

## A Level Geography




### Specification and PLC (Personal Learning Checklist)

**AREA OF STUDY: 4 - Human Systems and Geopolitics**

**Topic 8B: Migration, Identity and Sovereignty**

**Autumn Term Y13 2024**

**Overview:** Globalisation involves movements of capital, goods and people. Tensions can result between the logic of globalisation, with its growing levels of environmental, social and economic interdependence among people, economies and nation states and the traditional definitions of national sovereignty and territorial integrity. International migration not only changes the ethnic composition of populations but also changes attitudes to national identity. At the same time, nationalist movements have grown in some places challenging dominant models of economic change and redefining ideas of national identity. Global governance has developed to manage a number of common global issues (environmental, social, political and economic) and has a mixed record in its success in dealing with them. It has promoted growth and political stability for some people in some places whilst not benefiting others. Unequal power relations have tended to lead to unequal environmental, social and economic outcomes.

What do I need to know?				
EQ1: What are the impact of globalisation on international migration?				
8B.1 Globalisation has led to an increase in migration both within countries and among them	Explain how globalisation has caused extremely significant changes in the global economic system, changing the pattern of demand for labour; this has encouraged both rural-urban migration within countries (China) and international migration between countries			
	Explain why between 3–4% of the global population live outside their country of birth but this proportion varies greatly between countries (different policies relating to international migration and levels of engagement with the global economy)			
	Explain why patterns of international migration are changing and will continue to change because environmental, economic and political events which affect both the source areas of many migrants and their destinations;			
	Explain the patterns of flow of migrants of both voluntary economic migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.			
8B.2 The causes of migration are varied, complex and subject to change	Explain why most migrants move for work or to re-join family members and why there are other significant causes, including displacement of refugees due to conflict and poverty in their regions of origin.			
	Explain why economic theory suggests that economic efficiency is maximised when goods (free trade), capital (deregulated financial markets) and labour (open-borders) can move freely across international borders but why this poses serious challenges for national identity and sovereignty.			

	Explain why the movement of labour is unrestricted within many nation states to ensure efficient allocation of resources (e.g. regional movements in the UK) and the same logic applies for some global regions (EU) but does not yet apply at a global level			
8B.3 The consequences of international migration are varied and disputed	Explain how migration changes the cultural and ethnic composition of nation states but the rate of assimilation of migrants varies from nation to nation especially when there are distinctive ethnic differences.			
	Explain why migration causes political tensions because of differences in perceptions of the social, economic, cultural and demographic impacts of migration.			
	Explain why there are variations in the ability of people to migrate across national borders according to levels of skill and income; and opportunities, including the presence or absence of controls and international borders.			
<b>EQ2: How are nation states defined and how have they evolved in a globalising world?</b>				
8B.4 Nation states are highly varied and have very different histories	Explain why national sovereign states vary greatly in their ethnic, cultural and linguistic unity (Iceland compared to Singapore); and how this results from their history of population growth, their isolation and the role of migration.			
	Explain why many national borders are a consequence of physical geography and historical development; whilst other borders are a result of colonial history and might not take account of different ethnic or religious groups (e.g. Iraq or Rwanda), which can lead to problems of sovereignty and legitimacy			
	Explain why there are many contested borders (e.g. Ukraine/Russia) and not all nation states are universally recognised as such (e.g. Taiwan) which can lead to both conflict and population movements.			
8B.5 Nationalism has played a role in the development of the modern world	Explain why 19th-century nationalism was important in the development of empires and a source of conflict in Europe and beyond as other nations became part of larger empires			
	Explain why many new nation states have emerged as empires disintegrated (e.g. 1960s 'wind of change' in Africa) since 1945; and how this has caused conflicts that were costly both environmentally, economically and in human terms.			
	Explain why patterns of migration between former colonies and the imperial core country are still evident and important in changing the ethnic composition and cultural heterogeneity of those countries.			
8B.6 Globalisation has led to the deregulation of capital markets and the	Explain how globalisation has encouraged the growth of states that have low-tax regimes which provide havens for the profits for TNCs and homes for wealthy expatriates.			
	Explain why most governments and IGOs have accepted the emergence of tax-havens although many NGOs have raised objections			

	Explain why growing global inequalities have been recognised as a major threat to the sustainability of the global economic system and some governments have promoted alternative models			
<b>EQ3: What are the impacts of global organisations on managing global issues and conflicts?</b>				
8B.7 Global organisation are not new but have been important in the post-1945 world	Explain why the United Nations was the first post-war IGO to be established and has grown in importance.			
	Explain the role of the United Nations in global governance and how it is affected by the different geopolitical visions of members of the Security Council and its multiple functions in managing global environmental, socio-economic and political problems.			
	Explain why interventions by the UN through the use of economic sanctions and direct military intervention have been made in defence of human rights but have a mixed record of success.			
	Explain why some member states (US, UK, Russia) have operated independently of the UN in intervening in 'failed states' or to conduct a 'war on terror' with profound impacts on geopolitical relations and global stability.			
8B.8 IGOs established after the Second World War have controlled the results of world trade and financial flows	Explain why the IMF, WB and WTO were established by the WWII allied nations and have been important in maintaining the dominance of 'western' capitalism, global economic management and trade policy (free trade).			
	Explain why global borrowing rules and trade policies have been especially effective in delivering growth to the developed world, but the impact of Structural Adjustment and HIPC policies on the developing world's economies and economic sovereignty is disputed			
	Explain why membership of global trade and financial IGOs is almost universal, as a result of the dominance of these organisations, but regional groupings have emerged in the form of trading blocs and in some cases there has been a movement to closer political unity.			
8B.9 IGOs have been formed to manage environmental problems facing the world, with varying success	Explain how IGOs manage global environmental issues concerning the quality of the atmosphere, biosphere and economic problems and why they represent an ongoing challenge to the USA and EU.			
	Explain why IGOs have been involved in developing laws for managing oceans (UN Convention on the Law of the Sea) and international rivers (UN Water Convention, Helsinki) as well as monitoring the state of the environment (Millennium Ecosystem Assessment).			
	Explain why IGO management also includes responsibility for Antarctica as a continent of peace and science (Antarctic Treaty System).			

EQ4. What are the threats to national sovereignty in a more globalised world?				
8B.10 National identity is an elusive and contests concept	Explain how nationalism is reinforced through education, sport and political parties and their loyalty from institutions and ideals			
	Explain that identity and loyalty is tied to the legal systems, methods of governance, national 'character' or even a landscape			
	Explain why most countries are multi-national with contrasting ethnic groups which makes identity and loyalty complex, especially in a globalised world			
8B.11 There are no challenges to national identity	Explain why the term 'Made in Britain' is complex, with many UK-based companies foreign owned (e.g. Jaguar)			
	Explain that 'westernisation' is often dominated by US based cultural values through large scale corporations of retail and entertainment – which promotes a distinctive capitalist model			
	Explain that ownership of property, land and businesses in countries is increasingly non-national, which impacts on national identity			
8B.12 There are consequences for disunity within nations	Know that strong nationalist movements seek to create independent smaller states, whilst remaining in larger trading groups (e.g. Scotland and Catalonia)			
	Know that the costs and benefits of uneven globalisation has led to political tensions in the BRIC and other emerging nations			
	Explain that the role of the state varies within countries, especially in 'failed states' where there are stark contrasts between politically and economically powerful elite, foreign investment and the wider population			

Geographical Skills for Topic 5			
1. Use of flow-lines on global maps showing flows, both the direction and number of migrants among global regions.			
2. Interpreting oral accounts from migrants to investigate the cause of migration.			
3. Interpreting a range of opinions on the contribution of migrants to the culture and social life of two contrasting nations.			
4. Use of divided bar graphs to compare the ethnic diversity of countries.			
5. Comparison of global maps of languages and colonial histories to analyse relationship between them (Anglophone, Francophone and Lusophone).			
6. Using the Gini coefficient and income/wealth proportions for deciles of the population to describe inequalities within and between nation states.			
7. Evaluating source material, including newspaper articles, to determine the impact of IGOs managing global environmental issues.			
8. Use of proportional circles to show size of output and level of foreign ownership of different economic sectors.			
9. Critical analysis of a variety of source material to identify possible reasons for errors in the assessment of the costs and benefits of foreign ownership (property land and businesses).			
10. Critical analysis of source material to identify possible misuse of data in the assessment of role of the state and the success in promoting national identity.			

**NOTES/CASE STUDY INFORMATION:**