

Analyzing Global Issues

Steps	Questions to Ask	Possible Strategies
1. Identify the Issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the issue about? • Define the issue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask questions to differentiate the issue from another
2. Define the scope of the issue and identify stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is this local, national, or global in scope? • Are there connections among the three levels? • What individuals or groups are or will be impacted and why? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct preliminary research (e.g. surveys)
3. What do you currently know about the issue? (purpose is to identify gaps)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are all the aspects of this issue? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use a web diagram • Brainstorm
4. Frame the issue.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the environmental, social, cultural, political, and economic implications? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use these headings to list aspects
5. Intensive Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What sources do I need to consult to fill in missing information? • Should I conduct my own primary research? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examine various types of mainstream and alternative media • Consult international and non-governmental organizations • Conduct own research using interviews, surveys, and fieldwork
6. Organize new information into a preferred structural framework.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What organizational format best suits my needs? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use a graphic organizer, a chart, or other organizational structure.
7. Analyze the information you have collected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have I considered all points of view? • Am I leaving any questions unanswered? • Have I separated fact from opinion? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the credibility of each source of information • Analyze statistics • Identify trends and patterns.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are there viewpoints I have not considered? • Have I challenged commonly held assumptions? • What relationships exist between people and the environment? • Do I understand the environmental, social, political, and economic contexts associated with the issue? • Have I used the best sources? • Do I have the information I need to come to an informed conclusion? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look for significant relationships • Evaluate the evidence that supports each point of view.
<p>8. Draw conclusions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What conclusions can I reach about this issue, based on my analysis and evaluation? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draw logical conclusions from your research based on your arguments and supporting evidence.