

Global Education

Objectives & Themes



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

Overall Objectives in Global Education

- studying the common needs important for all people
- studying global/regional problems and viable solutions
- developing knowledge & skills for solving world problems
- developing skills to intelligently evaluate information and points-of-view found in the media and other sources
- developing a needed global understanding for increased competency in globalized fields of career and business
- being able to learn in an interdisciplinary approach

Multicultural understanding

- studying different geographical regions and cultures
- understanding, respecting and appreciating cultural diversity and ethnic heritages
- addressing issues of diversity, difference, and freedom
- considering different perspectives, beliefs, and values
- encouraging social, economic, and educational equity
- developing a multicultural understanding, in order to responsibly participate and work in a globalized world

Students learn about –

- geographical, cultural and lifestyle diversity in the world
- people living in severe poverty, hunger, or conflict
- the interrelatedness of geography, climate, culture, economics, technology, politics, & environmental impact
- the interdependence of human needs & the environment
- global problems and issues, their causes and impacts
- the interrelatedness of many global issues and problems
- how to use critical thinking & problem-solving skills
- how to examine one's beliefs and attitudes about others
- positive values of human rights, justice, nonviolence, cooperation, sustainable economics and ecosystems
- ways to create a healthy, peaceful, cooperative, equitable, and environmentally sustainable world
- global responsibility – the importance of smart decisions and responsible actions for a positive world future
- how to participate in public debates and decision-making
- how to affect government policy to benefit the whole world, all people and the natural environment
- how to work collaboratively in groups or in organizations

Teaching a Global Perspective

- encouraging students to think about and envision the future, along with creative solutions for global problems
- affirming each student's capacity to shape the future
- teaching how all people are interconnected in many ways
- teaching how global problems and issues are interrelated
- teaching concern for all people and the whole planet
- teaching about the difficulties of many people & regions
- teaching to see from the perspective of different people
- teaching respect for cultural diversity and ethnic heritage
- teaching how people effect the local/global environment
- teaching how people are affected by their environment
- teaching stewardship of the Earth, ecology, and land
- teaching indigenous cultural attitudes respecting nature
- teaching the principles of human rights & protective laws
- teaching about the essential needs of all people globally:
 - nutritious food & clean water
 - peace & nonviolence
 - safety & security
 - human rights & fair laws
 - freedom of expression
 - education & opportunities
 - healthy environment & sustainable living

A person with a global perspective –

- realizes oneself as a person of the whole world
- has a whole-world perspective and a global identity
- has a global awareness and holistic intelligence
- realizes an interrelatedness with everyone in the world
- realizes our interdependence with nature, land and Earth
- realizes our human impact on the natural environment
- cares about the environment, ecosystems, animals, life
- is concerned about the future and a sustainable world
- is interested in different regions, cultures, and people
- respects cultural diversity and all kinds of people
- considers different perspectives without bias or prejudice
- cares about people in need and in difficult circumstances
- realizes that all people deserve peace, safety, freedom, fairness, food, water, shelter, and a healthy environment

Learning to be a Global Citizen

A Global Citizen –

- brings a global perspective into all decisions and actions
- is interested in learning more about the whole world
- understands about interconnections & interdependence
- values diversity in life and respects differences in others
- cares about all people and the natural environment
- realizes self-responsibility for protecting people & nature
- learns about global problems and ways to resolve them
- communicates effectively to inform others about issues
- democratically participates in shaping the global future
- investigates opportunities for responsible effective action
- learns about organizations seeking to solve global issues
- stands up for equal human rights & dignity for all people
- stands up for social justice, fairness, safety and security
- seeks an end to hunger, poverty, injustice & exploitation
- rejects aggression, assault, harmfulness, violence and war
- supports nonviolence, conflict-resolution, peacebuilding
- values cooperation, collaboration, helping and sharing

Whole person education

Mind – intelligence, reasoning, and knowledge

- researching and critically evaluating sources of information
- thinking about, analyzing, and summarizing information
- applying intelligent reasoning and critical thinking
- gaining knowledge about global topics, issues, and problems
- coherently communicating (writing) about what is learned

Heart – empathy, care, and concern

- increasing qualities of empathy, caring, and concern for all
- feeling the struggles of people in challenging circumstances
- increased passion to discover solutions to global problems
- being inclusive towards people of different race and culture
- wanting the best for everyone in the world – peace, safety, comfort, freedom, opportunities, and social fairness

Will – motivation and responsibility

- motivated by a sense of global participation & responsibility
- choosing actions for the good of the Earth and humanity
- protecting the Earth, ecosystems, wildlife, habitats & people
- communicating about global problems & ways to solve them
- working towards global solutions and positive change

Multiple benefits of Global Education

For students

- Global topics and issues provide a relevant and motivating context for students to learn more about the world
- Students become aware of big ideas, such as social justice, conflict resolution, globalization, sustainable development, and environmental stewardship
- Students develop skills of inquiry, research, critical thinking, and problem solving
- Student interest in global issues and solutions will increase their engagement and passion for learning
- Global Learning can inspire responsible, positive actions

For teachers

- Concepts and issues in Global Learning provide an engaging context for teaching literacy and higher order thinking skills
- Teachers can apply cross-curricular lessons and assignments
- Teachers are rewarded with an increase in student interest and motivation to learn, and thus improved results

For schools

- Global Learning inspires ethical values & social responsibility, which extends into the school climate & into the community
- Global Learning increases school interest and participation
- Global Learning can connect schools with communities and cultures in the world, international students & organizations
- Connect and participate with other schools in Global Learning

Globalization requires Global Learning

The world is becoming increasingly globalized

- globalization is a process of interaction and integration among people, companies, economies and governments
- globalization is driven by an increase in international industries, trade, investment, and technology
- globalization affects economic development, wealth, political systems, local cultures and the environment
- students need to study this process, its causes & effects, as well as analyse its consequential benefits & problems
- studying the factors and issues of globalization will prepare students for future decisions and careers

Additional aspects of globalization for students to study

- increasing global communication, media and information
- increasing interest in global news and global problems
- increasing international travel, careers, and migration
- increasing cultural interactions, integration and blending
- increasing globalization of art, music, and popular culture
- increasing globalization of economics, industry and trade
- increasing new technologies producing global changes
- increasing impact of human activity on global ecosystems
- increasing need for international cooperation and agreements to solve globally shared problems

Various Themes in Global Education

- **Globalisation & Interdependence** – studying interrelations between people, industry, trade, technology, a environment
- **Geographical & Cultural Diversity** – studying different places, cultures, traditions, with their unique issues and challenges
- **Human Rights & Justice** – investigating human rights abuses and social injustices, and exploring ways to solve these
- **Conflict-resolution & Peace-building** – studying conflicts and how to resolve them; also how to build peaceful relations
- **Poverty & Inequality** – addressing economic and opportunity inequalities, gender & ethnic discrimination, and labor rights
- **Food & Water** – examining global hunger, food insecurity, and lack of clean water; also studying agricultural solutions
- **Health & Environment** – the relation between health and environment, and how toxic environments produce diseases
- **Environment & Ecology** – air and water pollution, carbon and climate change, ecosystems and habitats, oceans and forests
- **Sustainable Environment & Economics**– discovering ways to build sustainable economies in a sustainable environment
- **Population & Resources** – impacts of increasing populations and consumption of limited resources; also pollution impacts
- **Science & Technology** – positive and negative consequences from new & rapid advances in science and technology
- **Global Ethics & Values** – questioning the ethics of situations and political decisions, and thinking of better values to live by
- **Communication & Media** – the power of news, internet, and social media in shaping perceptions, attitudes, and opinions

8 Key Concepts in Global Education *

Global interconnections

Understanding how people, places, economies and environments are all interrelated, and that choices have global consequences

- studying the global influence of communication medias
- studying the interconnections between economic, political, social, religious, scientific and technological factors
- studying the interconnected global links between all people, as well as the interdependence between humanity and ecologies
- studying the various global impacts of a globalized economy and the policies of governments and businesses
- considering how the decisions and actions in any one country can impact, positively or negatively, on the life of people globally

Global citizenship

Gaining knowledge and skills to become informed responsible global citizens, both locally and globally

- developing reasoning skills to evaluate information and different points of view on global issues
- learning how to critically evaluate information from the media or from authorities, and challenging what appears false or unjust
- studying how key decisions are made which have global impact
- learning about ways to take responsible action on global issues
- learning about institutions, organizations and other groups working on global issues

* Edited from *8 Key Concepts in Global Education*; GlobalDimension.org.uk

Diversity & differences

Understanding and respecting diversity and differences

- studying differences and similarities around the world
- studying differences in places: environment, climate, resources
- studying differences in cultures and location, in relation to how societies are organized and governed
- studying the impact of environment on cultures and economies
- studying diverse social identities and perspectives on issues
- studying cultural or group prejudice against differences
- challenging prejudice and discrimination against differences

Values & perceptions

Understanding how people's values, attitudes and perceptions shape their decisions and behavior

- studying the relationship of values, attitudes, and perceptions
- studying diverse cultural perceptions, values, and attitudes
- studying how people's perceptions & values shape their actions
- learning about the views and concerns of students and young people around the world
- developing open-mindedness, empathy, and fair consideration of different ways of perceiving situations, issues, and problems
- studying the power of news, media, and propaganda in influencing perceptions, values, attitudes, choices and lifestyles
- questioning cultural assumptions, perceptions, and attitudes
- connecting global situations & issues to student's own lives

Human rights

Understanding the meaning and importance of human rights

- what are the basic human rights that all people deserve
- studying various meanings and definitions of human rights
- studying the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- studying various issues relating to human rights & protections
- studying many situations in which human rights are assaulted
- challenging human rights violations, injustices, and inequalities
- considering our responsibilities for ensuring human rights

Social justice

Understanding the importance of social justice in economic development and for the improved welfare of all people

- what is social justice? what is fairness?
- studying situations of injustice and unfairness in the world
- studying the impact of unequal access to necessary resources
- studying the consequences of our choices and actions
- considering the importance of global human rights
- studying ways to ensure equality, justice, and fairness for all people, within and between nations
- studying ways to improve opportunities in jobs and education
- challenging racism, discrimination, injustice, and inequality
- studying how past injustices affect global and local politics
- studying ways to contribute to social justice, globally and locally

Conflict resolution

Understanding the causes and effects of conflicts, and why there is a need for their resolution and the promotion of harmony

- studying various conflicts and ways to resolve them
- studying conflict resolution, peacemaking & peacebuilding
- studying how conflicts impact people, places and environments
- studying racism and tribalism in conflict, and how to respond
- studying the possible choices involved in conflict situations
- studying paths of dialogue, tolerance, respect and empathy
- developing skills of communication, advocacy, negotiation, compromise, collaboration and cooperation

Sustainable development

Understanding the need to improve the quality of life now without damaging the planet for the future

- sustainable development and sustainable economics
- studying possible negative outcomes of our global future and how to achieve a positive sustainable future
- studying the interconnections between social, economic, and environmental factors
- studying ways of economic development in poor regions
- studying the earth's finite resources and therefore realizing that these must be used responsibly
- studying sustainable, renewable and recyclable resource use

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights *

1. All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.
2. Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms as agreed in government, without discrimination based on race, color, sex, language, nationality, heritage, culture, religion, lifestyle or political opinion.
3. Everyone has the right to life, safety and freedom.
4. No one shall be held in slavery or enforced servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms.
5. No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.
6. The law shall recognize the rights of everyone, and anyone can make appeals to the fair courts of law.
7. All are equal before the law and entitled to equal protection by law.
8. Everyone has the right to a fair restorative justice.
9. No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detainment, imprisonment, or exile.
10. Everyone is entitled to a fair and public hearing by an impartial jury to determine the validity of any criminal charge against him.
11. Everyone should be legally presumed innocent until proved guilty by the institutions of law. No one can be found guilty of an offense not illegal at the time.
12. No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honor and reputation. This is protected by law.

* This is an abridged rendition. The original can be found at - UN.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights

13. Everyone has the right to residence in one's native region. Everyone has the right to travel away from one's nation. We are global citizens. Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.

14. Everyone has the right to seek international asylum from persecution, yet this right may not be invoked in the case of prosecutions genuinely arising from non-political crimes or from acts contrary to the principles of the United Nations.

15. Everyone has the right to a nationality. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his nationality nor denied the right to change his nationality.

16. All men and women of legal age have the right to marry and to form a family of their own choice, without racial, religious, or sexual bias. Marriage must have the full consent of both spouses. All families are entitled to protection by the society and by the State.

17. Everyone has the right to own things or share them. Everyone has the right to individually own property or in shared association with others. Nobody should take away our property without a just reason.

18. Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; including its diverse expressions, teachings and group activities. Everyone also has the right to change his beliefs or religion.

19. Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression, including the right to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media.

20. Everyone has the right of peaceful assembly and association, and no one should be compelled to belong to any group or assembly.

21. Everyone has the right to take part in the government of his country, directly or through freely chosen representatives. Everyone has the right of equal access to public service in his country. The will of the people shall be the basis of any government, ensured by periodic elections held by secret and free voting.

22. Everyone has the right to an adequate social security in accordance with the resources of each State. We all have the right to affordable housing, medicine, education, and work opportunities.

23. Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to safe and fair conditions of work. Everyone has the right to equal pay for equal work, without any discrimination. All workers have the right to fair compensation. Everyone has the right to form or join trade unions for the protection of worker interests.

24. Everyone has the right to rest and leisure, including reasonable limitation of working hours and periodic holidays.

25. Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care, and other necessary social services. Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care, assistance, and protection.

26. Everyone has the right to education. Early education should be free and compulsory, but parents have a right to choose the kind of education given to their children. Skills and higher education should be accessible equally to all on the basis of merit. Education should be directed to the full development of the human with respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It should promote understanding, tolerance, peace and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups.

27. Everyone has the right freely to participate in the cultural life of the community and to share in scientific advancements. Moral and material interests resulting from any scientific, literary or artistic production are entitled to the authors.

28. Everyone is entitled to these global rights and freedoms.

29. Each person's rights and freedoms should only be limited for the purpose of securing the rights and freedoms of others and for public order, morality, and the general welfare of everyone in society.

30. No State, group, or person has the right to engage in any activity contrary to any of the human rights and freedoms set forth herein.

United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

- 1 End poverty in all its forms everywhere
- 2 End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
- 3 Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
- 4 Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
- 5 Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
- 6 Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
- 7 Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
- 8 Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
- 9 Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
- 10 Reduce inequality within and among countries
- 11 Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
- 12 Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
- 13 Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
- 14 Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
- 15 Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
- 16 Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
- 17 Revitalize global partnerships for sustainable development

Global Education resources & lesson plans

GlobalEducation.edu.au/framework-for-global-ed

Oxfam.org.uk/education/who-we-are/global-citizenship-guides

DevelopingaGlobalPerspective.ca/lesson-plans

WorldsLargestLesson.GlobalGoals.org#the-goals

Globalization101.org/teaching-tools

FacingtheFuture.org/collections

TakingitGlobal.org/resources/toolkits

InstituteForPeace/peacebuilding-toolkit

Resources4Rethinking.ca/search

ConcernUSA.org/resources

Resources on critical thinking

CriticalThinking.org/critical-thinking

TeachThought.com/critical-thinking

PhilosophyForChildren/resources

[Robert Fisher/teaching thinking](http://RobertFisher/teaching-thinking)

Websites focusing on global issues

GlobalEducation.edu.au/global-issues

UN.org/en/sections/issues-in-depth

SustainableDevelopment.UN.org/topics

UN.org/sustainable-development-goals

GlobalDimension.org.uk/global-issues

Globalization101.org/issues-in-depth

GlobalFootprints.org/theissues

Choices.edu/current-issues

Globalissues.org/issue

Ted.com/topics/global+issues

WeForum.org/system-initiatives

PewResearch.org/topics

USIP.org/issue-areas

BBC.com/geography

EducationForWorldSolutions.org