

Lesson 5:

Lesson Title:	Geopolitics
Learning Objectives:	To understand the meaning of the term 'geopolitics' & to apply examples of geopolitical disputes around the world.
Homework	N/A
Quote	<i>"Geography does not change, but man does, and man can change geography. This is evident in the way nations assert their claims over islands, reshaping the geopolitical landscape"</i> ~ Tim Marshall
Geographical Skills	Critical thinking, decision making, map skills, sequencing, explanation, judgement making
Resources/ Equipment	Mini-whiteboards & pens, video questions worksheet, timeline dates worksheet, A3 sheets
Geographical Vocabulary (Tier 3)	Geopolitics, territorial, sovereignty, colonialism, conflict, disputes
Pupils Prior Knowledge	Historical context, geographical concepts (e.g. locations), political understanding & awareness
Careers Link	Diplomat, political risk analyst, international relations analyst, journalist, cartographer, lawyer, policy advisor, military services, intelligence officer, MP, teacher
Useful Websites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the South China Sea dispute? - BBC News • Home - The Geopolitics • Geopolitics Latest news and analysis from The Economist • Spratly Islands Disputes, Geography & History, South China Sea Britannica • Geopolitics and conflict for KS3 Geography - BBC Bitesize • BATTLESHIP for Kids – COKO GAMES

Lesson Plan:			
1.	Time/Duration: 5 minutes	Activity	Purpose of task
	Task: Starter Activity	<u>Pupil activity:</u> Use the images/ logos of different organisations to establish what the lesson might be about. <u>Teacher activity:</u> Facilitate discussions. Using probing questions, allows pupils to expand on their ideas, such as asking what influences their thinking?	It is likely that some pupils will recognise some of the organisations, more than others. The class discussion helps pupils to expand on previous lessons and their own knowledge e.g. news. Discussing ideas as a class, allows opportunity for challenging ideas & developing ideas.
	Any additional notes:		
2.	Time/Duration: 5 minutes	Activity	Purpose of task

	Task: 'Close to home'	Pupil activity: Using their mini-whiteboards, write the answer that they think matches each statement about geopolitics 'close to home'. They will then turn their boards around and show the teacher.	Often pupils might struggle to understand the concept of geopolitics. This provides a wide scale of geopolitical examples, helping this understanding. Completing a mini-whiteboard quiz allows the teacher to assess prior knowledge quickly & effectively. It can also be more engaging than being told the information directly.
	Any additional notes: It is worth preparing the mini-whiteboards & pens prior to the lesson starting, to help with efficiency.	Teacher activity: Read out questions & provide regular time frames/countdowns, so that pupils know how long they have left. If appropriate, ask pupils further questions about the events, helping expand knowledge.	
3.	Time/Duration: 5 minutes	Activity	Purpose of task
	Task: Team drawing task	Pupil activity: In pairs, they need to decide who will be explaining and who will be drawing. If they are drawing, they must face away from the main screen, with a mini-whiteboard in hand. If they are explaining, they will be shown an image. They need to describe this image for their partner to draw. However, the challenge is to explain it, without using any of the key words in the box. They have 3 minutes only to complete this task, followed by a discussion about what it shows. Teacher activity: If pupils haven't completed something similar before, this is likely to require detailed explaining of the task. Circulate the classroom & listen to explanations, making sure the 'banned' words aren't being said.	It provides an engaging opportunity to introduce pupils to the concept of conflicts in the South China Sea, as they are having to analyse the image in depth, when explaining & drawing it, considering what it might be showing.
	Any additional notes:		
4.	Time/Duration: 5 minutes	Activity	Purpose of task
	Task: South China Sea video	Pupil activity: As the video is played, they will be answering the questions on their worksheets.	Pupils will have to listen intently to the video, to make sure they pick out the correct information to help them with answering the questions. It is an effective way to help them understand the concept of the dispute,
	Any additional notes:		

		<u>Teacher activity:</u> Run through answers at the end of the video, using cold calling for responses.	as they are more likely to be engaged with the video.
5.	Time/Duration: 5 minutes	Activity	Purpose of task
	Task: Prior knowledge	<u>Pupil activity:</u> On whiteboards, pupils will jot down any information they know about the countries on the list. This might include things they have seen in the news, relationships between the countries, historical events, sport etc. They then need to consider how this knowledge might link to impacting the dispute (as seen in the previous video). <u>Teacher activity:</u> Facilitate discussions.	This is an effective way to help pupils draw links between prior knowledge and new knowledge, whilst enhancing their understanding of geopolitics. Completing on mini-whiteboards is effective, as it is less likely to result in pupils opting out, as they won't worry about it being wrong etc.
	Any additional notes:		
6.	Time/Duration: 5 minutes	Activity	Purpose of task
	Task: Nine Dash Line	<u>Pupil activity:</u> Quick class discussion to recall what the 'nine dash line' actually is. Using the summary on the board, pupils need to write their own explanation, using no more than 25 words. <u>Teacher activity:</u> Facilitate discussions.	It is important to have an explanation, as this will help pupils with the rest of the lesson, having something to refer back to. It adds a fun challenge & pupils have to implement the skill of condensing information to help with this, picking out the key information only.
	Any additional notes:		
6.	Time/Duration: 5 minutes	Activity	Purpose of task
	Task: Location	<u>Pupil activity:</u> Using the different maps on the board, pupils need to add to their explanations of the 'nine dash line', explaining the location of where these disputes take place. There is no word limit for this section of the task. They can use the different bullet points as prompts, however they should feel confident with the general information to include, as this is a skill regularly covered in lessons. <u>Teacher activity:</u>	Locational understanding is a useful geographical skill & will also help their overall knowledge of the 'nine dash line' & why it is so significant.
	Any additional notes:		

		Facilitate discussions & provide prompts if needed.	
7.	Time/Duration: 5 minutes	Activity	Purpose of task
	Task: Spratly Islands	Pupil activity:	Pupils are able to understand the significance of these events & link it to their geopolitical knowledge.
	Any additional notes: To save time, pupils could always write a number on each box, depending on when the event occurred, rather than cutting them out.	1. Create a timeline of events that have happened on the Spratly islands, by cutting out the information boxes and sticking them in chronological order in books. 2. Rank the different events in order of significance. 3. Write an explanation for their first and last choice of significance, in full sentences, in books. Teacher activity: Draw a rough copy of a suggested timeline on the board. Complete the first two as a class.	Ranking in order of importance helps demonstrate their judgement and evaluation skills. It is important that reasoning can be explained in detail, as this will help develop their own understanding & will help across subjects, particularly with essay writing. It is important to demonstrate how these conclusions have been reached.
8.	Time/Duration: 5 minutes	Activity	Purpose of task
	Task: Recap quiz	Pupil activity:	It is a useful opportunity to assess how much information has been learned in the lesson. This formative assessment method, allows the teacher to make quick & informative decisions regarding particular topics which might require further teaching, or particular pupils that have struggled.
	Any additional notes: It is worth preparing the mini-whiteboards & pens before the lesson, to save time.	Using the different statements on the board, pupils need to decide what they think the correct answer is & write it on their mini-whiteboards, before showing the class teacher. Teacher activity: Read out the questions. Provide effective countdowns/ time frames to help with task.	
9.	Time/Duration: 5 minutes	Activity	Purpose of task
	Task: A3 sheets	Pupil activity:	1. A3 sheets – allows pupils to consolidate their knowledge from the lesson. This sheet will also be very beneficial to their final project, as they can refer back to a clear set of information.
	Any additional notes: Slide 30 – “Want to know more?”. Pupils will have access to this slide digitally. For those pupils who are wanting to extend their learning further, they can access this information. It helps broaden their	1. Return to their ‘islands’ spider diagrams, completed on A3 sheets. Encourage them to add any information that they have learned during the lesson. 2. Discussion on quote of the day. Teacher activity: 1. Explain A3 spider diagram task.	2. Incorporating a quote at the end of the lesson is a useful tool for consolidating learning. Pupils are able to combine their knowledge from the lesson, to their own opinions the opinions of others. It also encourages cross-curricular connections to English. It leaves

	knowledge, purpose for learning & helps inspire them further.	2. Facilitate the discussion of the quote of the day.	pupils with something to think about as they leave the lesson.
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