**Theme: Global Issues (August 2011)**

Since the end of World War II, the world has faced many issues that have affected countries, regions, and the global community. The solutions to these issues are often complex and have met with varying degrees of success.

**Task:**

Select two global issues that have occurred since the end of World War II and for each

* Describe how this issue has affected a specific country or region or the global community
* Explain a solution that has been proposed to address the issue
* Discuss the extent to which this solution has been successful in solving the issue

You may use any global issue from your study of global history. Some suggestions you might wish to consider include deforestation, nuclear proliferation, AIDS, famine, terrorism, refugees, pollution, desertification, and child soldiers.

**AIDS**

Describe how this issue has affected a specific country or region or the global community

* Southern Africa suffers greatly from AIDS
  + Estimated that 15% of the population has HIV
  + Virus is easily transferable – little education about the ways of spreading HIV – people do not take the necessary precautions to avoid spreading the disease
* Many villages have been wiped out from this disease
  + Making treatment harder since the children are the only survivors

Explain a solution that has been proposed to address the issue

* Many countries have launched education programs
  + Teach people how to avoid spreading the disease
  + These attempts to address the underlying causes of the spread of AIDS have not been very successful
  + Many people are poor and lack formal education
    - Very rarely attend school

Discuss the extent to which this solution has been successful in solving the issue

* Gates foundation has donated billions to fighting the spread of HIV in Africa
  + Want to create clinics, provide medicine, and schools in rural areas
  + Medicine can slow the progression of HIV into AIDS but they are still very expensive
    - Money donated to many countries for the prevention and treatment of HIW are misspent by the leaders of countries

**Global Warming**

Describe how this issue has affected a specific country or region or the global community

* Defined as the increase of the average temperature of the earth
  + Results from the increased emission of carbon dioxide from the burning of fossil fuels
  + Burning of fossil fuels has increased greatly as many countries undergo industrialization and cars became more popular in the latter half of the 1900s

Explain a solution that has been proposed to address the issue

* 1997 – Kyoto Protocol – international agreement to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases signed by 192 countries
* Many governments have implemented laws for reducing the use of fossil fuels
* Pursuit of alternative sources of energy have been widely supported
  + Ethanol as an alternative to oil is becoming much more popular
  + Hybrid card are widely used
  + Electric cars are becoming more popular
* Go Green Campaign – encourages people to conserve resources

Discuss the extent to which this solution has been successful in solving the issue

* Despite attempts to regulate and reduce effects of Global Warming are still a problem
  + Polar ice caps are melting,
    - Water levels are rising
    - Animals living in Arctic regions are in danger of losing their natural habitats
  + Ozone layer is being depleted
    - More ultraviolet rays are entering the earth’s atmosphere
  + Weather patterns are shifting
    - Warmer winters, more frequent violent storms