

Research
Based
Curricula



What is the Biggest Danger That We Face? International Relations

Key Stage 4
Citizenship Studies
Final Reflections +
Uni Skills & Guidance

2019



Final Reflection



Topic	International Relations and Its Diversity, Importance and Effects; What is the Biggest Danger That We Face?
Reflection	<p>International Relations is an exciting and important subject. International Relations deals with issues and challenges which effect us all, whether this is climate change, relations between states, trade between countries, protecting human rights, acts of terrorism, the outbreak of conflict, and how to achieve peace. What happens in International Relations therefore matters. This Resource Pack has explored just some of the issues and topics in International Relations.</p> <p>International Relations is changing all of the time. We see this when we turn on the news. In studying International Relations, this allows you to look closer at issues effecting the world, and have a deeper understanding of them. You are able to explain certain behaviours and assess the consequence of certain actions. In studying International Relations, you are also able to focus on particular interests or areas in the subject and research these through a variety of sources</p>
Instructions	<p>International Relations continues to raise key questions which we should all think about. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How will International Relations look in ten years time?• Will states continue to cooperate or will there be more conflict?• Will political leaders work together on facing key challenges, such as climate change, poverty, and acts of terrorism? Or, will they place a stronger focus on the politics inside their own state?• What role can people around the world play in shaping how International Relations operate and how issues which face us all are responded to?• What is the biggest danger that the world faces now?• What will be the biggest danger that the world faces in the future? <p>As a final exercise, write a reflective essay that addresses one or more of these questions. Consider what Resources in this Pack have focused on and do your own independent research using a variety of sources. Aim to write 5–6 paragraphs for your essay.</p>

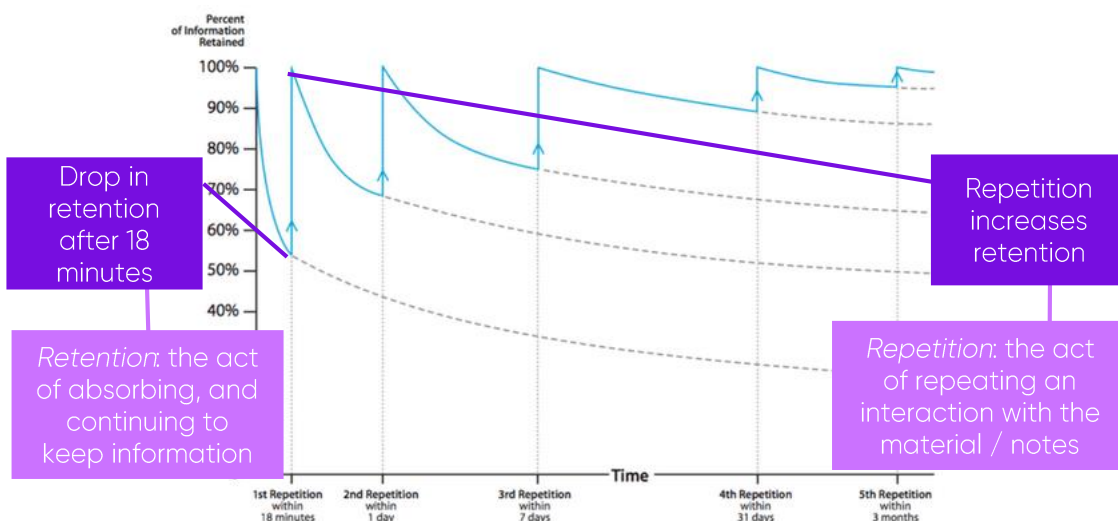
University Study Skills Cornell Notes



Why is good note taking important?

If it feels like you forget new information almost as quickly as you hear it, even if you write it down, that's because we tend to lose almost 40% of new information within the first 24 hours of first reading or hearing it.

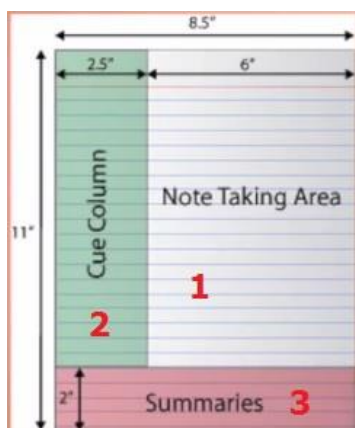
If we take notes effectively, however, we can retain and retrieve almost 100% of the information we receive. Consider this graph on the rate of forgetting with study/repetition:



Learning a new system

The Cornell Note System was developed in the 1950s at the University of Cornell in the USA. The system includes interacting with your notes and is suitable for all subjects. There are three steps to the Cornell Note System.

Step 1: Note-Taking



1. Create Format: Notes are set up in the Cornell Way. This means creating 3 boxes like the ones on the left. You should put your name, date, and topic at the top of the page.

2. Write and Organise: You then take your notes in area on the right side of the page. You should organise these notes by keeping a line or a space between 'chunks' / main ideas of information. You can also use bullet points for lists of information to help organise your notes.

Step 2 Note-Making

1. Revise and Edit Notes: Go back to box 1, the note taking area and spend some time revising and editing. You can do this by: highlighting 'chunks' of information with a number or a colour; circling all key words in a different colour; highlighting main ideas; adding new information in another colour

2. Note Key Idea: Go to box 2 on the left hand side of the page and develop some questions about the main ideas in your notes. The questions should be 'high level'. This means they should encourage you to think deeper about the ideas. Example 'high level' questions would be:

- Which is most important / significant reason for...
- To what extent...
- How does the (data / text / ideas) support the viewpoint?
- How do we know that...

Here is an example of step 1 and step 2 for notes on the story of Cinderella:

Questions:	Notes:
How does C's mother die?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cinderella is an only child • Cinderella's dad might <u>spoil</u> her • Cinderella's Step-Mother is <u>jealous</u> of her beauty • Maybe Cinderella becomes the <u>woman of the house</u>
Why does C make the Step-M so angry?	<p>↳ BUT then the Step-Mother wants that <u>position</u>.</p>
↓ What language shows this?	<p>* <u>Key point</u> → Fairy takes teach is <u>morals</u></p>
* What is the moral of 'C'?	
How do I know?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cinderella is <u>kind</u> → her Step-M is not
Is this just one side of the story?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there a <u>reason</u> for C to be badly be treated?

Step 3 Note-Interacting

1. Summary: Go to box 3 at the bottom of the page and summarise the main ideas in box 1 and answer the essential questions in box 2.

Summary:	<p>Because C is an only child, she takes over as 'woman of the house' when her real M dies. Her Step-M is jealous and angry. We only get C's side of the story so it is difficult to know whether C is really badly treated for no reason.</p>
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Give the Cornell Note Taking System a try and see if it works for you!

University Study Skills

Key Instruction Words



These words will often be used when university tutors set you essay questions – it is a good idea to carefully read instruction words before attempting to answer the question.

Analyse – When you analyse something you consider it carefully and in detail in order to understand and explain it. To analyse, identify the main parts or ideas of a subject and examine or interpret the connections between them.

Comment on – When you comment on a subject or the ideas in a subject, you say something that gives your opinion about it or an explanation for it.

Compare – To compare things means to point out the differences or similarities between them. A comparison essay would involve examining qualities/characteristics of a subject and emphasising the similarities and differences.

Contrast – When you contrast two subjects you show how they differ when compared with each other. A contrast essay should emphasise striking differences between two elements.

Compare and contrast – To write a compare and contrast essay you would examine the similarities and differences of two subjects.

Criticise – When you criticise you make judgments about a subject after thinking about it carefully and deeply. Express your judgement with respect to the correctness or merit of the factors under consideration. Give the results of your own analysis and discuss the limitations and contributions of the factors in question. Support your judgement with evidence.

Define – When you define something you show, describe, or state clearly what it is and what it is like, you can also say what its limits are. Do not include details but do include what distinguishes it from the other related things, sometimes by giving examples.

Describe – To describe in an essay requires you to give a detailed account of characteristics, properties or qualities of a subject.

Discuss – To discuss in an essay consider your subject from different points of view. Examine, analyse and present considerations for and against the problem or statement.

University Study Skills

Key Instruction Words



Evaluate – When you evaluate in an essay, decide on your subject's significance, value, or quality after carefully studying its good and bad features. Use authoritative (e.g. from established authors or theorists in the field) and, to some extent, personal appraisal of both contributions and limitations of the subject. Similar to **assess**.

Illustrate – If asked to illustrate in an essay, explain the points that you are making clearly by using examples, diagrams, statistics etc.

Interpret – In an essay that requires you to interpret, you should translate, solve, give examples, or comment upon the subject and evaluate it in terms of your judgement or reaction. Basically, give an explanation of what your subject means. Similar to **explain**.

Justify – When asked to justify a statement in an essay you should provide the reasons and grounds for the conclusions you draw from the statement. Present your evidence in a form that will convince your reader.

Outline – Outlining requires that you explain ideas, plans, or theories in a general way, without giving all the details. Organise and systematically describe the main points or general principles. Use essential supplementary material, but omit minor details.

Prove – When proving a statement, experiment or theory in an essay, you must confirm or verify it. You are expected to evaluate the material and present experimental evidence and/or logical argument.

Relate – To relate two things, you should state or claim the connection or link between them. Show the relationship by emphasising these connections and associations.

Review – When you review, critically examine, analyse and comment on the major points of a subject in an organised manner

Exploring Careers and Study Options

- ✓ Find job descriptions, salaries and hours, routes into different careers, and more at <https://www.startprofile.com/>
- ✓ Research career and study choices, and see videos of those who have pursued various routes at <http://www.careerpilot.org.uk/>
- ✓ See videos about what it's like to work in different jobs and for different organisations at <https://www.careersbox.co.uk/>
- ✓ Find out what different degrees could lead to, how to choose the right course for you, and how to apply for courses and student finance at <https://www.prospects.ac.uk/>
- ✓ Explore job descriptions and career options, and contact careers advisers at <https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/>
- ✓ Discover which subjects and qualifications (not just A levels) lead to different degrees, and what careers these degrees can lead to, at <http://www.russellgroup.ac.uk/media/5457/informed-choices-2016.pdf>

Comparing Universities

- ✓ <https://www.whatuni.com/>
- ✓ <http://unistats.direct.gov.uk/>
- ✓ <https://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/>
- ✓ Which? Explorer tool – find out your degree options based on your A level and BTEC subjects: <https://university.which.co.uk/>

UCAS

- ✓ Key dates and deadlines: <https://university.which.co.uk/advice/ucas-application/ucas-deadlines-key-application-dates>
- ✓ Untangle UCAS terminology at <https://www.ucas.com/corporate/about-us/who-we-are/ucas-terms-explained>
- ✓ Get advice on writing a UCAS personal statement at <https://www.ucas.com/ucas/undergraduate/getting-started/when-apply/how-write-ucas-undergraduate-personal-statement>
- ✓ You can also find a template to help you structure a UCAS statement, at <https://www.ucas.com/sites/default/files/ucas-personal-statement-worksheet.pdf>
- ✓ How to survive Clearing: <https://university.which.co.uk/advice/clearing-results-day/the-survivors-guide-to-clearing>

International Relations at University

- ✓ International Relations is a diverse subject area. It focuses on relations between states and leaders around the world, and conflict and cooperation between different international actors, as well as important issues facing the world and citizens.
- ✓ International Relations students will need a high level of skill and ability in analytical thinking and critical thinking. They will look beyond the headlines, consult different sources, analyse different ideas or perspectives on issues, have an eye for detail, and express this in writing and discussion.
- ✓ You can find out more about different courses and entry requirements by exploring the UCAS Guide for International Relations online through:
<https://www.ucas.com/ucas/subject-guide-list/social-studies>
- ✓ You can find out more about the different careers by exploring the UCAS International Relations Careers online; <https://www.ucas.com/ucas/after-gcses/find-career-ideas/explore-jobs/job-%20profile/international%20relations>

A Deeper Look Into International Relations

- ✓ **Browse:** <http://www.un.org/en/index.html>
- ✓ **Read:** Chris Brown and Kirsten Ainley, *Understanding International Relations*, 2009
- ✓ **Read:** Robert Jackson and Georg Sorensen, 'Introduction to International Relations: Theories and Approaches', 2015
- ✓ **Browse:** <https://www.e-ir.info/2018/02/25/introducing-marxism-in-international-relations-theory/>
- ✓ **Watch:** This documentary on the Iraq War
<https://www.aljazeera.com/programmes/specialseries/2017/01/iraq-deadly-deception-170108082649899.html>
- ✓ **Watch :** The discussion on Democracy Now
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AgcJ7htyV4M>



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