

Contemporary Issues Task

A Step-by-Step Guide



The following are included in this section:


- Ideas to choose from for the task
- Ideas for your presentation section of the task
- Instructions to complete task portfolios

How to use this section

What is the Contemporary Issues Task?

- The **Contemporary Issues Task** is worth 10 credits in your final result.
- The task consists of a research investigation and participating in actions to tackle a contemporary issue in society.
- The task is completed in Session 3 of the LCA Programme with a **10-minute interview**.
- During the interview, you will **present for 2 minutes** on the Contemporary Issue you are focusing on. You will then be questioned for **8 minutes** on your investigation and action portfolio.

How to use this section of the book

- This section is a guide to help you to:
 - Select your contemporary issue
 - Prepare for your presentation
 - Complete your portfolio.
- If you see **Portfolio page** and  in a title, this page must be included in the portfolio. The portfolio is usually typed.
- Other pages in this section will help your preparation work for the portfolio, which the examiner will ask you questions on in the interview.

Deciding on your issue to tackle the task

The planning stages

Who to work with?



- First you must decide whether or not you are going to work individually or as part of a group.
- This is very important, as you will have to consider your own strengths and weaknesses and what type of worker you are.

Complete the tables below on the advantages and disadvantages of working on your own and working in a group. This will help you to evaluate what you want to do.

Some questions to consider and to help you complete the tables:

- 1 Do you work well with people?
- 2 Do you prefer to do all the work yourself?
- 3 Do you find it easy to talk to people?
- 4 Do you get frustrated if everyone in the team is not meeting their targets?
- 5 Do you need to be motivated by others?

Individual-based task:

Advantages

Disadvantages

Group-based task:

Advantages

Disadvantages

Deciding on your issue to tackle the task

Whether or not you are completing the task in a group or alone, you will have to be motivated and hardworking to get those high credits.

You will have to bring your own skills and qualities to help you complete this task to the best of your ability.

- **A skill is having something that helps you to complete a task well.** Some examples are communication, organisation and IT skills.

- **A quality is something that helps you to work to the best of your ability. It is a characteristic that you have as a person.** Some examples are hard-working, focused, trustworthy and honest.

Thinking about yourself individually or in a group, write down the skills and qualities that will help you to complete this task.

Skills

Qualities

Write whether you have decided to complete the task alone or in a group. Give a reason for your answer.

Deciding on your topic

- A contemporary issue can be explained as an area of concern that affects humans or society.
- There are hundreds of contemporary issues around the world, as all people live in different cultures, countries and economies.
- This is a chance for you to think about the world, do research and see what different issues are in the world today.

The following examples will help you to understand what a contemporary issue is. You can choose to complete your task on one of these or come up with your own.



Deciding on your topic

1. In the box below, write some ideas you have for other issues that can be used for your task.


2. What are the top **three** issues you have decided on?

Issue 1: _____

Issue 2: _____

Issue 3: _____

3. Why did you choose the first one?



4. Why did you choose the second one?

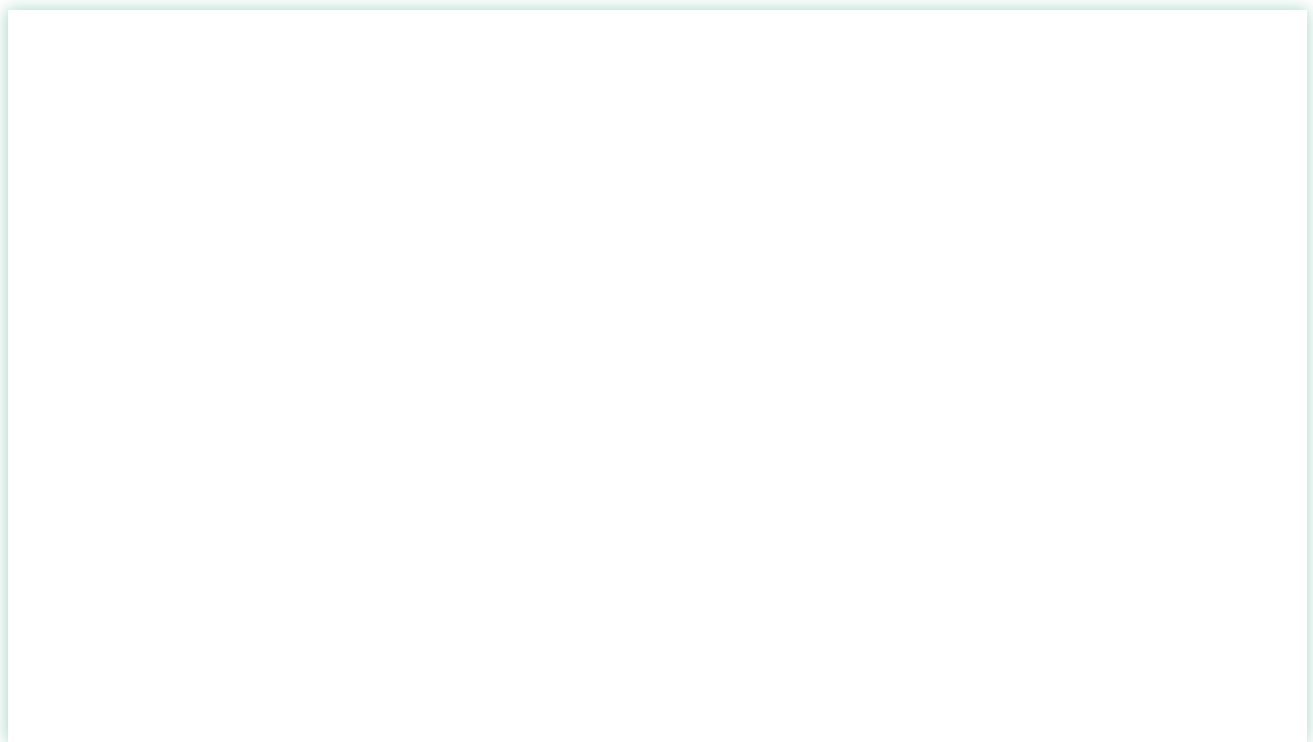
5. Why did you choose the third one?

6. Which one are you going ahead with for your task?

7. Draw an image that can be used as part of your portfolio about the topic you have chosen. This could be an image to represent a charity, a logo, an illustrated quote or slogan or a portrait.

OR

Write any points you already know about your topic. This could be who it affects, where it is most common or why it happens.



The Presentation

To complete the Contemporary Issues Task, you must give a 2-minute presentation to the interviewer. It should show that you have learned a lot about your contemporary issue.

Preparing your presentation

Make sure your presentation is well practised and thought out. The information you give to the interviewer should be clear and specific.

You could present your information as:

- A poster
- A PicCollage made from the newspapers
- A PowerPoint
- An information leaflet
- A written poem