



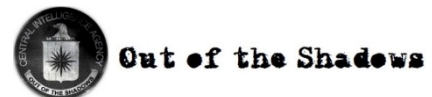
WELSH BACCALAUREATE

Advanced

Global Citizenship Challenge

Generic Brief

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (Drones)



Available for assessment from January 2019

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (Drones)

Purpose

The purpose of the Global Citizenship Challenge is to develop learners' skills, whilst providing opportunities to understand and respond appropriately to global issues. During the Global Citizenship Challenge learners will explicitly develop skills of Critical Thinking and Problem Solving, Creativity and Innovation and Literacy and apply them in an appropriate manner.

Brief

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In the past twenty years, terrorism and counter-terrorism have been at the forefront of the global agenda. Since 2002, the United States government has relied on the use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (also known as drones) in its effort to counter-terrorism worldwide. Drones have been used to carry out strikes against suspected terrorists – a practice known as “targeted killing” - in multiple countries around the world including Afghanistan, Iraq, Yemen, Syria, Libya, Somalia, and Pakistan. Some of these strikes have taken place during active conflicts (e.g. during the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq). Others have taken place against countries with which the United States is not at war.

In recent years, several other countries including China and Israel have started to develop, produce, and sell drones. Often, these have been used only for surveillance purposes. Several states, however, have followed the example set by the US (and Israel) in arming their drones and using them for counter-terrorism and to conduct targeted killings around the globe. Quite controversially, democratic countries like the US, the UK, Israel, and Australia have been at the forefront of this drone use. This raises multiple questions regarding the morality, legitimacy, and strategic effectiveness of drones. Drones clearly provide these states with strategic and political advantages by permitting them to use of force without putting the lives of soldiers at risk.

Along these developments, however, multiple non-governmental organizations (like *Human Rights Watch* and Amnesty International), as well as international organizations (like the United Nations) have called on states to regulate the use of drones, to be more transparent in their decisions, and to protect the lives of civilians in conflict zones. This Challenge provides you with an opportunity to acquire knowledge and understanding of the use of drones in counter-terrorism and develop an insight into the strategic, moral, and legal debates surrounding their use. You will develop and support particular arguments, viewpoints or perspectives on this global issue to construct your own Personal Standpoint.

The focus of the Global Choices Conference you will contribute to is:

‘The use of drones by governments and non-government organisations is increasing. What approach could be taken to ensure that their use is effective, legal, and moral?’

The skills that you develop in the Global Citizenship Challenge will give you the ability and confidence to be an active global citizen, ready to make a positive difference in the world.