

PRESIDENT **FOR A DAY**

CORRUPTION



STUDENT ASSIGNMENTS

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INTRODUCTION

'President for a Day' gives you the opportunity to assume the role of an African president. As such, you must make controversial decisions revolving around topics such as: democratic evolution, corruption, development aid- and cooperation. The game provides a solid foundation for discussions regarding e.g., human rights, cultural differences and governance.

There are four diverse scenarios with a set difficulty for the player to engage – scenarios ranging from famine to effloresce of democracy. In President for a Day you will be faced with a wide array of dilemmas that stem from recent events in African history. You will also witness the local and national effects of modern bilateral cooperation. What kind of leader will you be?

Will you strive for democracy, or rule the country with an iron fist?

The subjects regard:

1. Famine, caused by draught and climate change
2. Foreign intervention from neighbouring, as well as, western countries.
3. Ethnic conflicts spun by the numerous African tribes, as well as the borders established, in the past, by the colonial forces.
4. The political culture of the country, in regards to upholding (or failing thereof) human rights.



ASSIGNMENTS



TOPIC 1.

Famine, caused by draught and climate change.

1. **Why do some experts think that Africa could be come the "food basket" of the world, when several million Africans are starving?**
2. **Many African farmers are producing cash-crops, for sale and export, rather than growing supplies for themselves.**
 - Name some of the cash-crops that we can buy here.
3. **Discuss whether we should provide more emergency relief to Africa.**
 - What are the pros and cons of increasing the provided emergency aid?
4. **In China, the growth in population has been halted by introducing a "one child" policy.**
 - Would this policy be a good idea for Africa as well
 - Would introducing, and managing it, be a possibility?
5. **Investigate the number of immigrants in Africa**, and examine the amount of immigrants in Ghana from 1990 until today.
<http://www.migrationinformation.org>
 - How large a segment of the Ghana population are immigrants?
 - Why do many africans move from country to country?
6. **Go the UN's homepage, about population:** <http://esa.un.org/>
 - Pick two countries, your country and Angola.
 - Look at how the population grows from 1950-2030.
 - Examine the evolution of fertility in Africa, compared to the rest of the world, from 1950-2030.

TOPIC 2.

Foreign intervention.



1. **Seek information about the history of Congo online.**
 - When was the country colonized
 - When did it become independent again?
 - How would you explain that the country has become so poor?
2. **Go to the webpage featuring historical maps and find Africa, 1914:**
 - Which colonial forces possessed the majority of Africa?
 - Are any of the African countries independent in 1914?
3. **Despite the African countries no longer being colonial, foreign involvement still occurs in these countries. The Chinese are investing large sums of money in Africa.**
 - From an African perspective, what are the pros and cons of these investments?
 - The Chinese are also seeking to make large investments on Greenland. Do you think this is a good idea?
4. **Find an article about a massive diamond found in the African country, Zimbabwe:**

How valuable are diamonds?

If you were the minister of finance, in Zimbabwe, how would you spend this money?
5. **The controlgroup 'Kimberley', has approved trading with these diamonds.**
 - What is the purpose of this control group?

TOPIC 3.

Ethnic conflicts



1. **What are ethnic groups and minorities – and how can numerous different ethnic groups, in the same country, make it difficult for Africa to evolve into a modern state?**
 - Why does overpopulation lead to so many conflicts in Africa?
2. **In Europe, the density of the population is much greater than that of Africa- without leading to conflict.**
 - Discuss why.
3. **The worst ethnic conflict took place in Rwanda in 1994.**
 - What happened?
 - Discuss whether the outside world should have intervened in this conflict.
4. **If the UN cannot agree on whether to intervene in a situation like that of Rwanda?**
 - Should your country deploy military aid, to end the killings.
5. **On March the 20th, Danish F16 jets engaged targets in Libya, as an act in an international operation.**
 - What was the explanation for the presence of the Danish F16 jets in Africa?
 - Compare this situation to Rwanda.
6. **In certain African nations where precious minerals or oil are abundant, you often hear talk of the resource curse.**
 - How can an abundance of natural wealth be a curse to a nation?
7. **Go online and find out how the situation is at the moment.**
 - What is the position of the Department of Foreign Affairs on travels to Mali?

TOPIC 4.

The political culture of the country



1. **What is corruption?**
 - Give a few examples.
2. **In Africa, the cultural norms are different to those in your country.**
 - Explain what defines a norm. In Africa it is common for politicians to reward family members with lucrative jobs and contracts.
 - It is not the norm here in your country, but do you think it takes place?
3. **Denmark has a list of criteria aimed at those nations wishing to receive foreign aid, which comprises elements like democracy and clamping down on corruption. This means that your country might only cooperate with countries that are already relatively flourishing, whilst the founding, struggling countries are barred from aid. These also comprise some of the most impoverished nations on the continent.**
 - Discuss if your country should relax the criteria for receiving aid a little.
4. **What do you think of the UN rule that the UN is not allowed to directly interfere in the internal affairs of a state? These can comprise, for example, the treatment of women. Still, the option of humanitarian intervention is frequently brought up.**
 - Look into what defines this concept, and when it is practically employable according to the UN charter.
5. **Go to the UN Human Development Index:**
http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/corporate/HDR/2011%20Global%20HDR/English/HDR_2011_EN_Tables.pdf

6. **Go to page 7. On this page, all the nations of the world are ranked by quality of living.**
 - Who is at the very top?
 - Compare Ghana and Equatorial Guinea.
7. **They are practically even at #135 and #136, but still the countries are very different.**
 - Look into median life span, education and welfare(GNI).
8. **Do some further research on Equatorial Guinea: BNP, corruption levels, human rights, population growth rate etc.**
 - Discuss if countries like Equatorial Guinea ought to be subsidized by foreign aid or not.





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