4.2 HL: challenges of identity, borders, security and technology

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 30 marks**

KEY WORDS identity • borders • security • technology • asylum

Objective

Study the other four **global political challenges** for the HL extension, **identity**, **borders**, **security** and **technology**, each through a case study, and practise comparing cases from different challenges.

You must be able to:

- explain why each challenge is political and global
- analyse a case study with the key concepts
- compare two cases from different challenges
- interpret stimulus data on migration or technology
- evaluate the responses of different actors

1 Key knowledge and worked examples

■ Four challenges and example cases

challenge	why it is political	example case
identity	who belongs, and whose language, religion or culture is protected	the Rohingya in Myanmar and Bangladesh
borders	who may cross, and who controls territory	migration across the Mediterranean to the EU
security	how states and people are kept safe, and from what	cyber-attacks on hospitals and power grids
technology	who controls data, platforms and AI, and who sets the rules	the EU's General Data Protection Regulation (2018) and its AI Act (2024)

■

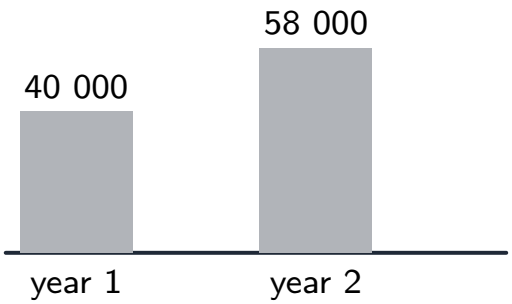
Use the same questions for both cases (actors, interests, power, concepts), then say what is **similar** and **different**, and what the comparison shows about global politics. For example, both the Rohingya case and Mediterranean migration involve **sovereignty** and **human rights**, but in the first the state is the main source of harm; in the second, the main issue is how other states respond.

Worked example. The UNHCR reported over 100 million forcibly displaced people worldwide by mid-2022, a figure that kept rising afterwards. Concepts: **sovereignty** (who may enter), **human rights** (the right to seek asylum, UDHR Article 14), **interdependence** (conflict in one region creates movement into others).

2 Practice

2.1 Explain why **technology** is a **global political** challenge. [2]

2.2 A table (illustrative values) shows asylum applications in a country: 40,000 in year 1 and 58,000 in year 2. Calculate the percentage increase, and explain **one** reason why numbers alone do not explain the politics of borders. [3]



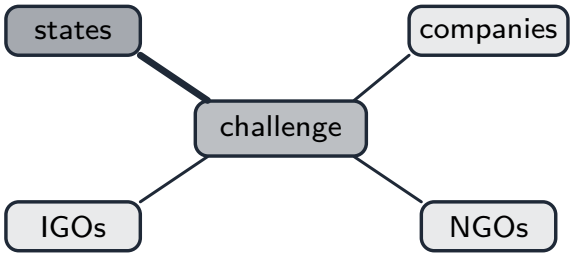
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2.3 For an **identity** case study you have studied, explain how **legitimacy** and **human rights** apply. [4]

2.4 Compare a **security** case and a **technology** case you have studied. [6]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 *(Paper 3 style.)* With reference to **two** case studies from **different** challenges (identity, borders, security or technology), evaluate the claim that states remain the most important actors in responding to global political challenges. [15]



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Solutions

Marking: **M1** a correct method, **A1** the correct answer, **B1** an independent mark.

Each answer shows the steps, then the **result**.

2.1

technology companies and states compete for control of data, platforms and AI, and their rules affect people in many countries; no single state can set the rules alone, so there is political conflict over who governs technology

2.2

$(58\,000-40\,000)/40\,000\times100 = \mathbf{45}\,\%$; how people see the numbers depends on perspective and identity: some see a humanitarian duty, others a threat; governments' responses depend on politics, e.g. elections, not only on the size of the flow

2.3

case named with detail, e.g. the Rohingya: denied citizenship under Myanmar's 1982 law; mass flight to Bangladesh in 2017; human rights: the right to a nationality and to life and security were violated; legitimacy: the government claimed to defend the nation, but lost legitimacy abroad; a genocide case was brought at the International Court of Justice by The Gambia (2019)

2.4

both cases identified with detail; a similarity explained, e.g. both involve non-state actors (hackers, companies) as well as states; a difference explained, e.g. security is about harm, technology about rules and control; key concepts applied to the comparison, e.g. sovereignty over data and networks; what the comparison shows about global politics

3.1

Mark with the markbands: [13-15] clearly focused on the question, accurate and relevant knowledge and real-world examples used as evidence, concepts applied, well-developed critical analysis, different perspectives evaluated, a reasoned conclusion; [10-12] focused, mostly accurate knowledge, analysis with some evaluation; [7-9] some focus, relevant knowledge, mostly narrative or description with limited analysis; [4-6] little focus, limited knowledge, mostly narrative; [1-3] little understanding of the question. Points that may be included: two cases from different challenges, each with detail; for states: they control borders, laws and armies, e.g. EU states decide asylum rules; states regulate technology, e.g. the EU's GDPR (2018) and AI Act (2024); against: non-state actors shape outcomes: technology companies control platforms and data; NGOs rescue migrants at sea and report abuses; IGOs and courts, e.g. the ICJ case on the Rohingya, the UNHCR; concepts applied: sovereignty, power, legitimacy; comparison of the two cases; conclusion: a clear judgement