Student Assignment

Research & Writing

on a Global Issue

Note – *This is part of a Booklet on Global Education with a Research and Writing assignment on global issues,*

Global Education: Research & Writing on Global Issues

This includes a student assignment for researching and writing about a global issue, though any particular issue can be chosen. It also includes assignment guidelines, learning objectives, class and semester ideas, question and note-taking worksheets, critical thinking questions and discussion guidelines, writing guidelines and rubric, general objectives and themes in global education, and an extensive outline of global issues for research and study.

from **EducationForWorldSolutions.org**

a non-profit website, free of ads, dedicated to global education on world issues, with hundreds of links to information websites

Research & Writing Assignment
on a Global Issue

Research, *think about*, and *write about* a global problem and possible solutions, using multiple sources of information

- **Research & Write** about a problem in the world, including solutions or ways to alleviate the problem

- **Use Multiple Sources** *(at least 2)* for the research

- **Collect & Organize** relevant important information using the note-taking and question worksheets

- **Summarize & Explain** the problems and concerns, the causes and effects, and any proposed solutions

- **Apply Skills** of analysis, evaluation, summarizing, synthesis, reasoning, persuasion, and other writing skills

The purpose of this writing assignment is to *inform and explain,* though it can also include *personal opinion and persuasion.*

The form of this writing assignment is an organized summary or essay, yet this can be styled with sections and bullet points. Alternatively, a powerpoint or a self-created webpage could be presented, if teacher approved.

Choices of research

- Research a global problem, issue or concern – learn *why* this is a problem, then explain & summarize the problem

- Research possible solutions to a problem – explain and summarize *how* these solutions will solve the problem

- Research both – a problem and its solutions

Other suggestions or additions to the above

- Explain a global problem in relation to an ethical concern or moral value

- Research political or social actions for solving a problem

- Research two different problems, explaining their related causes, inter-dependence, and related solutions

- Research two organizations helping to solve a global problem; explain what they do and why

- Research two kinds of jobs or careers helping to solve a global problem, including the education & skills needed

Teacher approval
The topic and research sources need to be teacher approved; so first submit a brief description of the issue or problem to be researched, including 3-5 possible sources of information.

Researching the internet – *assignment guidelines*

First Steps – *(have paper or a worksheet for note-taking)*

1) from a list of global topics, write down one topic of interest

2) next, write down 2-3 specific issues within this general topic, issues you are concerned about or interested in

3) next, make an internet search for websites and organizations with information on these issues or problems

4) find at least 3 informative websites for each issue; look over each of these websites to see which ones are most interesting and informative, and make note of how are they related

5) write down each of these website addresses for use later on

Choose one specific issue for a research & writing assignment

1) search for a few more information sites on your chosen issue – based on: easy to understand & relevant to your interest

2) use the student worksheets for note-taking and key questions

3) make notes of key information & facts from each source; also make notes of your own thinking about the issue

4) outline the important information from each source

5) begin to write a summary of the information, along with your own understanding and opinions

Internet searches

The most popular search tools show an abundance of related websites; some links are informative but other links are trying to sell things.
Look for websites from educational sites or government agencies.
One helpful search site is Educationforworldsolutions.org

From each Information Source –

Read, Understand, Think, Take Notes

- Read carefully, understand what is being communicated, and think about each part and the overall of it
- what are the main topics?
- what are the main problems?
- what's important to the authors, important to know and do, and why do you think it's important to them?
- what is their proposed solution or right action?

Make an outline *(or an idea-web)*

- of how the website information is organized
- show the main topics and sub-topics
- summarize key problems and causes
- summarize proposed solution(s) and ways of action

Identify

- their purpose or thesis, or their reasons for publishing
- main concerns, problems, ideas, and suggested actions
- important facts & evidence, related causes & effects
- opinions, persuasions, reasoning, & emotional appeal
- beliefs, values & ethical concerns; explicit or implicit
- any perceived bias or prejudice, or unreasonable beliefs
- ways to solve the problem, or actions to alleviate it
- suggested ways to help or to participate in group action

Show your Skills *(in the writing assignment)*

- *communicate* what you have read and understand, including your own ideas, values, and solutions

- *show* your references & provide citations in your writing

- *use* exposition, summary, analysis, synthesis, persuasion

- *explain* the situation or problem, the context, causes and consequences, practical solutions and the need for action

- *ask & answer* what is, how it occurs, why care, what to do

- *summarize* the source's information, their main concerns, reasons for concern, and proposed solutions

- *distinguish* between facts, inferences, and opinions

- *provide* evidence and examples to support your summary

- *evaluate* the source's arguments and proposals, reasoning and conclusions, usefulness and importance

- *evaluate* the source's credibility and validity –give reasons *why* you believe this, and *why* you agree (or not) with it

- *compare* the similarities and differences, in your sources

- *synthesize* all of the learned information, concerns, ideas; which is to combine, integrate, simplify, and organize it all (including your own ideas)

- *persuade,* with reason & facts, the importance of this problem, the need to do something, and what to do

- *critical thinking* applied in both the study and writing

Global Topics & Issues

for research or study

An extensive outline of Global topics & issues can be purchased as a paperback booklet,

Global Topics & Issues for research

but it is also online for free at ***Global_Topics&Issues***