**Folio Task 2: Argumentative Essay**



|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SUBJECT** | Politics, Power and People | **YEAR LEVEL** | 12 |
| **DUE DATE** | - Draft: Thursday 23/9 (T3, Week 10)  - Final: Thursday 14/10 (T4, Week 1) | | |
| **TEACHER** | XXXX | | |
| **TASK** | Argumentative Essay, 1000 words | | |

|  |
| --- |
| **Background Information** |
| Since World War 2, the United States has enjoyed a largely undisputed run as the world’s global superpower. The Soviet Union threatened this during the Cold War years, yet America emerged largely unscathed as the most powerful and dominant country on earth. A new contender for this mantle, China, has posed arguably the largest threat to the United State’s role as hegemon, with Xi Jinping showing a clear desire to expand China’s interests further than ever before. But, despite this, can anyone other than the United States hold claim to being the world’s hegemon? |
| **Intended Learning** |
| This task will see you research and formulate a position in reference to the following question:  ***‘Is the United States the undisputed global hegemonic power?’***  Using evidence under the key sub-topics we have explored, argue that the United States either is or is not the undisputed global hegemonic power. While you may explore both sides to the argument, you need to conclude in favour of one, justifying your reasons for holding your position. |
| **Task Requirements** |
| 1. Firstly, decide upon your stance in reference to the question. You may wish to do some research to come to this conclusion. 2. Plan out the body paragraphs of your essay. Some possible points to consider are:    1. Economic, military, geographic, political and cultural power.    2. Perceptions of hard, soft and smart power.    3. How the United States’ domestic issues impact how they are viewed.    4. The rise of China.    5. Russian meddling in US affairs, such as elections.    6. Domestic tensions around isolationist vs multilateralist foreign policy.    7. China’s rise as a dominant trading partner.    8. China’s belt and road initiative. 3. Locate relevant evidence such as quotes, data and statistics. 4. Build your case using persuasion. |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| - | Critical and Creative Thinking | Communication and Collaboration | Understanding and Ethical Reasoning | Research and Analysis |
| A | Proposes insightful solutions, makes reflective judgments, and composes arguments that relate to political issues.  Comprehensively and thoughtfully analyses and evaluates political concepts. | Highly organised and fluent communication of political ideas, opinions, and arguments.  Insightful and constructive collaboration in order to build on the ideas of others, solve political problems, or improve solutions. | Perceptive and well-informed understanding of political concepts and the interconnectedness of Australian politics and the world.  Insightful and coherent explanation of the political and ethical nature of the issues. | Uses comprehensive and discerning inquiry skills to research political issues and perspectives, using a variety of relevant and current literature.  Critical analysis and evaluation of political issues using primary and secondary sources. |
| B | Proposes balanced solutions, makes thoughtful judgments, and composes arguments that relate to political issues.  Competently analyses and evaluates political concepts. | Logical and clear communication of political ideas, opinions, and arguments.  Thoughtful collaboration in order to build on the ideas of others, solve political problems, or improve solutions. | Thoughtful understanding of political concepts and the interconnectedness of Australian politics and the world.  Clear explanation of the political and ethical nature of the issues. | Uses in-depth inquiry skills to research political issues and perspectives, using relevant and current literature.  Purposeful analysis and evaluation of political issues using primary and secondary sources. |
| C | Proposes solutions, makes judgments, and composes arguments that relate to political issues.  Analyses and evaluates political concepts. | Competent communication of political ideas, opinions, and arguments.  Collaboration in order to build on the ideas of others, attempt to solve problems, or improve political solutions. | Informed understanding of political concepts and the interconnectedness of Australian politics and the world.  Sound explanation of the political and ethical nature of the issues. | Uses sound inquiry skills to research political issues and perspectives, using relevant literature.  A sound analysis and evaluation of the political issues using primary and secondary sources. |
| D | Refers to solutions and recounts information related to political issues.  Explains a political concept. | Communication of ideas and opinions.  Some collaboration in order to attempt to solve problems. | Some understanding of political concepts.  Some recognition of the political nature of issues. | Limited inquiry using some relevant literature.  Limited analysis of the political issues using some sources. |
| E | Identification of a simplistic solution.  Identification of a political concept. | Basic communication of ideas.  Limited evidence of contributions. | Minimal understanding political concepts.  Limited recognition of the basic political ideas. | Minimal inquiry using a source.  Superficial recognition of political issues. |

Published with the kind permission of Adelaide High School