

OUTLINE PROPOSAL FORM: EXAMPLE C

for GCE A/AS Level Examinations

Please read the instructions printed overleaf before completing this form

Name of Centre	XXXX	Centre Number	XXXX
Candidate Name (if required)	XXXX XXXX	Candidate Number	XXXX
Syllabus Title	Global Perspectives & Research	Syllabus Code	9239
If this is a re-submission, please check box	<input type="checkbox"/>	Component Number	04
Examination/Assessment Session:	June <input type="checkbox"/> November <input type="checkbox"/>	Year	XXXX

Title of Proposal	How effective has the IMF been in promoting stability and prosperity? (1)

Details of Proposal (see over)	
<p>By the end of this research report I would like to come to an deep understanding of how the IMF operates and come to a conclusion on whether their economic policies can effectively help countries, especially the developing countries into stability and prosperity ('curing') or cause more issues to the countries ('killing'). Also I would like to investigate the reasons why some IMF policies are ineffective. Furthermore, I would like to investigate whether there are alternative methods to help those countries that are in need if the IMF's policies are ineffective.</p> <p>Key Arguments:</p> <p>The first argument is that the IMF's 'economic medicine' doesn't work because of the system itself. Here I will be using my sources (main sources 1, 4, 11, 13) to outline what is the IMF, its operation, funding and voting system. From these documents I can deduce the pros and cons of the system, (2) for example, looking at which countries have the most voting power at decision-making. This therefore can suggest whether the IMF's policies work or not. The main argument here is that there are major flaws in the IMF's voting system as the countries who have the most influence over important decisions are from the first world. There are also a lack of representatives from countries in the LEDCs in the IMF, therefore how could these people from the richer countries possibly understand what is needed the most?</p> <p>Also, I will look at the successful and unsuccessful cases of the IMF policies. (Main sources: 1, 6, 8, 10, 12, 13). This can help me investigate why the policies failed to work or why it was successful. (3) It also allows me to compare cases, as this will allow me to see whether the IMF prescribes non-case specific policies for every country who needs help, which will aid my evaluation. Finding out whether the IMF uses the same policies for every country that needs help is crucial because not all countries' situation and development is the same. If this is true, like some sources claim, then this could suggest the main reason why the IMF policies have left some countries far worse than before the policies were implemented. I will investigate the claim that the IMF forces developing countries to adopt ineffective policies and let the countries sink further into poverty, whilst the developed countries benefit from them. Pakistan's long relationship with the IMF can help provide some insights into this claim. This is because Pakistan is among the most frequent users of IMF loans, having borrowed IMF money 12 times since 1980. However, most of these programmes failed due to Pakistan's failure to fully adopt the IMF's policy recommendations. There is debate on whether this failure was due to Pakistan's poor implementation or the IMF's poor programme design, this will aid me to come to a conclusion.</p> <p>Next, I will look at to what extent should the IMF's policies be classified as neoliberalism (main source: 1, 2, 7, 8, 14) I will also clarify what neoliberalism is and why it is bad for some and beneficial to others. (4) Furthermore I will explain why neoliberalism is harmful, especially to the developing countries. I will look at the reason why thousands of activists protested in Prague, Czech Republic against the policies and institutional structures of the International Monetary Fund (IMF). This is part of a growing movement that is highly critical of the neoliberal economic policies being imposed on people all over the world, including those in Western countries; I will question the plausibility of this and by looking at previous policies that have been implemented in the countries mentioned above. I will also assess the claim that the IMF is an outdated tool and if their policies and role in the global economy have been suitably updated to serve the interests of those that benefit from neoliberalism.</p>	

In the conclusion, I will suggest alternative solutions and areas that should be improved. For example, I will emphasize that there are major flaws in the IMF's voting system as the countries who have the most influence over important decisions are from the first world and the lack of representatives from developing countries and therefore implies that major reforms must be done in order to provide more effective policies to countries.

These are examples of critical thinking technique I will use to assess my sources: (5)

1. How reliable is the writer and the organisation they are from? (for example; the writer maybe from a developed country who may have benefited from the IMF policies. This means that they have a vested interest and can be biased. This reduces the credibility and reliability of the source.)
 - Are they an expert in this field?
 - Do they have a vested interest in this topic?
2. Are the claims backed up by evidence?
3. Does the claims corroborate with other sources?
4. Is there evidence of bias in the source?
5. How credible and plausible is the evidence? (e.g. Where did the writer obtain the statistics given from? Is the data accurate?)

Sources (so far): (6)

1. <http://prutland.faculty.wesleyan.edu/files/2015/08/The-role-of-the-IMF-in-Russia.pdf>
2. <http://prutland.faculty.wesleyan.edu/files/2015/07/PR-Neoliberalism-in-Russia.pdf>
3. <http://www.globalexchange.org/resources/wbimf/oppose>
4. <http://www.heritage.org/research/reports/1997/05/bg1113-the-international-monetary-fund>
5. <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/survey/so/2015/pol121615a.htm>
6. <http://www.mit.edu/~thistle/v13/2/imf.html>
7. <https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/2016/06/pdf/ostry.pdf>
8. <https://fee.org/articles/end-the-imf>
9. http://web.stanford.edu/class/e297c/trade_environment/global/hcrisis.html
10. <http://www.lse.ac.uk/newsAndMedia/videoAndAudio/channels/publicLecturesAndEvents/player.aspx?id=3352>
[/http://www.lse.ac.uk/publicEvents/pdf/2016-LT/20160128LoukaKatseliPPT.pdf](http://www.lse.ac.uk/publicEvents/pdf/2016-LT/20160128LoukaKatseliPPT.pdf)
11. <https://www.imf.org/external/about.htm>
12. Making Globalization work by Joseph Stiglitz
13. Globalization and Its Discontents - Joseph Stiglitz
14. The Deadly Ideas of Neoliberalism: How the IMF has Undermined Public Health and the Fight Against AIDS - Rick Rowden
15. The Global Development Crisis- Ben Selwyn

Date	XX/XX/XX
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Comments:

The research question is clear and opens up a possible discussion on a topic of global relevance on which there are a variety of views. The proposal starts by looking at the current system and sets out how it seeks to analyse the advantages and disadvantages of its current form. Appropriate source materials have been selected to support this discussion. The candidate has planned the structure of this critical discussion, claiming to first consider the policies of the IMF and then think about the concept of neoliberalism and how this may make the policies more or less effective. The candidate is clearly drawing from a range of perspectives to help them answer their chosen question, and explains the critical approach they will adopt in the research. A detailed bibliography is included.

The candidate has clearly planned the structure of the report and how the issues will be discussed, and appears to have undertaken valuable preliminary research to ensure that there is sufficient evidence accessible to them. Understanding is shown of critical methods and the nature of the discussion to be had. This is a well-considered proposal on a serious topic of global interest, and the candidate is aware of the conflicting perspectives that will arise in response to the research question.

				Adviser's Initials	XX	Date	XX/XX/XX
<i>For CIE use only:</i>	APPROVED	APPROVED WITH PROVISIO (see comments)	NOT APPROVED	More information required	Approval not required; please see comments		
	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		