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**SOCIAL AND POLITICAL DISCOURSE ABOUT**

**CLIMATE CHANGE, WATER MANAGEMENT, BIOSECURITY AND OTHER CONTEMPORARY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

**Definition of ‘discourse’:**

* A formal, lengthy discussion of a subject, either written or spoken.
* Written or spoken communication or debate.

**The focus of this point of key knowledge is for students to examine the discourses – or conversations – that society has about specific environmental issues relating to climate change, water management, biosecurity and other environmental issues, rather than evaluating the issues themselves.**

**TASK: ARTICLE ANALYSIS**

1. You will be presented with a **selection of articles** which will allow you to examine some of the discourse around these environmental issues, in particular:
* Climate Change
* Water Management
* Biosecurity
1. Your task is to carefully **analyse two (2) articles** on differing topics that are attached and write your responses in your workbook/netbooks.
* **Write down the article heading, the name of the newspaper and the date published where applicable.**
* **Identify the key theme of the issue (i.e. Climate Change)**

**• Identify the opinion being given in this article about the issue.**

**• The impact of this issue on contemporary societal relationships (CSR)**

**with the outdoor environment as stated in the article. (Identify which CSR it relates to and how this issue may influence of affect this relationship either positively or negatively).**

(*i.e. Primary Industries – Specifically, evaluate the impact that the rise in temperature/drought is currently having on the beef industries of central Victoria)*

* **The Government policies relevant to these issues.**
* **How might the discourse around this issue impact on this relationship?**

 **(Positively/Negatively?)**

 ***Things to know for your SAC and Exam:***

**Be able to discuss the social and political discourse about the issue/arguments etc.**

**Be able to describe different points of view/arguments for each side of the issue.**

Articles that can be analysed

1. Climate change:
* <http://www.theage.com.au/environment/climate-change/tony-abbotts-extreme-climate-stance-sets-back-policy-decades-critics-say-20140514-zrcpg.html>
* <http://www.theage.com.au/environment/climate-change/dreaded-el-nino-looms-in-the-pacific-20140506-zr5pk.html>
* <http://www.theage.com.au/environment/energy-smart/abbott-set-to-abandon-clean-energy-industry-20140513-386hy.html>
* <http://www.theage.com.au/environment/climate-change/coal-climate-change-collide-as-customers-query-banks-green-credentials-20140520-zri07.html>
1. Water management
* <http://www.theage.com.au/federal-politics/political-news/rivers-plan-labelled-a-farce-with-vital-details-missing-20120311-1uskj.html>
* <http://www.theage.com.au/environment/weather/heatwave-sparks-recordbreaking-water-use-in-melbourne-households-20140128-31l1p.html>
1. Biosecurity
* <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-04-21/major-melon-virus-detected-on-north-queensland-farm-biosecurity/6407984>
* <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-04-28/american-bird-flu-outbreak/6425446>
* <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-02-02/fruit-fly-outbreak-adelaide/6063726>