, national and global levels?

_____ Are you creative and original in your presentation?

_____ Do you speak loud enough to be heard by everyone?

_____ Do you observe the time limit?

_____ Do you have your lines memorized?

_____ Do you capture the attention of the audience?

_____ Are you checking spelling and grammarr four ritten material?



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