

International Relations

10th and 11th Grades

To be completed within 180 minutes
Maximum score – 100 points

Essay topics. Select ONE of them and write an essay. The essay must be at least 5,000 (five thousand) characters long (including spaces).

1. What are the differences between neorealists, neoliberals and neo-Marxists in their interpretations of state foreign policy and international relations?
2. Why did the Westphalian, Vienna, Versailles-Washington and Yalta-Potsdam systems of international relations fail? What are the main features and problems of the Westphalian, Vienna, Versailles-Washington and Yalta-Potsdam systems of international relations?
3. How have global problems (environmental pollution, global warming, the threat of nuclear conflict, terrorism, COVID-19) influenced international relations? Do countries combine their efforts to solve global problems?
4. What is “soft power”? How has soft power impacted on international relations? What are the types of "soft power" and their limitation?
5. What role did Russia (since 1922, the USSR) play in the Vienna, Versailles-Washington and Yalta-Potsdam systems of international relations? What role does Russia play in the modern system of international relations?
6. What is the impact of international organizations on the resolution of military conflicts, peacekeeping and poverty alleviation efforts? Is it possible to create a world government in the 21st century to tackle such global problems as military conflicts, the development of weapons of mass destruction, poverty and inequality?
7. How have the Internet and the media influenced the processes aimed at destabilizing state power, staging revolutions and the change of political regimes? Arguments “for” and “against” state control over the media and social networks.
8. Can globalization be considered as a threat to sovereignty and national/cultural identity? What are the positive and negative aspects of globalization?
9. Why are national interests necessary? Is it permissible for the state to violate the norms of international law to protect national interests and ensure national security?
10. Are transnational corporations a threat to sovereignty and national security? Is it a myth or a reality? Arguments “for” and “against” transnational corporations.