

Vinyl 2010 Essay Competition Submission Template

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Summary:

The world is going to deal with a lot of problems like food and energy crisis in the next decades. Especially the financial difference between industrial countries and the third world arouses challenges. In a globalised world this is going to have a strong impact on the whole society everywhere. The solution is already given in the humans knowledge. They basically have to change their mind and use the technology they have. The coming back to old values like humanity and charity is the answer to the improving of the well-being of our society.

Essay:

One of the most serious problems the world population is confronted with is overpopulation and in this context a food and energy crisis. Especially the difference between the decreasing of inhabitants in third world countries and the increasing of population in industrial countries, but also the city-land divide in just these third world countries is going to arouse more and more problems for the future. The world is faced with uncertain times. The following essay is now going to deal with this problem in more detail but it also shows: The opportunities for improving the society's well-being are basically given. We, the human beings have to change our attitudes.

The problem itself is not located in western countries as they are or at least should be able to cope with the problem of food and energy crisis. They have the technology and the science. In a globalised world we Europeans, we inhabitants of the western world are confronted with the problems in the third world which simply means overpopulation. But the economical situation does not really improve there and that is the reason why everyone tries to come to industrial countries in Europe or the United States for example. However, in an international globalised world, regional conflicts are quite easy on the way to become international conflicts and that is at least the point when it starts to threaten everyone even if it is far away.

The inflow of illegal immigrants from Africa to Europe is not a new phenomenon. The suggestion of former German home secretary Otto Schily to build reception camps in the north of Africa to deal with this problem just sounds like a bad joke.¹ Could this really help to solve the problem? The rich industrial countries must ask themselves why the inhabitants of poor countries are so much interested in getting to a highly developed country. Of course, the answer seems easy as well: In their native countries there are no jobs. This kind of mass immigration is also ambiguous. Immigrants can be a high benefit for the society they arrive but also a society just can cope with a certain amount of people. What can we do then? Most underdeveloped countries are in a precarious situation. International organisations are so overcrowded or unable to deal with the problem.

¹ <http://www.sueddeutsche.de/politik/471/396258/text/>

One famous example is the UN: Since the end of Second World War there were no bigger changes in its constitution. In contrast to that the world order has dramatically changed. Some of the regions with the biggest part of population are not represented at all like Africa and South America for example and the veto- right is just in hands of the same Big-Five than 60 years ago. They are supposed to solve the problems but in reality at least one of the members has a special relationship to a problematic country for economical or historical reasons so that in most of the cases it is nearly impossible to find a proper solution which is suitable for all. It should have come clear that the world needs a model like the United Nations for peace and sustainability but it should also have come clear that they need a rather quick change to more productivity and better representation of all people on the world and not just a small minority of mostly industrialized inhabitants of western states.

Another point is the food crisis. The only problem is, that most food is in western countries where the least number of the world population lives. India as a big country in progress makes a lot of effort to deal with the problem of overpopulation.² Up to now the Indian government is doing a very good job. The only problems are natural disasters like monsoons and the relaxed interpretation of environmental legislation. This causes problems especially in the very big cities. The big difference between India and other countries like North Korea is that the government allows support and help from outside in cases of worst destructions after natural disasters etc..

However, concerning energy crisis the Indian government has to work harder like the rest of the world. All in all, every country takes the credit that it has the right to use as much energy as it wants. Nevertheless, it is just too simple to say that all energy for the world can be founded out of renewable sources. The European Union needs much more energy like oil or electricity as states with more population. However, they do not take any effort to reduce the energy consumption. The European car industry was not interested at all to make progress in inventing the 3-liter car. What result does it have? Interestingly, I see this as one of the most important reasons for the ongoing car industry crisis. Anyway, you can say that they were not forced to act but now they try to change their attitude and it looks good for the future.

Finally, to sum everything up: The society is confronted with big problems but it is never too late to act. The previous essay should have showed that there are already a lot of different possibilities existing. Especially European countries have the knowledge to act and do the best out of the food and energy crisis in times of increasing population. What must be done is rather simple: Every member of our society has to ask him-/herself how they can take part in improving the society. It basically means: *Don't ask what the state can do for you, ask, what you can do for the state.*³ If states stop to act self-focussed and values like humanity and charity come more into focus then we should be able to cope with every problem which exists or arouses.

² <http://www.sai.uni-heidelberg.de/abt/intwep/zingel/jbindi99.htm>

³ Quote taken from suisse political scientist Gerhard Kocher