



Unit 8.10: How Important Is Active Citizenship?

[Here is a link to the instruction video also found on the assignment download page.](#)

Big Ideas



- *Explore how ideologies shape individual and collective citizenship.*
- *Develop strategies to address local, national, and global issues that demonstrate individual and collective leadership.*
- *Explore opportunities to demonstrate active and responsible citizenship through individual and collective action.*
- *Analyze the extent to which ideology should shape responses to contemporary issues.*
- *Explore an issue and defend a position regarding this question: Do you apply a certain ideology and/or actions as a citizen when faced with the global issues of today?*



- *This is a two-part assignment.*

Contents

Instructions	2
Getting Started	3
Part One Outline Response	4
Total /10	8
Part Two Written Response	9
Suggested Format	9
Suggestions for Success	10
Rubric: Exploring an Issue and Defending a Position	11
Student Exemplars	12




Instructions

1. Read all the instructions.
2. Read all the citizen perspectives.
3. Plan your response in the outline 8.10 outline.
4. Write out the final draft of your response using the outline in 8.10 Leadership and Citizenship assignment.
5. Submit the entire assignment in Moodle.

Getting Started

In this assignment, you will assess citizen actions about an issue. You will consider strategies to address global issues that demonstrate individual and collective responses.

Example Citizen Action Statements about Poverty

Citizen One	Citizen Two	Citizen Three
		
<p>As an individual citizen, I do not at all like the idea of being forced into programs to help poor countries. It is important to remember that all citizens have freedoms to act according to how it will suit them. I have chosen to work very hard to move ahead. As a responsible citizen, I made a great deal of effort to be responsible for myself and not to be a burden. I like that I can choose what programs I give to, and I concentrate on my own local needs, such as food banks. Everybody in a liberal democratic state has that responsibility. I do not think that we should just be giving money for poverty reduction programs in this country or developing nations. If we really want to help poor countries, we can do it by encouraging them to understand and adopt our liberal democratic ideals. In this way, they will attain viable liberal strategies that stress individual responsibility. When people have these, they truly can work for the common good.</p>	<p>I think that one of my most important roles as a citizen in a country that has strong liberal democratic roots is to provide help for those who are less fortunate than I am. So for me, the most important word is "active"—I should be active as a citizen of this country and the globe. I believe that is my role. I have worked hard and created a great life for myself because I was free to act according to my desires, and in return, I should try to allow other people to have the opportunity to move ahead. Governments can help by sponsoring some of the programs to help reduce poverty both here and in developing nations, but this should not be left up to a government alone. Responsible citizens should step forward and be actively involved as well, and this will reduce the burden on governments. I take part in many programs as an active citizen, such as Habitat for Humanity, and I even go to developing nations to help there. Because of my efforts, I am providing a strong role model for these people so that they will embrace the ideology of active citizenship.</p>	<p>I am very proud to live in a wealthy liberal democratic nation. Living in this country has allowed me to become well off and enjoy many of the great things in life. I would like all people in the world to enjoy the same benefits that I have. I think that the common good of all people in the world will be achieved if those of us in countries with wealth help others with programs to help them reduce poverty. This will require a broad approach with many programs needed to help attain this goal. As a result, the only organizations that can do this are the government and, through their support, the United Nations. As a responsible citizen, I think that I should encourage the government to expand their programs to help reduce poverty both here and in other nations. By sharing my good fortune through these government programs, I can be assured that I am working toward the common good of all people and help guide them to create their own liberal democracies.</p>

- **Explore** the issue of your actions and ideologies when faced with global issues.
- **Analyze** the various citizen points of view on the issue.
- **Explain** and defend your position on the question.
- **Support** your point of view using your understanding of social studies.
- **Apply** terminology.

Part One Outline Response



Do you apply a certain ideology and/or actions as a citizen when faced with the global issues of today?

Examples to guide your response: Poverty, hunger, human rights, natural disasters, child labor, water shortage, indigenous rights, refugee camps, women's rights, or pollution.

Total /5 marks

Part Two Written Response



Do you apply a certain ideology and/or actions as a citizen when faced with the global issues of today?

In this assignment, you will write a paragraph exploring the ideology and/or actions as a citizen when faced with global issues you chose earlier. You will use the feedback provided on your Part 1 Outline to help you with your response.

Total /15 *Based on the Rubric found at the end of the assignment.

Explore the issue of how Canadians approach a current interest

- **Analyze** different perspectives on the issue
 - **Do not simply restate the individual citizens' points of view from**

the prompt. You must identify different ideological perspectives on the issue.

- **Explain and defend** your position on the question.
- **Support** your point of view using your understanding of social studies.
- **Use terminology** from the chart 2.12A to support.

Part One Outline

Outline summary:

Paragraph 1: Introduction of issue and competing values or circumstances that make responding to the question/problem difficult.....

Paragraph 2: An **individualist** thinks and believes with your issue.....

Paragraph 3 : A **collectivist** thinks and believes with your issue.....

Paragraph 4: A **pluralist** thinks and believes with your issue.....

Paragraph 5: The best way to help the common good is.....

Paragraph 1 Introduction of issue and competing values or circumstances that make responding to the question/problem difficult

Building an Introduction for this question:

1. Write about the complexity of your chosen interest in society. Why is it important? Why is this interest so complex? (2-3 points) You may use point form.
2. What ideologies (a system of ideas based on economic or political theory and policy) can you bring in to show the complexity of your interest? Can you put this issue on the spectrum? (2-3 points) You may use point form.
3. How does your interest link to the values of collectivism and individualism? Relate your interest to both approaches to show complexity. 2-3 points.
4. Which principles of **liberalism** can you apply to your interest and explain connection? Explain 1-2 points. (**Private property, rights & freedoms, rule of law, competition, economic freedom and self-interest, cooperation, collective**

responsibility, adherence to norms, economic equality, public)

5. **Thesis Statement** use the information from your outline to compose a thesis statement regarding the complexity and perspectives on the issue you chose. Remember, your thesis should present a position either for or against the issue you have chosen.

Write an introduction outline here:

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Paragraph 2: Individualist perspective on the issue

Suggestions for success:

- Do not skip this paragraph
 - Make it 7-10 sentences
 - Use course terminology
 - Close with a thesis around the fact there are multiple perspectives on the matter.
1. How might an **individualist** argue for or against your issue?
 2. **Provide examples** to support this perspective. Include a current event, or a country and ideologies. **Apply terminology from 2.12 Chart Canada Actions.** 5-7 points.

Write a paragraph 2 outline here:

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Paragraph 3: Collectivist perspective on the issue

Suggestions for success:

- Do not skip this paragraph
 - Make it 7-10 sentences
 - Use course terminology
 - Close with a thesis around the fact there are multiple perspectives on the matter.
3. How might a **collectivist** argue for or against your issue?

4. **Provide examples** to support this perspective. Include a current event, or a country and ideologies. **Apply terminology from 2.12 Chart Canada Actions.** 5-7 points.

Write a paragraph 4 outline here:

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Paragraph 3: Pluralist perspective on the issue

Suggestions for success:

- Do not skip this paragraph
- Make it 7-10 sentences
- Use course terminology
- Close with a thesis around the fact there are multiple perspectives on the matter.

5. How might a **pluralist** argue for or against your issue?
6. **Provide examples** to support this perspective. Include a current event, or a country and ideologies. **Apply terminology from 2.12 Chart Canada Actions.** 5-7 points.

Write a paragraph 4 outline here:

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Paragraph: 5 Your Position or the best way to help the common good

Suggestions for success:

- Do not skip this paragraph
- Make it 7-10 sentences
- Use course terminology
- Close with a thesis around the fact there are multiple perspectives on the matter.

1. Pick for or against the interest you've chosen. Explain why you are for or against this interest. Use **supportive examples** and **terminology** to support your position. Include a current event, or a country and ideologies.

Apply terminology from 2.12 A. 6-10 points.

2. The best way to serve the common good is
3. Provide an example.

Write a paragraph 5 outline here:

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/10 Total for outline

Suggested Format

Introduction: Reveals the complexity of the issue. Applies the spectrum, principles of liberalism, values of collectivism and individualism. Includes a thesis statement on complexity.

Perspective 1: Explains the perspective using values of individualism. Includes examples from an individual perspective. Apply terminology from right, roles, and responsibilities.

Perspective 2: Explains the perspective using values of collectivism. Includes examples from a collective perspective. Apply terminology from right, roles, and responsibilities.

Perspective 3: Explains the perspective using values of the common good. Includes examples from a common good perspective. Apply terminology from right, roles, and responsibilities.

Conclude your position: State your position. Use your values to explain why. Include examples that support your perspective. Apply terminology from right, roles, and responsibilities.

Suggestions for Success

- **Review the example responses found below the rubric.**
- **Explore** the ideology and/or actions as a citizen when faced with global issues
- **Analyze** different perspectives on the issue
 - **Do not simply restate the individual citizens' points of view from the prompt.**
- **Explain and defend** your position on the question.
- **Support** your point of view using your understanding of social studies.
- **Use social studies terminology.**

Do you apply a certain ideology and/or actions as a citizen when faced with the global issues of today?

Examples to guide your response: Poverty, hunger, human rights, natural disasters, child labor, water shortage, indigenous rights, refugee camps, women's rights, or pollution.



<Write your response here.>

Rubric: Exploring an Issue and Defending a Position

Focus	Exploration and Analysis 6 marks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality of the exploration of the issue(s) Quality of analysis of various points of view on the issue(s) Understanding of the assigned task 	Defence of Position 6 marks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality of argument(s) selected to support the position taken Quality of evidence selected to support the position taken Understanding of the assigned task 	Communication 3 marks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organization and logic Contribution of stylistic choices to the creation of voice Vocabulary, sentence construction, grammar, and mechanics
Excellent E	Exploration of the issue(s) is insightful and complete. Analysis is thoughtful and thorough, and misconceptions, if present, do not detract from the response. There is a confident and perceptive understanding of various points of view and the assigned task. 6	The defense of position is based on one or more convincing, logical arguments. Evidence is specific and accurate, and errors, if present, do not take away from the response. There is a confident and perceptive understanding of appropriate social knowledge and the assigned task. 6	The writing is fluent and effectively organized. Voice is convincing and engaging. Vocabulary is precise. The writing shows a confident control of sentence construction, grammar, and mechanics. Errors, if present, are unimportant. 3
Proficient Pf	Exploration of the issue(s) is specific and accurate. Analysis is appropriate and purposeful but may contain minor misunderstandings. There is a clear understanding of various points of view and the assigned task. 4.8	The defense of position is based on one or more sound arguments. Evidence is appropriate but may contain some minor factual errors. There is a clear understanding of appropriate social knowledge and the assigned task. 4.8	The writing is straightforward and clearly organized. Voice is distinct. Vocabulary is specific. The writing shows effective control of sentence construction, grammar, and mechanics. Errors do not detract from communication. 2.4
Satisfactory S	Exploration of the issue(s) is valid but general and may contain misunderstandings. Analysis is general and straightforward. There is an acceptable understanding of various points of view and the assigned task. 3.6	The defense of position is based on one or more acceptable arguments. Evidence is relevant but general and/or incompletely developed. The evidence may contain errors. There is an acceptable understanding of appropriate social knowledge and the assigned task. 3.6	The writing is generally clear and functionally organized. Voice and vocabulary are adequate. The writing shows basic control of sentence construction, grammar, and mechanics. Errors do not seriously interfere with communication. 1.8
Limited L	Exploration of the issue(s) is vague and may contain large errors. Analysis is limited and overgeneralized or repetitive but somewhat visible. There is a minimal understanding of various points of view and the assigned task. 2.4	The defense of position is based on oversimplified arguments and/or questionable logic. Evidence is superficial, may not always be relevant, and may contain large errors. There is a confused, yet visible, understanding of appropriate social knowledge and the assigned task. 2.4	The writing is uneven and incomplete but is somewhat organized. Voice is inappropriate and/or unconvincing. Vocabulary is imprecise and/or inappropriate. The writing shows uncertain control of sentence construction, grammar, and mechanics. Errors reduce communication. 1.2
Poor P	Exploration of the issue(s) is wrong or unrelated. Analysis is minimal and/or tangential. There is a minimal understanding of various points of view and the assigned task. 1.2	The defense of position is hard to understand, and/or little to no attempt is made to defend it. Evidence, if present, is incomplete and/or barely appropriate with frequent large errors. There is minimal understanding of appropriate social knowledge and the assigned task. 1.2	The writing is unclear and disorganized. Voice is unsuitable and/or ineffective. Vocabulary is ineffective and frequently incorrect. The writing shows lack of control of sentence construction, grammar, and mechanics. Errors hurt communication. .6
TOTAL: /15			

Areas of Strength	
Areas to Improve	
Totals	Part 1—Outline: /10 Written Response: /15 Total: /25 Once your assignment is graded, always review the comments and the feedback file. You will be expected to use those comments and feedback in your next assignment.

Student Exemplars

90-100%

The subject of programs to help poor countries is one that Canada has been a world leader on. But there are many varying views on how to address this social issue. The helping of poor countries needs to achieve a few different things: military stabilization, medical treatment, food, and shelter. It's easy to go into a country, beat up the bad guys, give some vaccines, build some houses and dig some wells, drop off some bags of food and clothing, and call it a day. That doesn't address the issue of poverty. As the old saying goes, "Give a man a fish you feed him for a day, teach him to fish and he can feed himself for a lifetime."

Some citizens believe the government is responsible for taking care of us domestically and of others internationally through social programs using tax dollars. It is their belief that we as Canadians are all wealthy and can support such broad programs, and it is the responsibility of the government and the United Nations to implement these broad programs. The flaw in this system is that the government cannot organize and efficiently execute its actions enough on a large scale. People will take advantage of these social systems. Example, "up to 95 per cent of Swedes surveyed had abused the system, either fraudulently or by exploiting loopholes and 'You can eat nice food. You can sleep until 12:00. I think Stockholm is a good place,' says Bjorn, a homeless man who has not had a roof over his head in twenty years." These welfare state systems create dependents.

Others think it is their responsibility to address social issues on their own aside from the government, demonstrating an example of responsible "active citizenship" for others to follow. These citizens believe it is in their own best interest to show leadership. They believe government shouldn't be burdened by additional social programs and that responsible citizens should step forward and be actively involved. This system works best because it generates authentic involvement, doesn't leave much room for social dependency, and

limits the tax burden of social programs on those with lower incomes. Government can sponsor or support these initiatives, and they can self-regulate the programs.

There are citizens that believe participating in social issues should be a personal choice instead of a forced participation indirectly through the use of their tax dollars. They don't believe in supporting social poverty programs, because it is the responsibility of each citizen to not be a burden on society. They think the solution lies in encouraging them to understand and adopt liberal democratic ideals. The flaw to this system is it imposes liberal values on people that may reject those values. This type of view in the system would result in a large amount of poverty, high crime rates, and economic inequality.

How should my actions as a citizen be shaped by an ideology?

Our ideology becomes our identity and therefore shapes our actions. We are shaped into our beliefs and values by many factors, including our culture, education, religion, language, environment, relationship to land, gender, and media. The character of ideology is influenced by an interpretation of history, beliefs about nature, beliefs about society, and visions of the future. This leads to how we citizens identify ourselves through our individual and collective interests. From there, we take the actions we deem appropriate to mold the society we live in.

I look for balance in my response to social issues so my perspective aligns with citizen II the most. I don't allow my ideology to become my identity, but participating in responsibilities of citizenship through informed active citizenship is important for cultivating and maintaining a better Canada. Growing up middle class in Canada and living in both BC and Alberta has influenced the cultures I have experienced in my world travels, the education I have received, and the jobs I have worked in. Watching the news, reading papers, and researching points of view online all help to shape my beliefs and values as an individual. I take part in political participation, and I vote in all levels of elections after I have researched party positions to make sure they align with my ideologies. When it comes to social issues, I believe in respecting laws, protesting with minor civil disobedience, and political participation through collecting signed petitions and presenting well thought out presentations to civic or provincial or federal representation. I have made large donations to women's shelters and participated in company-matched payroll deductions to poverty with over \$20,000 donated to two charities. I don't believe in vandalism, armed revolutions, or eco-terrorism.

The way to make change is through collective collaboration and accountability to your representation. Good government is the platform to discuss issues, and active citizenship is the means. Using a call to action on social issues allows those capable to allocate their time and financial resources toward issues is far better than increasing taxes on those already burdened by financial hardship. If you want to address issues, it is best to demonstrate good stewardship, active citizenship, and responsible participation, allowing those that are like-minded to see the action, align themselves with the cause, and participate through their own free will.

Marker's Response: Although this student did not follow the suggested templates, he or she did cover the aspects of the template. You can respond creatively, just include everything from the template!

40-50%

My actions as a citizen should not be shaped by my ideology or by anyone's Ideology, the decisions taking by the government should not be taking by their ideology, it should be taking by the needs of the nation should be taking by actions need it. There is nothing wrong with our ideology that is great that anyone is different and think differently, However when it comes to the common good there are some people who their ideology might be selfish would not want the common good, they only care for their own good as the first citizen in the statement above which seems pretty selfish to me we should help those in need we are bless having wealth, healthy around us which those in poor countries do not have all what we have I think we should share our blessing we should "treat everyone the way you want to be treated" we should stand up and be humanitarian with our brothers and sister our the world. The last two citizens have good points but I have to say that the one that touches me and the one that is closest to my idea is the last one. The last citizen has a good point of view that explores the great it would be helping those poor nations in need. The last citizen explores how we could make it happen what we have to do to achieve it. Ideology will shape anyone actions as a citizen for sure however it should not restrict those actions It's not about right to left, it is about right or wrong. Be balanced in your actions and views, people should act in ways that benefit their community or at last not harm them.

(Your defense of position is good, but remember that you MUST give one paragraph PER SPEAKER to explain what they say. This will be on the final exam and the diploma exam as well. – as only one of the two questions was done. Look at what I highlighted above.)