

Contemporary World (approved) – Synoptic Table

Contemporary World, Course 1						
Theme	Designated focus	Common concept	Central concept	Specific Concepts	Topic to be interpreted	Position to be taken
Environment	Environmental management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Interdependence</li><li>Globalization</li><li>Power</li></ul>	Sustainable development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Consumption</li><li>Dependence</li><li>Regulation</li><li>Responsibility</li></ul>	Economic, political and social choices in environmental management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The use and consumption of resources</li></ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The harmonization of environmental standards</li></ul>
Population	The increase in migration		Migration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Culture</li><li>Relocation</li><li>Diaspora</li><li>Network</li><li>Urbanization</li></ul>	Economic and social changes related to the increase in migration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The management of urban expansion</li></ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Migration and the world of work</li></ul>
Wealth	The distribution of wealth		Disparity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Concentration</li><li>Economic development</li><li>Flows</li><li>Social justice</li><li>Resource</li></ul>	The disparity in the distribution of wealth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Balancing social justice and economic development</li></ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The control of resources</li></ul>

Contemporary World, Course 2						
Theme	Designated focus	Common concept	Central concept	Specific Concepts	Topic to be interpreted	Position to be taken
Power	The powers of states	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Interdependence</li><li>Globalization</li><li>Power</li></ul>	State	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>International law</li><li>Governance</li><li>Integration</li><li>Sovereignty</li><li>Standardization</li></ul>	The redefinition of the powers of states	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The capacity of states to take action</li></ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The sovereignty of states and economic or political associations</li></ul>
Tensions and conflicts	External intervention in a sovereign territory		Intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Diplomacy</li><li>Human rights</li><li>Ideology</li><li>Interference</li><li>Demand</li></ul>	The legitimacy of external intervention in areas of tension and conflict	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Application of the principle of humanitarian assistance</li></ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The interests of intervening parties versus those of populations</li></ul>

Competency 1: Key Features and Manifestations

Defines the problem

- Identifies forms the problem takes in different parts of the world
- Identifies actors
- Establishes facts
- Defines the context

Competency 1

Interprets a contemporary world problem

Analyzes the problem

- Interrelates various aspects of society
- Determines causes
- Establishes consequences
- Identifies different points of view
- Examines some of the interests at stake
- Recognizes power relations

Considers the problem as a whole

- Compares manifestations of the problem
- Considers the problem on different scales
- Demonstrates the global nature of the problem

Critically assesses his/her process

- Considers what he/she has learned about the problem using this process
- Evaluates the effectiveness of the strategies used
- Identifies the difficulties he/she experienced
- Identifies ways to improve his/her process

Competency 2: Key Features and Manifestations

Examines some points of view on the issue

- Identifies various points of view
- Identifies the values and interests that underlie these points of view
- Establishes points of convergence and divergence among these points of view
- Identifies possible solutions
- Considers the potential impact of the proposed solutions

Competency 2

Takes a position on a contemporary world issue

Considers the media treatment of the issue

- Recognizes the choices made by some media in their treatment of the issue
- Establishes the influence of the media on his/her opinion

Debates the issue

Bases his/her opinion on facts

- Develops arguments defending his/her opinion
- Demonstrates an open mind toward opinions differing from his/her own

Considers opportunities for social action

Recognizes types of action that could be taken

- Identifies contexts or institutions that could provide the framework for his/her actions
- Establishes an action plan

Critically assesses his/her process

- Considers what he/she has learned about the issue using this process
- Evaluates the effectiveness of the strategies used
- Identifies the difficulties he/she experienced
- Identifies ways to improve his/her process