Citizenship Studies in the News Edition 18

About this edition:

In Edition 17 of Citizenship Studies in the News, we looked at a topic that covered both Paper 1 and 2. In this edition, we have a topic which involves all three sections of Paper 1. The case of assisted dying – we have looked at this before, but it is good to have a wider perspective on the issue which current events have changed. It is important to note that the specification is designed to overlap and connect on many topics.

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Content Warning: the Theme A-C articles mention terminal illness, end of life care and assisted dying

Link	Details	Link to Specification
1 Theme A article Theme A video	This article and video provide a recap of the case made by the late Tony Nicklinson. He argued that he should have the right to die and that it should be the natural development of human rights.	Theme A: Living together in the UK 5. Rights, duties and values that underpin democracy 6. Development of human rights
2 Theme B article 1 Theme B article 2	18 months ago, Kim Leadbetter introduced her Assisted Dying Bill. It is a Private Members Bill, which means it is not sponsored by the Government or any political party. A similar Bill was put before the Scottish Parliament on March 17th. It was narrowly defeated on a free vote of MSPs.	Theme B: Democracy at work in the UK 4. The Westminster Parliament 5. Making and shaping law 7. Government in constituent parts of the UK
3 Theme C article	We must place the role of the law as a pivotal point here. It would seem unfair to ask judges to change the law through precedent or what is termed common law. The task must fall to the representatives of the people in the Commons. There are valid cases on either side of the debate, but the public must be protected. At the same time, values have changed and opinions do alter.	Theme C: Law and justice 1. The role of law in everyday life in dealing with complex problems
4 Theme D article 1 Theme D article 2	On 28th February 2026, the USA and Israel launched attacks on Iran and killed their Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, along with other senior leaders in the Iranian regime. This has created turmoil in the Middle East as other countries have become involved. This raises questions concerning the power and influence that the UK has on the wider world. It also asks questions about the role of NATO and the UN, and the relationship of the UK with the USA.	Theme D: Power and Influence 7. The UK's role in the rest of the world 8. Rights and responsibilities in challenging global situations