

School of Interdisciplinary Studies
World Issues Singapore Perspective (WISP) AY 2022/2023
ASSESSMENT 2: Visual Essay (30%)

The United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (UN-SDGs) together form a blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all.

These 17 goals address the global challenges we face and the global community aims to achieve them by 2030.

This assessment requires students to research on an SDG in the context of a chosen country, examine and evaluate one initiative that has been done to address the issue. This is to be done in the form of a visual essay, which is a collection of images that are placed in a specific order to tell the progression of events. or explore a theme



(United Nations)

Instructions:

Step 1: SDG & Target Selection

There are 17 SDGs and each SDG comprises many targets. In order not to overwhelm students with choices, a pre-selected list of SDGs and targets has been provided for you below. You will need to **first select an SDG** from the list below and then select **one corresponding target** as your focus for your visual essay.

Within the class, there can only be a maximum of 6 students choosing the same SDG (please indicate your choice in the class sign-up sheet).

Refer to these links for more information:

UN SDG website: <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>

Global goals: <https://www.globalgoals.org/>

UN SDGs	UN Targets (Choose one target as the focus for your visual essay.)
No Poverty (SDG 1)	1.A Mobilize resources to implement policies to end poverty 1.2 Reduce poverty by at least 50% 1.4 Equal rights to ownership, basic services, technology and economic resources 1.5 Build resilience to environmental, economic and social disaster
Gender Equality (SDG 5)	5.1 End discrimination against women and girls 5.4 Value unpaid care and promote shared domestic responsibilities 5.5 Ensure full participation in leadership and decision-making 5.C Adopt and strengthen policies and enforceable legislation for gender equality

Clean Water & Sanitation (SDG 6)	6.1 Safe and affordable drinking water 6.3 Improve water quality, wastewater treatment and safe reuse 6.4 Increase water-use efficiency and ensure freshwater supplies 6.B Support local engagement in water and sanitation management
Decent Work and Economic Growth (SDG 8)	8.1 Sustainable economic growth 8.3 Promote policies to support job creation and growing enterprises 8.5 Full employment and decent work with equal pay 8.8 Protect labour rights and safe working environment
Sustainable Cities & Communities (SDG 11)	11.1 Safe and affordable housing 11.2 Affordable and sustainable transport systems 11.6 Reduce the environmental impact of cities 11.7 Provide access to safe and inclusive green and public spaces
Responsible Consumption & Production (SDG 12)	12.1 Sustainable management and use of natural resources 12.3 Halve global per capita food waste 12.6 Encourage companies to adopt sustainable practices and sustainability reporting 12.8 Promote universal understanding of sustainable lifestyles

Step 2: Country Selection

After selecting the SDG and target, you must now **choose a country to research on**. The country chosen must NOT be Singapore. After doing relevant research, prepare a visual essay on an MS Word document comprising the following:

For each question, please provide 1-2 visuals to accompany your answer. Provide **relevant captions** for the visuals and **state the source** of your visuals.

- a. Provide a brief introduction on your chosen country in relation to the target chosen. Why is the target important to the country? (8 marks)**

[Note: E.g. If you are doing SDG 5 (Gender Equality) and you have chosen country X, start by introducing country X by giving statistics and explanation on the population, percentage of women compared to men, percentage of women in leadership roles in the country etc. Explain why the target is important to country X. Select 1-2 relevant visuals and provide captions.]

- b. What are the challenges faced by the country in relation to the target? (6 marks)**

[Note: The challenges faced can be related to country X's geographical position, culture, or political, economic or social issues. The visuals you use should have separate captions that explain how they are relevant to this context.]

- c. What is one initiative the country has implemented to achieve this target? To what extent has it been effective (provide an evaluation of its effectiveness)? (8 marks)**

[Note: The initiative chosen can be something implemented by the government or by a non-governmental organization in country X. The visuals you use should have separate captions that explain how they are relevant to this context.]

Organisation, Clarity & References (4 marks)

Your visual essay should be well-organised, with clear headings reflecting the three different sections. You also have the responsibility to adhere to academic integrity by acknowledging all your sources, including the visuals used. You must include both in-text citations and a reference list using a recognized referencing style, like the APA or MLA, even after you have paraphrased the ideas you have borrowed from your research materials.

Visuals (4 marks)

We live in the social media era where we witness the power of visuals in enhancing communication. It is hoped that the visuals will do the same. Your 1 to 2 visuals for each of the 3 Questions (photographs, infographics, comics, etc) can be original or sourced from the internet (please give credit to the authors through proper citations and references) and should be carefully selected to enhance the understanding of your contents.

(Note: In total, your essay should not be longer than 500 words. This word limit excludes all words from the captions of visuals. Each caption can contain up to 30 words.

Please include a word count. Essays without a word count will have 1 mark deducted.)

Step 3: Submission

Submit your visual essay on time.

For Tues – Fri classes: It is due in **Week 8 (6-10 Jun) by 2359hrs on the day of your WISP lesson.**

For Monday classes: It is due in **Week 9 (Monday, 13 Jun) by 2359hrs.**

UPDATE: Your submission for A2 is to be done via **MeL Blackboard** at <https://mel.np.edu.sg/> You may submit a draft (up to 3 times) to check on your SafeAssign score.

Please ensure that you submit your FINAL copy to the FINAL SUBMISSION LINK. Only 1 submission is allowed in the final link so please ensure you submit the correct copy.

There is no need for a cover page, but do ensure your visual essay begins with the following six items:

Name & Student ID:		Class:	
Chosen SDG:		Chosen target:	
Chosen country:		Word count:	

Please ensure that you have done the following before submitting your report:

<u>Task</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Done?</u> <u>Y/N</u>
1. Medium, Font & spacing	Submissions should be on an MS Word document, with type-written texts and 1.5 or double-line spaced. Use either 11 or 12-point Arial or Times New Roman font. Ensure that you include captions (max of 30 words per caption) for each visual.	
2. In-text citations	Your visuals and texts should contain in-text citations, which are a brief form of your references. It gives information to enable your reader to identify the source in your references list. For samples of in-text citations, please visit the link given and click on 'In-text citations' https://www.np.edu.sg/library/pages/apa_citation.aspx	
3. Reference list	At the end of your visual essay , there should be a Reference section, which is a list of all the sources you have used in your visual essay. The list should be arranged in alphabetical order . Do ensure that your sources are credible ones. For a guide on how to do a reference list, visit https://www.np.edu.sg/library/pages/apa_citation.aspx Submissions without both in-text citations and a reference list will be capped at a maximum of 50% of the total mark (a D grade).	
4. Name, Word limit & Word count	<u>Name</u> : Please name your file in this format: Your class_ A2_Full Name, e.g. "T89_A2_John Lim.doc". <u>Word limit</u> : The maximum limit is 500 words. Parts of the visual essay which exceed this limit will not be marked. The word limit does not include captions, in-	

	<p>text citations, references or headings.</p> <p>Failure to indicate word count will result in 1 mark being deducted from your assessment.</p>	
5. Academic integrity & honesty	<p>You must <u>never</u> copy or submit your friend's work. If you are using information from elsewhere, please provide citations/references. If citations/references are not provided, or if you are found to have plagiarized your work, you will be dealt with in accordance with NP's Policy on Cheating & Plagiarism. Please see this link: http://www.np.edu.sg/antiplagiarism/</p>	
6. Submission on MeL & plagiarism check	<p><u>Draft</u>: Submit your visual essay to the Draft Link for A2 (on MeL Blackboard) to check your plagiarism score. You have up to three attempts on this link to do your checks. https://mel.np.edu.sg/</p> <p>Please plan ahead and submit your draft a few days before the deadline to check for your plagiarism score.</p> <p><u>Final</u>: Your FINAL copy of the visual essay must be submitted to the Final Link for A2 (on MeL Blackboard). Only one attempt is allowed so please ensure that you have uploaded the correct document. Failure to submit your report via the Final Link will be regarded as a non-submission, and your visual essay will not be graded.</p> <p>Your plagiarism score ideally should not exceed 20%. If your score is higher than 20% due to the system highlighting your references or other non-content related points, do not worry – your tutor will check your submission and waive the need for a plagiarism inquiry.</p> <p>If it is determined that plagiarism has occurred, you will receive a zero mark for the assignment.</p>	
7. Deadline	<p>Submit your visual essay on time.</p> <p>For Tues – Fri classes: It is due in Week 8 (6-10 Jun) by 2359hrs on the day of your WISP lesson.</p> <p>For Monday classes: It is due in Week 9 (Monday, 13 Jun) by 2359hrs.</p> <p>LATE Submission penalty:</p> <p>A penalty of 10% of the total mark allocated for the assessment will be deducted per day for the first 7 days (including weekends & public holidays). Assessments submitted later than 7days after the deadline without a valid reason or prior approval will receive a mark of ZERO. (Late submissions will increase your RISK of FAILING the assessment and/or module.)</p>	

WISP ASSESSMENT 2: Visual Essay (30%) – Marking Rubric

	A	B	C	D	FAIL
	6.5 - 8	6	5 – 5.5	4 – 4.5	<4
Introduction & importance of target (8 marks)	A clear and relevant introduction with relevant statistics and points. Importance of target is explained clearly and persuasively, facilitating understanding of the rest of the report. Where appropriate, very compelling data included.	A clear introduction with some relevant statistics and points. Importance of target is explained clearly, facilitating understanding of the rest of the report. Where appropriate, relevant and useful data included.	A fairly clear introduction with some statistics. Importance of target is explained, but could have been clearer. Where appropriate, some relevant data included.	Introduction and importance are hardly relevant and statistics not included or clearly explained, which barely facilitated understanding of the rest of the report. No relevant data included.	Irrelevant points and statistics not explained. No link whatsoever with the rest of the report.
	5 - 6	4.5	4	3 - 3.5	<3
Challenges of target (6 marks)	The challenges of the target for the chosen country are clearly and succinctly discussed. Very compelling research materials included.	The challenges of the target for the chosen country are clearly discussed. Compelling research materials included.	The challenges of the target for the chosen country are discussed, though some may be more well-presented than others. Relevant research materials included.	The challenges of the target for the chosen country are discussed, though clearly there are lapses. Obviously lacking in relevant research.	Irrelevant discussion of the challenges of the target. It is doubtful if research was even attempted.
	6.5 - 8	6	5 – 5.5	4 – 4.5	<4
Discussion & evaluation of initiative (8 marks)	Initiative is discussed very clearly and succinctly with excellent evaluation of its effectiveness. Well supported by compelling evidence.	Initiative is discussed clearly and with good evaluation of its effectiveness. Supported by good evidence.	Initiative is discussed with some evaluation of its effectiveness. Supported by sufficient evidence.	Initiative is discussed with no evaluation of its effectiveness. Barely any evidence given.	Irrelevant discussion of initiative without relevant evaluation. No evidence.
	3.5 - 4	3	2.5	2	<2
Choice of visuals (4 marks)	All visuals are well-selected as they are relevant and very effective in enhancing understanding of the contents. Captions are clear and relevant.	Most visuals are relevant and effective in enhancing understanding of the contents. Captions are mostly clear and relevant.	Some visuals are relevant and somewhat effective in enhancing understanding of the contents. Captions lack relevance or are vague.	Only a few visuals are relevant and have minimal effectiveness in enhancing understanding of the contents. Captions are missing, lack relevance or are vague.	The visuals are irrelevant and ineffective in enhancing understanding of the contents. Captions are missing or totally irrelevant.
	3.5 - 4	3	2.5	2	<2
Org, clarity & references (4 marks)	Very well-organised and very clear language. Used credible sources. Did proper and extensive citations and reference.	Well-organised and clear language. Used credible sources. Did proper citations and references.	Somewhat organised and somewhat clear language. Sources were not always credible. Provided citations and reference but not in required form.	Not organised, language at times incoherent. Sources were not always credible. Provided citations or reference but not in required form.	Disorganised and language is incoherent. No citations or reference done.
NOTE:	<p>Submissions without both in-text citations and a reference list will be capped at a maximum of 50% of the total mark (a D grade).</p> <p>Failure to indicate word count will result in 1 mark being deducted from your assessment.</p>				