The IB Extended Essay: Managing your Research Project

Get expert guidance on writing your IB Diploma Programme extended essay with this course designed for IB students and teachers.

If your students are not completing the whole of this course online and are not participating in the teacher-led lessons based on it, then they can complete useful and engaging activities based on the content covered. You can choose for your students to complete individual tasks by themselves or encourage group work. Though you may have your own ideas about what your students can do with the course content, we’ve made things easy for you by suggesting some activities that you can submit to your students below:

Individual student tasks taken from the course

Reflection: Students write a 500 word reflection on what they learned from the course, including anything they might do differently now as a result of their learning and anything additional they found out from their own reading around the topic. They will submit this reflection as a written essay, podcast or video.

Activity: Students write up to 3 research questions that interest them, including the subject area they fit into. Then they complete the exercise on Step 1.7 and write a list of all the potential key terms to search for.

Research task: Students choose two of the sources listed and comment on their reliability. They submit their summary to you as either a slideshow, written essay or video.
Group tasks based on the course

Discussion task: Allocate your students to groups of no more than 4 and ask them to discuss examples of flawed arguments and convincing but incorrect arguments. You will need to set up a discussion board on a platform of your choice.

Additional support

You can use the How to use Futurelearn guide with your students to get started. If you have any more questions, please refer to the FAQ section.
Student instructions

Reflection

Write a 500-word reflection of what you have learned from the course. It should include anything you might do differently now because of what you learned and anything additional you found out in your reading around the topic. Submit this reflection to your teacher as a written essay, podcast or video.

Activity

Use the guidance on Step 1.2 and 1.3 of the course to write up to 3 research questions that interest you. Identify which subject area they fit into.

Then complete the exercise on Step 1.7 and make a list for each question of all the key terms you would search for.

Research task

Choose two of the sources listed below and, using what you have learned on Step 2.2, write a summary of your thoughts on their reliability.

- Great Barrier Reef Obituary
- Express newspaper article
- Grist article
- Huffington Post article
- Twitter posts on the Great Barrier Reef
- Scientific paper

Your summary can be submitted to your teacher as an essay, slideshow or video.
Group discussion

Use the discussion board set up by your teacher to discuss your answers to these questions:

1. Can you give some examples of flawed arguments you have encountered?

2. Can you think of any arguments you found convincing even though it turned out they were inaccurate? Why were they so convincing?