

Edexcel GCE Government and Politics:

Topic D Global Politics

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Content explanation and advice

The material below expands on the content of A2 Topic D, Global Politics, as outlined in the specification and in the Getting Started booklet. It is set out in the form of an outline scheme of work, in which knowledge and understanding is built up within each theme. However, this does not provide an exhaustive account of the knowledge and understanding relevant to Topic D, nor is it prescriptive in that other approaches to delivering the material may be equally effective.

UNIT 3D - STRUCTURES OF GLOBAL POLITICS

Approaches To Global Politics

Key themes:

- *Historical background to global politics* (Note: questions will not be set on historical issues alone)
 - World wars of 20th century (WW1 and WW2); Cold War period (1945 as turning point in world history?); post-Cold War period (1989-91 as turning point in world history?); globalization (international trade and interdependence since 1980s and 1990s); 'war on terror' (9/11 as turning point in world history?).
- *Sovereignty and the state-system*
 - Emergence of the modern state-system (rise of modern state in 17th century Europe; decline of other forms of authority (Papacy, Holy Roman Empire etc); 1648 Peace of Westphalia); development of nation-states (rise of nationalism from late 18th century onwards; nature of nation-state (political and cultural unity)); state-centric view of international politics (billiard-ball model)
 - Nature of sovereignty (principle of absolute and unlimited power; *internal* sovereignty (unchallengeable authority within state borders; monopoly of legitimate means of violence, etc); *external* sovereignty (state/national sovereignty; legal equality of states; principle of

non-interference; inviolability of borders, etc); sovereignty in practice (hierarchy of states; imperialism, etc)

- Debating the relevance of sovereignty - realist belief that states, and therefore sovereignty, remain key to global politics; state sovereignty as basis for international law (norm of non-interference), etc. Erosion of sovereignty - development of 'post-sovereign' states; economic globalization and the loss of economic sovereignty; permeable borders and transnational actors (transnational corporations (TNCs), nongovernmental organisations (NGOs), terrorist groups, etc); growth of regional and global governance; trend towards humanitarian intervention; 'failed states', etc.
- *Theories of global politics* (Note: questions will only be asked on realism and liberalism)

- Key themes of realism - traditionally the foremost theory of international politics; power politics; states as key global actors; nature and origins of state egoism (human egoism, classical realism); international anarchy and its implications (self-help and survival force states to prioritise national security and military power); importance of balance of power; ethical considerations irrelevant to foreign affairs, etc.

Realist theories of war and peace (war is inevitable; human aggression, etc; implications of international anarchy); security dilemma (fear and uncertainty mean that a possibly defensive military build-up by one state will always be interpreted as aggressive by other states, hence arms races and international tension); only the balance of power maintains (ever fragile) peace.

- Key themes of liberalism - liberalism as key form of idealism (belief that international politics should be based on morality); optimism about human nature (reason and progress); tendency towards balance or harmony in human (and international) affairs; bias in favour of cooperation (complex interdependence; growth of international organisation and global governance) etc.

Liberal theories of war and peace - political causes of war (multinational empires (Woodrow Wilson); authoritarian government; economic causes of war (economic nationalism; autarky); diplomatic causes of war (balance-of-power systems); how peace is upheld (free trade and commercial liberalism), national self-determination, democracy ('democratic peace' thesis, republican liberalism), international rule of law (institutional liberalism).

- Radical theories - Marxism/neo-Marxism (critique of international/global capitalism; core/periphery analysis; world-system theory; dependency theory, etc); anarchism (corruption of state power; hegemonic states seek world domination). (*Note: questions will not be set on radical theories as such; they are nevertheless relevant, for instance, to debates about globalization and the causes of poverty.*)

- *Globalization*

- Nature of globalization - widening and deepening of interconnectedness and interdependence; *economic* globalization (neoliberalism; interlocking financial markets and transnational capital flows; increase in world trade, etc); *cultural* globalization (cultural homogeneity; information and communications revolution; time/space compression); *political* globalization (emergence of global-governance system), etc.
- Impact of globalization - debate about extent of impact ('hyperglobalizers' vs globalization sceptics vs 'transformationalists'); implications for the state and sovereignty (tyranny of global markets? post-sovereign states?); rise of non-state actors (TNCs, NGOs, terrorist groups, social movements etc); growth of complex interdependence (competition through trade, not war); growing importance of international bodies (global problems need global solutions, regional and global cooperation); rise of cosmopolitan sensibilities (human rights; development ethics; global civil society, etc); impact of global economic crisis) etc.
- For and against globalization - pro-globalization arguments: worldwide prosperity and growth; interdependence and dispersal of global power; democratisation; widening 'zones of peace', etc. Anti-globalization arguments: risk and uncertainty (crisis tendencies in the economy etc); globalization as Americanization/westernization (biases within global capitalism); tyranny of TNCs (threat to democracy); deepening inequality and poverty; environmental degradation, etc.

World Order

Key themes:

- *Power in global politics*
 - Nature of power - power as capacity (military strength; economic development; population size; level of literacy and skills; geographical factors, etc); structural power (ability to affect the 'rules of the game, influence via organisations and international regimes); 'hard' and 'soft' power (ability to reward or punish (military/economic power) vs co-optive power; growing importance of soft power; rise of 'smart' power), etc.
 - Classification of states - great powers (features of; examples); superpowers (features of; examples); hegemon and hegemony (features of, examples); emerging powers (features of, examples), etc.
 - Debating decline of military power - decline of inter-state war and rise of economic power (impact of globalization, etc); difficulty of resolving conflict by military means ('intractable' terrorist threats, insurgency or 'new' wars, etc); military power as irreducible core of state sovereignty; need to respond to new security threats, etc.

- *Changing nature of world order*
 - Cold War world order - Cold War bipolarity; implications of bipolarity (structural dynamics of bipolarity; balance-of-power theory); Cold War 'balance of terror'); collapse of the Cold War (role of 'new' Cold War and Reaganite anti-communism; structural weakness of Soviet communism; role of Gorbachev and Soviet reformers; significance for realism and liberalism). (*Note: historical questions will not be set on the rise and fall of Cold War bipolarity.*)
 - Post-Cold War world order - The 'new world order' (the 'liberal moment'); fate of the 'new world order' (rise of ethnic conflict and civil wars, etc).
 - US hegemony and world order - nature of hegemony; rise of US hegemony (basis of US power; neoconservative project for unipolar world); implications of unipolarity (tendency towards unilateralism; benign hegemony (hegemonic stability theory, Pax Americana, etc) vs oppressive or 'predatory' hegemony (American empire, Chomsky, etc); implications of 'war on terror' for world order; decline of US power? (loss of 'soft' power; ineffectiveness of 'hard' power; decline of relative economic power, etc).
 - 21st century world order - rise of multipolarity; nature and structural dynamics of multipolarity (global conflict and instability (anarchic multipolarity) vs peace and reconciliation (multilateral multipolarity); implications of rise of China and India and revival of Russia tendencies (China as a superpower (the new hegemon?); possibility of conflict between the USA and China; shift from West to East; major powers and 'new' Cold War (Russia vs the West?); democracy vs authoritarianism; implications of globalization for world order; impact of global economic crisis on balance of power, etc).

Global Governance

Key themes:

- *Global governance*
 - Nature of global governance - multiple, multilevel and multi-actor process of global decision-making that incorporates formal and informal processes as well as public and private bodies; growth of international organisation since 1945; differences between global governance and world government (humankind united under one common authority, monopoly of legitimate use of force; 'hard' law; often linked to idea of world federation, etc); contrast between intergovernmentalism and supranationalism (advantages and disadvantages of each), etc.
 - Prospects for global governance - realist stance (states still dominant; states achieve goals in and through international organisations; influence of great powers); liberal view (interdependence fosters international cooperation; collective security more effective than self-help, etc).

- *The United Nations*
 - Background to the UN - history and development of the UN; composition of UN and its component elements (role and composition of Security Council, General Assembly, Economic and Social Council, International Court of Justice, etc).
 - Performance of UN - UN's role and performance in maintaining peace and security (peacekeeping; intervention within states, etc); UN's economic and social role and performance (human rights, development and poverty-reduction, environment, etc); reforming the UN (criticisms of the UN; proposed reforms (reforming the Security Council, etc); advantages and disadvantages of reform), etc.
 - *Global economic governance* (Note: essay questions will not be set on the individual institutions of global governance)
 - Development and impact of global economic governance - Bretton Woods system, its aims and purposes; breakdown of Bretton Woods (implications); Washington consensus and its implications; success and failures of global economic governance (stability and growth in global economy; have crisis tendencies been contained?), etc.
 - *International Monetary Fund (IMF)* - performance and impact of IMF (balance of payments crises; structural adjustment programmes (SAPS); strengths and criticisms; how IMF has responded to criticism; IMF and global economic crisis and pressure for reform, etc).
 - *World Bank* - performance and impact of World Bank (development and poverty-reduction programmes; SAPS; strengths and criticisms; how World Bank has responded to criticism; World Bank and global economic crisis and pressure for reform, etc).
 - *World Trade Organisation (WTO)* - from GATT to WTO; role of WTO ('liberalise' world trade); performance and impact of WTO ('Uruguay round' of negotiations (1986-95); fate of 'Doha round'); debating the WTO (strengths and criticisms; advantages and disadvantages of global free trade), etc.
 - *Group of Seven/Eight (G-7/8)* - role and significance of G-8; criticisms of G-8; role and significance of alternative G-20, etc.
 - *NATO*
 - Traditional role of NATO (creature of Cold War, etc); changing role and significance of NATO (implications of end of Cold War; peacekeeping and humanitarian intervention; beyond Europe (Afghanistan); NATO's expansion into eastern Europe (implications for relations between Russia and the West), etc.
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European Union And Regionalism

Key themes:

- *Regionalism* (Note: questions will not be set on economic blocs other than the EU)
 - Growth of regionalism (since 1945, but especially since 1990); security regionalization; economic regionalization; relationship between regionalism and globalization ('new' regionalism; response to economic globalization; constraint on globalization?); prospects for regional governance (debating regional governance; realism vs liberalism), etc.
 - Key regional economic blocs - North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), Association of South-East Asian States (ASEAN), Mercusor, Free Trade Area of America, etc. Regional political bodies - African Union, Organization of American States, etc.
 - *European Union* (Note: questions will not be set on the roles of EU bodies)
 - Nature of EU as a political entity - origins and development of the EU (from EEC to EC to EU); key institutions of EU (European Commission, Council of Ministers, European Council, European Parliament, European Court of Justice); intergovernmental and supranational features, etc.
 - European integration - rival views about the 'European project' (federalism vs functionalism vs neofunctionalism); process of integration (SEA, TEU and other key EU treaties; economic union; monetary union; political union; Common Security and Defence Policy, etc); role of subsidiarity; EU integration: for and against ('pooled' sovereignty vs national sovereignty, etc; EU constitution?; the EU as a super-state?; a 'federal Europe'?; EU exceptionalism (can the EU model be exported to other parts of the world?), etc.
 - Expansion of EU - phases of expansion; implications and significance of expansion, especially since 2004; prospects for further expansion; tension between 'widening' and 'deepening' of EU, etc.
 - EU as an international/global actor - trading bloc; economic influence; structural power (membership of international bodies, etc), diplomatic influence; progress in developing a common security and defence policy and capacity (constraints and obstacles on such progress), etc.
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UNIT 4D - GLOBAL POLITICAL ISSUES

Conflict, War And Terrorism

Key themes:

- *Cultural conflict*
 - Culture and identity - rise of identity politics (declining significance of traditional ideological and class solidarities; growth of ethnic, racial, religious and other particularisms; attack on liberal universalism; political emancipation through cultural self-assertion and re-definition of identity); religion as a global issue (rise of religious movements; explaining the rise of religion and 'desecularization' (failure of universalist ideologies; impact of globalization; certainty in an uncertain world, etc); clash of civilisation thesis ('civilisations' as global actors; basis for conflict between and among civilizations; criticisms of clash of civilization thesis).
 - Islam vs the West? - rise of Islamic fundamentalism (advance of Islamism in Iran and elsewhere); the 'war on terror' as a civilizational conflict between Islam and the West?
 - Changing nature of war - from 'old' wars to 'new' wars; features of conventional wars (armed conflict between states; war an extension of politics, clear civilian/military divide, etc); features of modern or 'new' wars (civil wars rather than inter-state wars; wars of identity (fuelled by ethnic nationalism or religious radicalism); use of guerrilla and insurgency tactics; asymmetrical war ('mismatched' enemies, uncertain outcome, intractability of asymmetrical wars, etc); blurring of civilian/military divide; (irregular fighters; civilian targets; overlaps between war and criminality, etc); Afghanistan and Iraq as 'new' wars; 'postmodern' wars- (revolution in military affairs (Gulf War); 'hi-tech' weaponry; 'virtual' warfare; casualty-less warfare (Kosovo)). (*Note: essay questions will not be set on the changing nature of war.*)
- *Nuclear proliferation*
 - Nature of weapons of mass destruction - nature of WMD (mass collateral damage; widely viewed as 'non-legitimate' or 'inhuman'; significant deterrence effect, etc); nuclear weapons as archetypal WMD; development of nuclear weapons (Hiroshima and Nagasaki); emergence of biological and chemical weapons.
 - Nuclear proliferation and its implications - horizontal and vertical proliferation; nuclear proliferation during the Cold War period (vertical proliferation among superpowers; only UN 'veto powers' had nuclear weapons); nuclear proliferation in post-Cold War period (horizontal proliferations due to regional conflict (India and Pakistan; Israel and Iran, etc); easier access to weapons and technology, etc); debates about nuclear proliferation (implications for peace ('balance of terror'), greater responsibility etc vs 'tactical' use, danger of getting into the 'wrong hands' ('rogue' states (Iran, North Korea etc) and terrorist organisations), etc.

- Non-proliferation strategies - attempts to control nuclear proliferation (multilateral treaties (1968 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), etc) and bilateral treaties (SALT I and II; START I and II, SORT Treaty, etc)); US non-proliferation under Obama and its implications, etc.
 - *Terrorism*
 - Spread and significance of international/global terrorism - nature of terrorism; types of terrorism (nationalist terrorism; international, global or 'new' terrorism, etc); nature of Islamist terrorism (ideological goals ('purify' Muslim world and civilizational conflict with the West, especially the USA); tactics and methods (suicide attacks, coordinated attacks, audacious strategies); network organisation, etc); significance of international/global terrorism (impossible to protect against, acquisition of WMD, etc vs exaggerated fears ('politics of fear'), limited public support for religious militancy, etc)
 - Countering terrorism - use of military tactics to contain/destroy terrorism (successes, failures and implications of the 'war on terror'); state security and domestic repression; extent to which countering terrorism is compatible with protecting human rights (proper balance between public order and civil liberty/human rights?; unique challenges posed by terrorism; suspending human rights as the 'lesser evil'; importance of moral high ground and 'soft' power, etc); political deals to end terror.
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Human Rights

Key themes:

- *Human rights*
 - Nature of human rights (fundamental, universal and absolute rights; rooted in liberal individualism and idea of foundational equality); 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights; 1950 European Convention for Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms; types or 'generations' of human rights (*political and civil* rights; *economic and social* rights and cultural or *solidarity* rights); tensions between and among rights (are economic rights human rights?; positive and negative rights; can human rights be collective?; the status of 'special' rights and women's rights, etc).
 - International/global implications of human rights (demands of humanity on all humanity; obligation of government to comply with, and further realization of, human rights; setting standards for governments, e.g. in terms of aid and trade policies and possibly intervention); strengthening of human rights regime during post-Cold War era, etc.
 - Protecting human rights - tension between norm of sovereignty and norm of universal domestic standards; capacity of states, particularly major states (China, Russia, etc) to resist international pressure; role of international law (war crimes. crimes against humanity,

genocide,; Hague and Geneva Conventions, etc); performance of international courts (International Court of Justice, International Criminal Court); human rights and the 'war on terror' (Guantanamo; use of torture; 'extraordinary rendition'; etc; balance between public safety and human rights; violation of human rights a 'lesser evil?', etc). impact of human rights NGOs (Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, etc); effectiveness of the UN's human rights regime, double-standards in protection of human rights, etc.

- Universal rights challenged - western criticisms of human rights (realist, communitarian, feminist critiques); post-colonial criticisms of human rights (Islam and cultural critique of human rights; Asian values as alternative to human rights; human rights and 'clash of civilizations', etc.
- *Humanitarian intervention*
 - Rise of humanitarian intervention - nature of humanitarian intervention; early examples of humanitarian intervention (Bangladesh; Cambodia, etc); growth of humanitarian intervention in the 1990s ('new world order'; role of the media and public opinion; growth in civil strife and ethnic conflict in post-Cold War world; successful and unsuccessful humanitarian interventions (Northern Iraq, Somalia, Haiti, Kosovo, Sierra Leone, etc); impact of 'non-interventions' (impact of Rwanda and Bosnia on global public opinion); humanitarian intervention and the 'war on terror' (Afghanistan and Iraq).
 - Basis for humanitarian intervention - novel version of 'just war' theory (protect others ('save strangers') rather than self-defence); human rights trump state sovereignty (liberal interventionism); circumstances in which intervention is justified ('responsibility to protect' principles, prevention of genocide, war crimes and ethnic cleansing; role of UN Security Council); regional stability; democracy promotion, etc.
 - Criticisms of humanitarian intervention - realist critique (states are, and should be, self-interested; humanitarianism a pretext for pursuit of national interests); no basis in international law; prudential concerns (making things worse not better; inconsistent application of humanitarian principles (double-standards), etc.

Poverty And Development

Key themes:

- *Theories of poverty and development*
 - Nature of poverty - absolute and relative poverty; monetary definitions of poverty (e.g. 1 dollar a day) vs capacity/opportunity-based definitions of poverty (human development (UN's Human Development Index), human security, human rights), etc

- Theories of development - 'orthodox' theory of development as modernization ('development as growth'; economic liberalism; virtues of free market and free trade; linear process of development from 'traditional' to 'advanced' societies); *internal* obstacles to growth (backward culture that discourages enterprise; autocratic rule), etc); 'alternative' theories of development ('development as freedom'; 'bottom-up' development; views from global South, etc).
 - *Trends in global poverty and inequality*
 - North-South divide - from Three-Worlds model to North-South divide; trends in global inequality since 1970's (fragmentation of the global South; emerging economies; sub-Saharan Africa as the Fourth World); decline in between-country inequality and increase in within-country inequality; impact of global economic crisis on the global South.
 - Implications of globalization for poverty and equality - arguments that globalization reduces poverty and narrows inequality (provides inwards investment; TNC bring benefits (jobs, higher wages, new technology, training and skills development; career opportunities, etc): economic restructuring and prospect of export-led growth, etc). Arguments against globalization (TNCs interested in cheap labour and have no long-term commitments; domestic demand ignored in chase for cash crops and export markets, etc).
 - *Promoting development*
 - 'Orthodox' or liberal strategies for promoting growth - impact of the World Bank and the IMF on development and poverty-reduction; 'structural adjustment' programmes and their impact on the developing world (the 'Washington consensus' and its implications for the world's poor); degree to which the World Bank and IMF have responded to criticism; the radical critique of 'orthodox' development (external obstacles to development; biases within the global economy and the institutions of global economic governance, etc).
 - Aid and development - campaigns to increase international aid (work of NGOs and anti-poverty movement; Millennium Development Goals; G8 Gleneagles agreement, etc); arguments in favour of international aid (humanitarian relief; infrastructural project build economic capacity; counters dependency, etc; arguments against international aid (creates dependency; corruption and oppressive government prevents aid getting to the poor; donor self-interest, etc).
 - Debt relief and 'fair' trade - nature of debt crisis of 1980s; significance of debt relief (progress made in cancelling debt; arguments for and against debt relief); idea of 'fair' trade and differences between 'fair' trade and free trade (critique of impact of WTO). (*Note: essay questions will not be set just on debt or on fair trade.*)
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Environmental Issues

Key themes:

- *The environment as a political issue*
 - Rise of environmental politics - environmental degradation as a by-product of industrialisation; 'resource problems' (energy depletion; population growth, shrinking rain forests etc); 'sink problems' (pollution of air and water; carbon dioxide emissions; acid rain, etc); growth of environmental activism from 1960s onwards (environmental or 'green' movement; environmental NGOs - Greenpeace, Friends of the Earth, etc); 1970s-80s concerns about resource depletion; since 1990s growing concerns about climate change/global warming.
- *Approaches to the environment*
 - 'Tragedy of the commons' - threat to 'global commons' (tension between private good and collective good, between national interest and global well-being); global commons despoiled (water, forests, energy resources, the atmosphere, animals, etc); 'free rider' problem (how to persuade private bodies/states to address public/global problems?).
 - Reformist/modernist ecology - balance between modernization (economic growth; industrialization, etc) and ecology ('modernist ecology'); 'shallow'/humanist/anthropocentric ecologism; sustainable development (future generations entitled to at least the same living standards as present generation; 'weak' sustainability (technology and human capital compensates for natural capital); reliance of markets ('green capitalism', etc) and human ingenuity (science, technology and innovation).
 - Radical ecology - environmental degradation stems from deeper, structural problems; problem of 'industrialism' (large-scale production, the accumulation of capital, relentless growth; modernization is the problem); capitalism underpins industrialism ('green capitalism' a contradiction in terms, etc); need to reject consumerist and materialist values (source of 'growthism' and block to serious environmental politics; 'strong' sustainability (social ecology, deep ecology).
- *Climate change*
 - Cause of climate change - debate about the existence of global warming, but much reduced since about 2004-05 (growing scientific consensus); 'debate about the causes of climate change (anthropocentric or non-anthropocentric?); the 'greenhouse effect' (existence in the atmosphere of GHGs (carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide) that absorb and emit infrared radiation from the ground, trapping-in heat from the sun), etc.
 - Progress of international cooperation on climate change - 1988 establishment of IPCC; 1992 Rio 'Earth Summit' (endorses 'sustainable development' and establishes UN Framework Convention

on Climate Change (UNFCCC); 1997 Kyoto Protocol and its implications (strengths and weaknesses of Kyoto; legally binding targets for developed countries; developed 'cap and trade' approach; necessary basis for further action, etc vs unambitious targets; developing states not included (China and India); USA remained outside; loopholes in emissions trading process, etc; 2009 Copenhagen conference and its implications (strengths and weaknesses of Copenhagen; developing countries and USA part of the process, etc vs absence of legally-binding national targets and global targets, weak commitments, etc); obstacles to effective international cooperation (state interest vs collective good; differences between developed world and developing world; changing balance of global power (rise of China); economic 'costs' of tackling climate change, global financial crisis, etc).

- 'Solutions' to climate change - reformist solutions (modest GHG emission targets, allowing for economic growth; 'green' technology to create a carbon-neutral economy; market solutions ('green' consumerism; 'green' taxes; emissions trading, etc); 'adaptation' strategies rather than 'mitigation' strategies, etc); radical solutions (tougher commitment to 'mitigation' (substantial and legally-binding cuts in GHG emissions); restructuring of economy (greatly increased government intervention); tackling consumerism and materialism (steady-state economy, etc).

Dealing with synopticity

Topic D - Global Politics

Below are outline examples of how synopticity may be addressed in Topic D

Question 1 - *'War is an inevitable feature of international politics.'* Discuss

- Contrasting viewpoints are provided realism and liberalism.
 - Realist theorists argue that war is inevitable for two main reasons. On the one hand, they believe that aggression and violence are basic to human nature, grounded in a biological tendency towards selfishness and competition. War is therefore human aggression writ large. On the other hand, war is a consequence of the fear and uncertainty that is an inevitable feature of an anarchic international system. States rely on self-help and prioritise their own security. Fear and uncertainty are exacerbated by the security dilemma.
 - Liberals nevertheless argue that wars occur for specific economic, political and diplomatic reasons. They are much more optimistic about human nature and so believe that the international system is based on a harmony of interests. Wars occur because economic nationalism breeds rivalry and hostility between states; because multinational empires and authoritarian regimes tend to be militaristic; and because diplomatic efforts to ensure a balance of power often get out of hand and lead to arms races.
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Question 2 - *To what extent is globalizations merely another name for US imperialism?*

- Contrasting viewpoints are advanced by pro- and anti-globalizers, and also by those who believe that power within the global economy has shifted in recent years.
 - The anti-globalization movement, influenced by a neo-Marxist critique of global capitalism, has argued that globalization is a game of winners and losers, with the USA as the architect and chief beneficiary of the global economy acting as its 'core'. Most TNCs are US companies, the USA has traditionally controlled the WTO, etc.
 - Pro-globalization theorists, drawing on economic liberalism, argue that the essence of establishment of a global market is mutual benefit and general prosperity. All countries that integrate into the global economy experience higher levels of economic growth and a reduction in poverty.
 - Others argue that globalization is a game of winners and losers but that the power has now shifted Eastwards, with China rapidly displacing the USA as the 'core' of the global system.
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Question 3 - *To what extent has international cooperation over climate change been effective?*

- Contrasting viewpoints are provided by supporters and opponents of the Kyoto Protocol.
- Supporters of Kyoto, often influenced by reformist ecology, argue that international cooperation on the issue is spreading with a growing consensus on the need to tackle the issue. Kyoto provides a necessary basis, with binding targets and carbon trading and there is optimism about the establishment of a 'son of Kyoto' at Copenhagen.
- Opponents of Kyoto, often influenced by radical ecology, argue that international cooperation to date has been pitifully slow and inadequate. Carbon emissions are increasing and global warming is accelerating. More radical action is urgently needed to ensure compliance with robust targets, and

there is little sign of an appetite for this, There are powerful structural, economic, political and even cultural obstacles to effective international cooperation on the issue.

Resources For Global Politics

Journal/Magazines/Newspapers

- *The World Today* (monthly) Chatham House. T: 0207 9575712; E: wt@chathamhouse.org.uk
- *The Economist* (weekly)
- *New Internationalist* (monthly)
- *Le Monde Diplomatique*. (monthly) T: 01795 414910; E: subs@mondediplo.com
- *The Guardian Weekly*
- *Foreign Affairs* (monthly) E: foreignaffairswebcs@palmcaostd.com
- *Prospect* (monthly)
- *The Times*, 'World View', Bronwen Maddox

Books

- A. Heywood *Global Politics*. Palgrave Macmillan (publication due November/December 2010). (Aimed at first-year undergraduates, but covers core themes addressed in Topic D).
- C. Foreman (ed.), *Global Politics* (2008). Inform - E: Anforme@aol.com (Suitable for A2 students but too thin to serve as a textbook)
- K. Browne et al, 'Global development' chapter in *Sociology for A2 AQA* (2009) Polity. (Suitable for A2 students; covers some of the unit 4D poverty and development theme)
- J. Baylis, S. Smith and P. Owens (eds), *The Globalization of World Politics*, 4th edition (2008). Oxford University Press. (Authoritative and widely used at university level, but over-complex for A2 students.
- G. Evans and J. Newham, *Penguin Dictionary of International Relations* (1998). Penguin.
- M. Griffiths and T. O'Callaghan *International Relations: The Key Concepts*. Routledge
- J. Goldstein, (2004) *International Relation*. Pearson Longman
- M. Griffiths and T. O'Callaghan, *International Relations: Key Concepts* 2002). Routledge.
- <m Beeson and N. Bisley (eds) *Issues in 21st Century World Politics* (2010). Palgrave Macmillan
- C. Brown and K. Ainley, *Understanding International Relations* 4th edition (2009). Palgrave Macmillan.
- S. Burchill et al., *Theories of International Relations* 4th edition (2009). Palgrave Macmillan.
- R. Jackson and G. Sorensen, *Introduction to International Relations*, 3rd edition ((2007). Oxford University Press.
- C.W. Kegley, *World Politics: Trend and Transformation* 12th edition (2009). Wadsworth Centage Learning.
- D. Held and A. McGrew *Globalization/Anti- Globalization* (2007). Polity Press

Advice on A2 Government and Politics assessment

Allocation of marks

Assessment objective 1 (AO1)

- *Knowledge* (suggests breadth)
- *Understanding* (suggests depth)

Demonstrated, for example, by:

- Defining concepts
- Describing institutions
- Setting out features/characteristics
- Naming something
- Surveying information
- Describing differences
- Supplying examples

Marks for AO1 are awarded for:

- *Relevance*
 - *Accuracy*
 - Whether the knowledge/understanding is appropriately *detailed* and *developed*
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Assessment objective 2 (AO2)

2a *Analysis* (the ability to identify the component features of something and to show how they relate to one another)

Demonstrated, for example, by:

- Examining something closely
- Providing explanations (setting out purposes or reasons, or highlighting causal relationships)
- Demonstrating interconnections

2b *Evaluation* (the ability to make judgements about something, either about the about its *importance* or its *value*)

- Assessing extent (judging how far something happens)
- Measuring effectiveness (judging how far something fulfils its purpose)
- Weighing up importance (judging the impact of something)
- Assessing the coherence of an argument (judging the logic of an argument)

- Assessing an argument/viewpoint in the light of available evidence (judging whether an argument 'stands up')
- Arguing to a conclusion (judging the respective strengths of competing viewpoints)

2c Identification of parallels, connections, similarities and differences

Demonstrated, for example , by

- Showing how two or more things can be compared and/or contrasted
 - Judging the balance between similarities and differences
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Synoptic assessment (AO2)

Awareness of competing viewpoints or perspectives

Demonstrated, for example by

- Identifying alternative viewpoints or perspectives on a question
 - Awareness of the nature and extent of rivalry between these viewpoints
 - Awareness of the significance of the viewpoints for an understanding of the issue or question
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Assessment objective 3 (AO3)

3a Ability to construct and communicate coherent arguments

Demonstrated, for example , by

- Organising points in a logical sequence
- Having, through the answer, a clear and coherent line of argument
- Having appropriate balance in the argument
- (Where appropriate) reaching a conclusion, clearly linked to the foregoing argument

3b Use of appropriate political vocabulary

Demonstrated by the use of specialist terminology, relevant to the question

Question types

Short questions (Units 3 and 4)

- AO1 = 5 marks
- AO2 = 7 marks
- AO3 = 3 marks
- Total = 15 marks

Focus of questions:

- Questions will have a narrower or more specific focus than essay questions. Questions will not be open-ended
 - Questions will require candidates to do more than describe or just present information. The main intellectual skills assessed (AO2) will be analysis, evaluation by importance, and the identification of similarities and differences. Debate and discussion questions will be rare, but candidates may be asked to explain particular political viewpoints or arguments.
 - Questions will not require essay-style responses (introduction-argument-conclusion), although clarity and coherence in presentation will be rewarded via AO3 marks.
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Essay questions (Units 3 and 4)

- AO1 = 12 marks
- AO2 = 24 marks
- Synopticity = 12 marks
- AO3 = 9 marks
- Total = 45 marks

Focus of questions:

- Questions will have a discursive nature, in that they may permit two or more legitimate answers, allowing synopticity to be assessed. As there will be no 'right' or 'wrong' response, candidates will be rewarded for the knowledge and skills they deploy in supporting their chosen conclusion.
- Questions will primarily test the AO2 skill of evaluation. No questions will require only analysis or the identification of parallels, similarities and differences.
- Questions will require essay-style responses, which have the following features:
 - Answers should have a *beginning* (introduction), a *middle* (argument) and an *end* (conclusion)
 - Introductions should:
 - define key terms used in the question
 - show an understanding of 'the point' of the question (the issue or issues it raises)

- (optional) outline the line of argument to be adopted, possibly indicating the conclusion favoured
- Arguments should:
 - Make points in a logically related order
 - Consider contrasting viewpoints or positions as appropriate (for/against, advantages/disadvantages, benefits/drawbacks, etc)
 - Support points with appropriate evidence (make a point and prove it)
 - Qualify points wherever appropriate (make a point and qualify it – 'However ...' 'On the other hand ...')
 - Argue to a conclusion (do not 'sit on the fence', unless the question invites you to)
- Conclusions should:
 - Be clear and short
 - Start with a one-sentence answer to the question set ('In conclusion, ...')
 - Briefly summarise the key factors that support this conclusion (new material should generally not be introduced at this stage)

Command words

The meaning of common command words (although command words will not always be used)

Analyse	Break something into its component parts and show how they relate to one another
Argue	Present a reasoned case
Assess	'Weigh up' a statement, showing arguments in favour and against
Compare	Identify similarities
Contrast	Identify differences
Criticise	Explain problems, limitations or weaknesses
Define	Say what a word or phrase means
Describe	Set out features or characteristics
Discuss	Examine an issue closely, taking account of differing viewpoints
Distinguish	Describe differences
Evaluate	Make judgments based on evidence
Examine	Investigate closely
Explain	Show how something works, usually by giving a clear and detailed account of it