

Improve your writing – Focus on globalisation and international relations

by Barbara Pelikan



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Die Unterrichtsreihe unterstützt Lehrkräfte dabei, die Schreibkompetenz ihrer Schülerinnen und Schüler im fortgeschrittenen Englischunterricht zu optimieren. Schrittweise werden die Lernenden angeleitet, die spezifischen Merkmale der Textsorten „*Speech*“ und „*Comment*“ im Kontext „*Globalisation and international relations*“ anzuwenden. Ein abschließender Test ermöglicht es den Lehrkräften, den Lernfortschritt der Lerngruppe zu ermitteln.

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Competences and skills:

The central purpose of this unit is to help students develop their **writing skills**. To this end, students work with authentic written and audio texts, extract relevant content and analyse it (**reading comprehension** and **listening competences**). These skills are the basis for optimising their writing competence. They also practise **linguistic and formal conventions** applicable to particular text types. Students train to report about events on various topics centring on globalisation, explain points of view in a differentiated manner and comment on the opinions of others. In addition to address specific target groups, learners practise **clear and precise argumentation** as well as coherence of content and language. They expand their expertise in the area of globalisation and international relations, which also benefits them across the curriculum.

Overview:

List of abbreviations:

A	Analysis	C	Comment
CT	Creative task	D	Discussion/debate
G	Group work	L	Language
LVC	Listening/viewing comprehension	M	Mind map/visualising
P	Working with a picture/ cartoon	PR	Presentation
R	Research	RC	Reading comprehension
S	Summary	T	Working with the text
VI	Working with a video	W	Writing

Topic	Material	Methods/Skills
1: Globalisation – let's get started	M1–M4	D, W, VI A, R, CT, PR
2: Analysing and writing speeches	M5–M10	RC, D, VI, W
3: Writing comments	M11–M14	RC, R, C, VI
4: Exam		RC, A, C

Worksheet – Is globalisation a threat?

M2

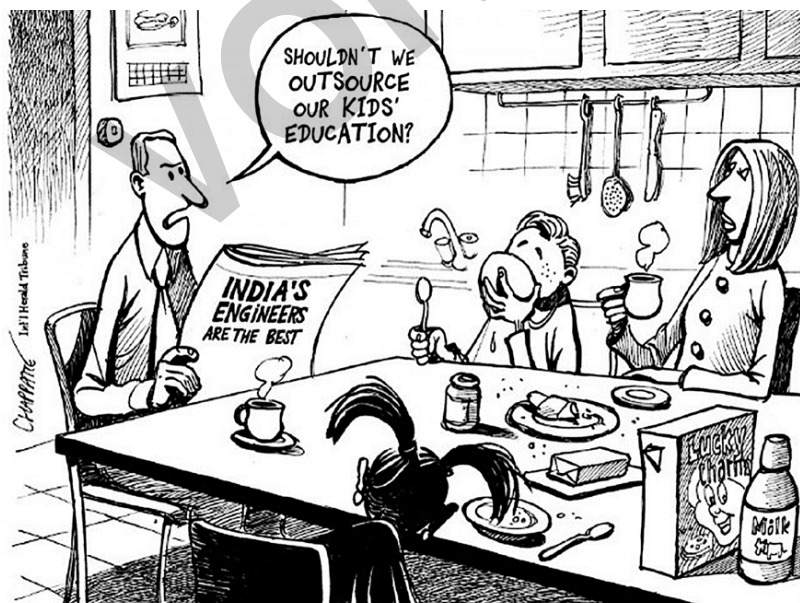
Working with cartoons

1. Choose one of the cartoons and describe it.
2. Analyse the content and use the information that you have gathered in M1.



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Worksheet – Political speeches

M7

“The right speech on the right topic delivered by the right speaker in the right way at the right moment can ignite a fire, change men's minds, open their eyes, alter their votes, bring hope to their lives, and, in all these ways, change the world. I know. I saw it happen.”

Source: Ted Sorensen (President Kennedy's famous speechwriter and counsellor) in his autobiography; Found at: <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/cifamerica/2010/nov/04/ted-sorensen-white-house-speechwriters> [last access: 25/02/2022]

1. What does Sorensen say about speeches in the quotation above? Say it in your own words.
2. What is a political speech and what is its purpose?
3. What do you think is important in a political speech at election times and in what way do speeches by the same politicians differ, depending on where they are held?
4. Which famous speeches do you know or remember?



Worksheet – Great speeches

M8

1. Explain why the crowds went wild when the American president John F. Kennedy said the famous words, “Ich bin ein Berliner” in his speech in Berlin in 1963.
2. Watch the first 35 seconds of Barack Obama's speech on winning the Nobel Peace Prize in 2009: <https://raabe.click/en-Obama-Nobelpeaceprize> [last access: 25/02/2022]. What does he talk about in those first seconds and why do you think he chose that start?

Annotation: Bo is the family's dog, Malia and Sasha are his daughters.

3. Watch the speech by then almost unknown Barack Obama. When you watch it the first time, just try to understand as much as possible. When watching for the second time, take notes on what makes this speech so great:

<https://raabe.click/en-speech-Obama> [last access: 25/02/2022].



Background information: In 2004, a senator from Illinois took the stage to deliver the keynote speech at the Democratic National Convention in Boston. By the time Barack Obama had finished speaking, Democrats across the country knew they had seen the future of their party. The rest is well-known history: he became the first Black President in 2008 and was re-elected in 2012. He also won the Nobel Peace Prize.

Worksheet – Comment practice and comment writing

M14

Working with videos

1. Watch the following two clips. One is a bit older and gives you more ideas about the situation some years ago; the second one deals with a new agreement that has been implemented.



Undercover in a Bangladesh clothing factory (4:40), 2013

<https://raabe.click/en-undercover-Bangladesh>

[last access: 04/03/2022]



Bangladesh: Deal on safety standards at garment factories in effect (3:00), 2021

<https://raabe.click/en-safety-Bangladesh> [last access: 04/03/2022]



2. Now write the introduction for a comment on: "The textile industry in Bangladesh – exploitation or opportunity?" Write between 70–90 words.



Writing

3. Write a comment on the question "Do the chances of globalisation outweigh the challenges?" Write between 400–600 words.



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