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MYP Past Paper Questions

May 2016

Shale gas extraction, also known as hydrofracking or fracking, is promoted by some as an environmentally friendly form of energy. However, many do not agree. Throughout this task, you will be asked to explore different perspectives on the topic of sustainable development. Use the definition below and knowledge from your MYP studies to answer question parts (a) to (c).

The Brundtland Commission's report defined sustainable development as "development which meets the needs of current generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs"

The shale gas stand-off
The shale gas industry is as potentially lucrative as it is dangerous.

- UK Chairman says it will power the world for 200 years.
- Industry lobbyists have been promoting fracking as a "green" alternative to renewables.
- Opponents to shale gas say little is known about the problems associated with fracking such as leaks and water contamination.

Adapted from: www.theguardian.com/environment/interactive/2011/apr/26/shale-gas-hydraulic-fracking-graphic

More dynamic economy
Fracking brings more jobs to the area.
Risks are real but readily manageable.
Over 175 000 wells fracked in Canada without conclusive evidence of significant harm to the environment.
Natural gas is an improvement over both conventional pollutant emissions and greenhouse gas emissions.

www.huffingtonpost.ca/mark-milke/new-brunswick-energy

Several reports have concluded that the shale gas industry in the US has had a profound, positive economic impact, such as reducing consumer costs of natural gas and electricity, stimulating economic growth and increasing federal, state and local tax revenue.

www.shale-gas-information-platform.org/what-are-the-benefits.html

Projected future demand

Year	Coal	Gas	Hydro	Oil	Nuclear	*Other
1971	2.5	0.5	0.5	1.5	0.5	0.5
2002	2.5	1.5	0.5	2.5	1.5	0.5
2010	2.5	2.5	0.5	3.5	1.5	0.5
2020	2.5	3.5	0.5	4.5	1.5	0.5
2030	2.5	4.5	0.5	5.5	1.5	1.5

*Includes geothermal, solar, wind, heat, etc

www.news.bbc.co.uk

Video: Shale gas risk or opportunity (8 mins)

Adapted from: ec.europa.eu/environment - Shale gas risk or opportunity? / AFP 2012 Shale Gas - a controversial fuel

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ag9GUogWEa0>

Describe two positive social outcomes of sustainable development.

Describe two positive economic outcomes of sustainable development.

Describe two positive environmental outcomes of sustainable development.

In terms of its origin, purpose, value,s, and limitations, analyze the usefulness of Source D to an MYP student

studying fracking (Shale gas extraction: the process of drilling down into the earth to release the gas inside).



Here are some positive benefits fracking has brought to America.

1. The price of oil is 20% lower than what it would be otherwise. Natural gas prices in America have plummeted. As a result, natural gas is at least 80% cheaper here than the rest of the world.
2. Low gas prices have led to growth in America's manufacturing sector.
3. American energy independence is possible for the first time in history.
4. We have reduced our CO₂ contribution. Our greenhouse gas emissions are at their lowest rate in 20 years.
5. We offer high paying jobs and pay far more of our income as taxes and fees than virtually any other industry.
6. Every year, drilling brings multibillion dollar transfer payments to rural and agricultural communities across America.

By drillinginfo

Imagine a company that wants to extract natural resources from a community of your choice.

You should use

the sources and/or knowledge from your MYP studies to discuss whether the economic benefits outweigh the environmental concerns.

In your essay, you should:

- Name the community and resource that you have chosen

- Consider the economic benefits
- Consider the environmental concerns
- Consider possible perspectives of the residents and the resource extraction company
- Include a conclusion to state whether you think the economic benefits of the resource extraction outweighs the environmental concerns. (May 2016 10 marks)

May 2017

Using your knowledge and your MYP studies, outline how one scientific or technological innovation helps people sustainably manage resources. (Criterion A - 2 marks)

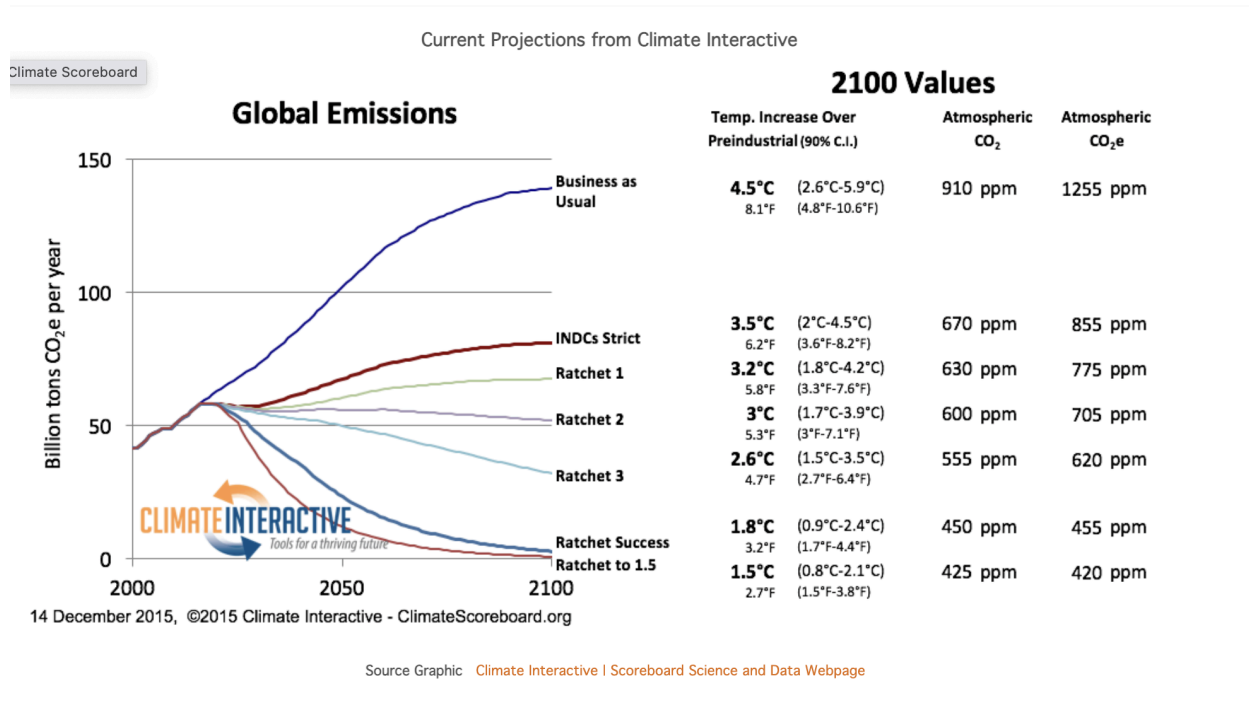
Using examples from your MYP studies, explain how better resource management can improve people's lives in a community. In your response, you should focus on at least one of the following factors:

Social

Political

Economic (Criterion A - 8 marks)

Nov 2018



(*Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) set by countries as part of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) process. These scenarios or strategies may impact how countries plan to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and limit global warming."Ratchet 1,2 and 3" refers to a scenario where countries aim to progressively tighten their emission reduction targets over time.

1.

Using Simulation 1 - The Global Carbon Budget: 2020 to 2100, complete the table below to identify the current projections made by the university for atmospheric CO₂ / ppm in 2100. (1 mark)

Identify the overall changes in the level of atmospheric CO₂ ppm made by your new projection. (1 mark)

Explain the human activities that could produce the change in the overall level of CO₂ in your projection above.

In your answer, you should refer to the curve combination you have selected in the interactive tool. (4 marks)

Concerning the statement of inquiry, formulate a clear and focused research question to further investigate the impacts of human activities on the local ecosystem within the community. (2 marks)

Justify your research question in relation to the statement of inquiry and your investigation into the health of the ecosystem. (4 marks)

List two methods of primary data collection that you could use in your investigation. (2 marks)

From one of your methods of primary data collection listed in part (c), outline the information or data you would hope to gather. (2 marks)

Outline why one stakeholder would be interested in your investigation. (2 marks)

Evaluate the process and results of using the simulations to gather background data for your investigation.

In your response, you should consider:

the process of manipulating data in the interactive tool

how relevant the data is to the statement of inquiry (Humans get important benefits from the natural world but human activity impacts the

natural world) and your investigation. (8 marks)

May 2018

Write the news report using knowledge from your MYP studies to explain how a community could use clean and sustainable energy to improve its environmental footprint.

Your recommended word count is 250–300 words. (18 marks)

Nov 2019

State one reason given in Source A for why the overall amount of land used for farming has increased. (1 mark)

Source A

Source A

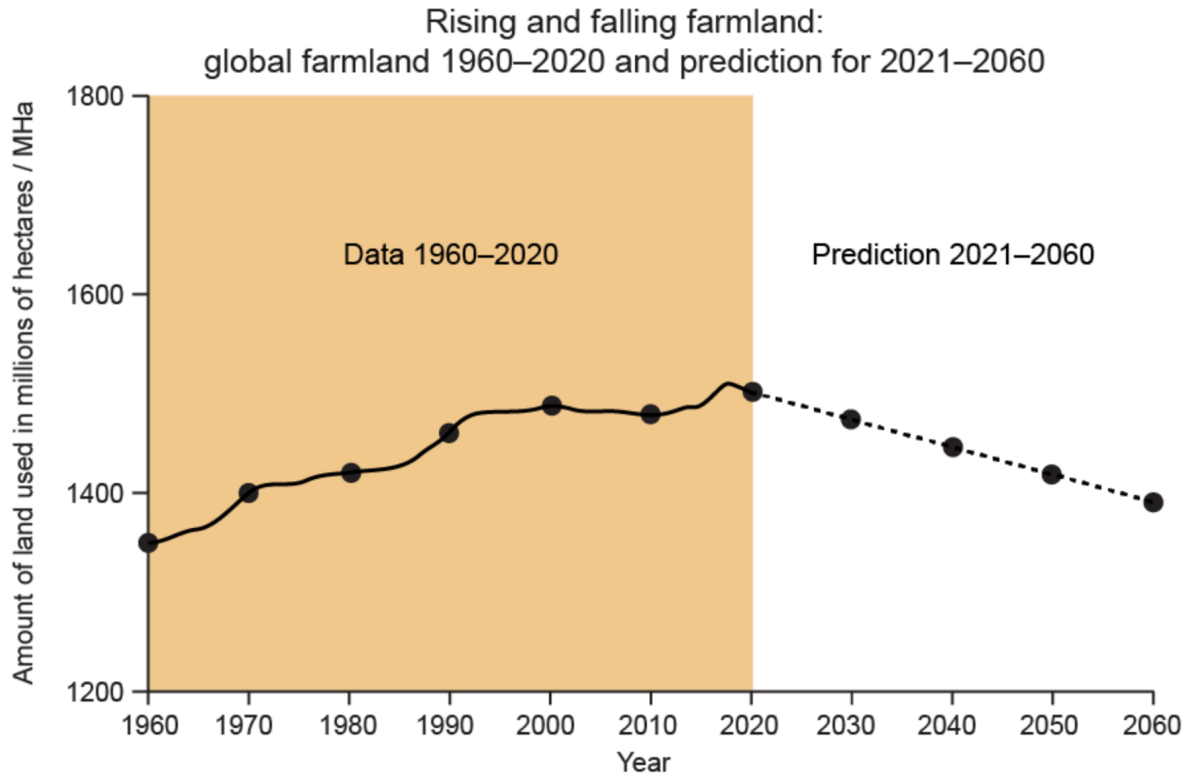
Recently, a group of researchers investigated global historical trends of land used for farming. They came to the following conclusions:

1. Globally, the production of crops requires 65 % less land than it did in 1960. This is due to fertilizers, pesticides, wider use of technology and better varieties of crops.
2. Despite the fact that the production of crops requires less land than it did in 1960, the overall land used for farming has actually increased due to:
 - population growth
 - increasing wealth (as people get wealthier, they consume more meat, which requires more land to produce).

Using Source B, state how many millions of hectares of land are predicted to be used in the year 2050.

(1 mark)

Source B



Assuming the prediction of land use from 2021–2060 is accurate, explain the possible impact on one of the following biomes:

- aquatic
 - desert
 - Forest
 - grassland.
- (4 marks)

The researchers investigating land use produced the following infographic to demonstrate their investigation. You will be asked to evaluate the process and results of their investigation. Evaluate the process and results of the investigation. (8 marks)

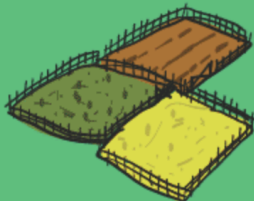
Based on their conclusions, the researchers noted that it would be good to carry out further investigations into future trends that will impact land use for farming. Their suggested future trends are:

- increased use of fertilizers, pesticides, and technology in farming


changing global population growth.

INVESTIGATING LAND USE


INFORMATION / DATA




Total amount of hectares used for farming different crops




Past trends in global population growth



Future predictions of global population growth



Amount of corn, wheat and rice harvested per year



Global gross domestic product (GDP) per capita

SOURCES



Government ministries in India, China and the United States



International Fertilizer Association



International Organization of Pesticide Producers



UN Food and Agriculture Organization



UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs



A reference book called International Historical Statistics, published in 1992



International Organization of Farm Machinery Producers

CONCLUSIONS

1. Globally, the production of crops requires 65% less land than it did in 1960. This is due to fertilizers, pesticides, wider use of technology and better varieties of crops.
2. Despite the fact that the production of crops requires less land than it did in 1960, the overall land used for farming has actually increased due to:
 - population growth
 - increasing wealth (as people get wealthier, they consume more meat, which requires more land to produce).

Concerning one of the areas for further investigation and its impact on land use for farming, formulate a clear and focused research question. (2 marks)

Justify the relevance of your research question to the issue of future trends in land use for farming. (4 marks)

Explain one challenge you would have to overcome when investigating future trends in land use for farming. (4 marks)

Identify one research method you will use to collect information for your research question. (1 mark)

Identify one method you will use to record information for your research question. (1 mark)

Nov 2019

In Québec City in Canada, the local government has announced changes to public transportation that will be made shortly. This is in response to the increase in demand for better transport. Source C below is a video made in 2018 by the government to present the project to the public. You will need to explain how these changes will have a positive impact on the city.

Source C

Source C transcript

Québec City is changing its public transportation to make it more modern. In the near future, the bus system will be connected with a tramway service.

This service will increase mobility for everyone and connect the suburbs to the city via underground and outdoor stations.

Parking for cars and bikes will be available at the end of the lines.

Electricity will be the main power source for the tramway.

- Explain how this change to Québec City's public transport system will have a positive effect on the city. (6 marks)
- Describe the value of Source C to an MYP student researching how innovations impact urban environments. (3 marks)
- Describe the limitations of Source C to an MYP student researching how innovations impact urban environments. (3 marks)

Nov 2017

As an urban planner for UN-Habitat, you have been asked to make a presentation on a new land use model.

In the template below produce a fair and sustainable land use model of your own with supporting annotations. You will need to justify your model to your colleagues.

Note: the extracts below are based on the following land use model:

Write a script for your presentation below to justify your model to your colleagues. In your presentation, you should:

- refer to the video and knowledge from your MYP studies
- consider the Burgess, Hoyt, and multi-nuclei models
- write about how your new model promotes fairness and is sustainable.

Nov 2016

Culture can be defined as a set of behaviors and ideas (including beliefs, attitudes, values, and ideals) that are characteristic of a particular society or social group. It can also include products – such as buildings, tools, and artistic works – that are the results of behaviors. Culture can be influenced by internal and external factors.

Using this definition, study the images and outline one cultural change represented by each image. The changes you outline can be contemporary and ongoing or historical. (4 marks)

One stimulus to cultural change is trade. Using examples from your MYP studies, describe two ways in which trade between countries can result in cultural change. Your response can focus on change in a particular culture or across multiple cultures. (6 marks)

You have been given the following statement of inquiry by your teacher to help you investigate cultural change:

“The exchange of resources between countries may result in cultural change.”

Formulate a clear and focused research question to investigate the statement of inquiry. (4 marks)

Justify the relevance of your research question to the statement of inquiry. (4 marks)

Formulate one sub-question you would ask to help to investigate your research question. (2 marks)

Justify the relevance of your sub-question. (2 marks)

List three pieces of information/data you will need to investigate your research question. (3 marks)

List three sources you would consult to collect the data you listed in part (e). (3 marks)

The investigative process below was developed by an MYP year 5 student at a school in China to help her prepare an essay for her history class. The student was given 4 weeks to complete the investigation and submit her essay.

The student formulated the following research question to investigate the statement of inquiry:
Statement of inquiry: “Culture significantly impacts on the exchange of resources between countries”

Research question: “How has Chinese culture determined the nature of resource exchange throughout history?”

Evaluate the investigative process undertaken by the student. In your answer, you should consider:

- the sub-questions
- the research methodology
- the sources consulted. (12 marks)

The animation shows how ideas can spread. Explain how the spread of ideas or innovations can be helped or encouraged by technological developments.

In your answer you should consider perspectives relating to one of the following areas:

- economic
- political
- social
- cultural (8 marks)

Technological developments can significantly help or encourage the spread of ideas or innovations across economic, political, social, and cultural. Technological innovation drives economic growth and competitiveness by fostering the development of new industries, job creation, and increased productivity. It enables the creation of disruptive solutions, leading to the development of innovative products, services, and business models

Throughout history, innovation, and technological developments have led to increasing connections around the world providing economic and geographic opportunities and challenges. Using knowledge from your MYP studies, discuss whether increasing connections around the world should be seen as a positive or a negative. In your essay, you should:

- refer to one example/case study
- consider the economic and/or geographic opportunities
- consider the economic and/or geographic challenges
- refer to different perspectives. (30 marks)

ESSAY:

Nov 2019

FAIRNESS AND DEVELOPMENT



Your teacher has asked you to prepare a class presentation about the unit Superpowers, empires, and Supranational Institutions and Organizations that you have recently studied.

Using knowledge from your MYP studies, explain the positive and negative impacts that one of the following has had on fairness and development:

- Superpowers
- Empires
- **Supranational institutions/organizations.**

In your response, you must:

- Focus on one superpower or empire or supranational institution/organization (from the image or your knowledge)
- Include a relevant title for your presentation
- Create one presentation slide for positive impacts and one presentation slide for negative impacts.
- Your slides should be well-structured to communicate clearly to the audience.
- Include a script to support each of your presentation slides (18 marks)

May 2017

In terms of its origin, purpose, values, and limitations, analyze the usefulness of Source A to an MYP History teacher preparing an inquiry into the meaning of “Peacekeeping”. (Criterion D - 6 marks)

Compare the perspectives on peacekeeping shown in Source A and Source B. In your response, you should provide two similarities. (4 marks)

Sources C, D, and E are examples of produced during times of war.

To what extent do these sources show that women are willing to support wars? You should refer to Sources C, D, and E in your response. (10 marks)

Discuss whether any group or community can be justified in going to war.

In your answer, you should:

provide an example(s) from your MYP studies or your knowledge

focus on one conflict (you can also refer to others, if relevant to your argument)

consider the three criteria presented in the diagram (you can also consider other factors, if relevant to your argument)

consider different perspectives (30 marks)

May 2019

Concerning origin and/or purpose, describe the value of Source D to an MYP student researching political propaganda.

Note: Responses to both part (a) and part (b) may include content (accuracy/objectivity of information, scope/perspectives included and depth, layout, and communication), origin (bias, how recent the source is, country or author - experts/reliability of source or studies, citations), purpose (intended audience, platform, facts or opinions)

(3 marks)

Regarding origin and/or purpose, describe the limitations of Source D to an MYP student researching political propaganda. Note: Suggesting improvements to the source can be interpreted as addressing limitations

(3 marks)

Much like propaganda, significant individuals can also have an impact on the public when they share their values and opinions. Watch the extract from the 1940 movie “The Great Dictator” below and answer the question that follows.

In the movie, the actor and director Charlie Chaplin plays a political leader who criticizes fascism and antisemitism during the Second World War.

Analyze the intended message of the speech in Source E. (6 marks)

Significant individuals are more successful than propaganda at influencing a society's perspective on peaceful conflict resolution. To what extent do you agree with this claim? Your response must be formulated in a well-structured essay.

(24 Marks)

Nov 2016

In terms of its origin, purpose, values, and limitations, analyze the usefulness of the infographic to an MYP student studying how increased connectivity has begun to affect the workplace around the world. (6 marks)

Describe two outcomes of increased connectivity for a culture or society of your choice. (6 marks)

Nov 2017

State one current migration route in terms of the two places involved (1 mark)

Identify one reason why the movement mentioned in part a) is happening (1 mark)

Outline one possible reason for internal migration. (2 marks)

Using one current or one historical example, describe how migrant groups attempt to maintain their cultural identity once they are established in a new area. (6 marks)

Evaluate the student's investigation as part of the planning phase of the MYP service project. In your response you should consider:

*the range and type of sources

*the method for recording information (12 marks)

Further investigation is needed to effectively plan your service project.

Formulate a clear and focused research question that would allow you to investigate the statement of inquiry:

“Migration changes cultures and identities by impacting products, systems and institutions” (4 marks)

Justify the relevance of your research question to the statement of inquiry. (4 marks)

With reference to the concept of identity, formulate one sub-question you would ask to investigate your research question. (2 marks)

List two pieces of information you would need to investigate your research question. (2 marks)

List two sources of information you would consult to investigate your research question. (2 marks)

Outline the relevance of one piece of information you listed in part (d). (2 marks)

Outline one problem or challenge you might face when carrying out your research. (2 marks)

Nov 2017

In terms of its origin, purpose, values and limitations, analyse the usefulness of the cartoon in Source B for a student studying global debt.

(a) State the origin Responses may include:

The cartoon is produced by:

- an internationally recognized artist.
- an artist from Africa.
- an artist from a country impacted by debt. (1 mark)

b) State the purpose Responses may include:

The purpose of the cartoon is to:

- communicate the severity of world debt
- comparison of world debt and the amount of aid being provided.
- show how the world is not aware of how big the global debt crisis is. (1 mark)

Outline one value for an MYP student studying global debt (2 marks)

Outline one limitation for a student studying global debt (2 marks)

Using Source C, explain the role that global interactions played in making Senegal a country that has a lot of debt.

(Criterion D, 6 marks)

Select whether Tom or Julia would be most likely to support debt cancellation. (1 mark)

Use copy and paste to select one sentence from Source D that shows that Julia thinks a country's internal issues are the main cause of poverty. (1 mark)

Using Source D, explain the implications that either Tom's or Julia's perspective could have for global interactions. (Criterion D, 6 marks)

In a highly interconnected global community, the actions of one country can have varied and wide-ranging effects on other countries. Therefore, it is important that everyone is aware of the impact that global interactions can have.

In the form of an essay, discuss how high-income countries and low-income countries can interact to promote equity. In your essay you should:

- use knowledge from your MYP studies
- consider the information from Source B, Source D and Source E.

(30 marks)

May 2016

Classify Australia as an LEDC (less economically developed country) or MEDC (more economically developed country). (1 mark)

Classify Sierra Leone as an LEDC (less economically developed country) or MEDC (more economically developed country). (1 mark)

Referring to the data below, describe three changes between the population pyramids for Sierra Leone in 2014 and 2050. (6 marks)

The Prime Minister of Sierra Leone is concerned about the negative economic impacts the outbreak of Ebola is having on the country. Imagine you are the economic advisor for Sierra Leone. You have been asked by the country's Prime Minister to investigate the impact of receiving emergency aid from Australia to help combat the spread of disease. (20 marks)

Using the source material, formulate a clear and focused research question to help you investigate this

statement of inquiry: "A widespread contagious disease has significant effects on a country". (4 marks)

Justify the relevance of your research question to the statement of inquiry. (4 marks)

With reference to the concept of choice, formulate one sub-question that will help you develop your investigation. (2 marks)

With reference to the concept of equity, formulate one sub-question that will help you develop your investigation. (2 marks)

Explain how your sub-questions would help you develop your investigation (4 marks)

In addition to this information provided in the sources, list two pieces of information/data that would help your investigation. (2 marks)

Describe one method of data collection you would use to collect your information.(2 marks)

Following her own investigation, the economic advisor for Australia submitted the following presentation to the Parliament of Australia.

Evaluate the economic advisor's investigative process.

You must consider the investigative process rather than the economic advisor's presentation skills.

In your response you should consider:

- The sources used
- How successful the investigation was. (12 marks)

May 2017

The activities of economic agents (producers, consumers, governments, banks) can cause economic development but they can also have negative effects on the environment. Planning for a sustainable future involves maximizing [hover: making the most of] economic development while keeping a healthy environment. Using the tools below, create a visual (infographic / poster / flow chart) to explain to a country's policymakers how economic activity affects development and the environment.

Your visual must:

include a title, annotations and images.

inform the policymakers about the positive and negative effects economic activity can have on economic development and the environment.

refer to specific examples of economic activities and statistics provided in the source, if appropriate. (30 marks)

Nov 2018

In terms of its origin, purpose, values and limitations, analyse the usefulness of Source A to an MYP student researching the different types of economic systems. (6 marks)

State the origin of the source. (1 mark)

State the purpose of the source. (1 mark)

List two values of the source for an MYP student researching the different types of economic systems. (2 marks)

List two limitations of the source for an MYP student researching the different types of economic systems. (2 marks)

Using Source A and Source B, justify which type of economic system would provide more opportunities for fair trade to develop. (6 marks)

In a well-structured essay, discuss how a sharing economy could improve the quality of life in a community of your choice.

In your response, you must consider:

the impact a sharing economy has on the economic agents (consumers, producers, governments and banks)

the economic system that is in place in the community of your choice.

(Criterion A, (8 marks); Criterion C, (8 marks); Criterion D, (8 marks))

May 2019

Name a global sporting event and state one local stakeholder interested in that event. (1 mark)

If a country is wishing to host a future global sporting event, they must apply for the opportunity to do so. When preparing their application, they must demonstrate that they are financially able to host the event and prove that the event will benefit local and global stakeholders.

A country of your choice is considering applying to host a future global sporting event. Before they invest the time and money in preparing the application, they understand that there may be significant social and economic impacts for different stakeholders. They have hired you to investigate the potential impacts of such an event. You have been given the following statement of inquiry to guide your investigation: Statement of Inquiry: Social and economic factors affect the sustainable management of global sporting events.

Formulate a clear and focused research question to investigate the statement of inquiry. (2 marks)

Justify the relevance of your research question to the statement of inquiry and your task to help your country of choice. (4 marks)

With reference to social or economic factors, formulate one sub-question that would help you plan your investigation. (2 marks)

In addition to the information provided in the sources, list two pieces of information/data that would help your investigation. (2 marks)

Outline one method of data collection you would use to collect one of the pieces of information/data listed in part (d).

(2 marks)

Explain either one social benefit or one social limitation for the local community hosting a global sporting event. (4 marks)

Your chosen country also understands that there will be significant impacts on the local and global environment. They have hired a consultant to investigate the potential environmental impact of such an event. The consultant has four weeks to carry out the investigation. The consultant created the following action plan to investigate the statement of inquiry below: There are environmental consequences of holding global sporting events. Evaluate the investigative process undertaken by the consultant. (8 marks)

Nov 2019

In a well-structured essay, discuss how one technological development/innovation has impacted quality of life. In your response:

you can use an example given in the timeline above or one from your own knowledge
you must not discuss public transport or public transport systems as addressed in Source C (questions 6 and 7)

you must include different perspectives about the impact of your chosen technological development/innovation.

(24 marks)

Nov 2016

You have been asked to help write the content for the website for a supranational organization. The website should explain its actions and raise awareness amongst the citizens of its member nations. You may choose a supranational organization from your MYP studies or one mentioned in the video below.

Your webpage must include the following features:

- a title
- a mission statement
- details of the organization's goals
- detailed information on the organization's ideology
- its relationship with member nations
- supporting images that have clear links to your text (30 marks)

May 2018

Select which of these continents has the fewest TCK births. (1 mark)

“Approximately half of modern TCKs speak three or more languages.” Select whether this statement is true or false. (1 mark)

Outline two characteristics of TCK life that demonstrate how populations are changing due to globalization. (1 mark)

Evaluate the process of investigation conducted by this website. In your response you may consider: sample, method, reliability, validity (8 marks)

With reference to the statement of inquiry, formulate a clear and focussed research question (2 marks)

Justify how your research question helps you explore the influence's on a person's behaviour and identity (4 marks)

Outline how you will collect and record information for your investigation. (2 marks)

Explain how you will ensure the reliability of your study (4 marks)