

S2 Modern Studies

Multiculturalism

The following tasks should be completed in your jotter

1) Religion

	Symbol	Main beliefs	Name for their place of worship	Holy day of the week
Judaism				
Islam				
Christianity				
Hinduism				
Buddhism				
Sikhism				

2) The 2010 Equality Act

- The Equality Act 2010 legally protects people from discrimination in the workplace and in wider society. Find out and write down what the nine ‘protected characteristics’ are according to this law
- The law makes four different types of discrimination illegal – find out what each of these mean:
 - direct discrimination
 - indirect discrimination
 - harassment
 - victimisation

3) Racially motivated crime

If you have internet access, read <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-26465916> to find out about the horrific murder of 18-year-old Stephen Lawrence in London in 1993. Write down:

- What happened to Stephen Lawrence?
- How did racism cause the crime against him?
- How did racism affect the investigation of the crime against him?
- Do you think this case could happen today? Why or why not?

4) Multicultural media

- Find 5 books you have at home, 5 TV shows, 5 online/paper/TV adverts, 5 social media channels/influencers.
 - Which ones show/write about people who are white? Which ones show/write about people of colour? If the book/TV show includes both people who are white and people of colour, who are the main characters? How are the people of colour portrayed – are they sympathetic characters?
 - Which ones show people with a country of origin other than the UK? Are they main characters? Are they sympathetic?
 - Which ones show people of a religion other than Christianity? Are they main characters? Are they sympathetic?
 - **Overall, do the books, TV shows, adverts and social media give a balanced and fair portrayal of our multicultural society? If not, how could this change?**
- If you have internet access, look up '#Oscarsowhite' and the new Disney *Little Mermaid* controversy. Why do you think discrimination is still such a big issue in Hollywood?
- If you have access to it and your parents are willing for you to do so, watch the first episode of the BBC drama *Noughts and Crosses*. Pay close attention to people's clothes and hair, the music, art and architecture – how do all these things show the ways in which one culture is dominant?

5) Improving our multicultural society

- Agents of change – find out about at least one person/group which is trying to challenge racism and discrimination in Scotland – e.g. Show Racism the Red Card. What do they do? Why do they do it? What more needs to be done?
- What issues of racism and discrimination do you think exist at school/in our local area? Describe the issue(s). Create an artwork/poem/collage/political cartoon/piece of descriptive writing from a personal perspective (your own or put yourself in someone's shoes) to demonstrate the issue. What do you think could be done to solve them? How could individuals help? How could organisations help? How could the government help?

The news media

- Pick two media outlets (these could be newspapers, radio, TV, news websites or social media, - e.g. *Metro* newspaper, Capital radio, BBC TV news, *Guardian* online article, or a YouTube video)
- Find a recent report in both of them about the *same* issue – e.g. the US Presidential election candidates.
- Copy and complete the following table (don't just fill this one in, you can do this task again!)

	Report 1	Report 2
Media outlet		
Headline/title of report		
Facts they both agree on		
Their sources (where they say they got their information)		
Words/phrases which show their <i>opinion</i> about the issue		
How responsible and reliable does this report seem? (is it Realistic, Evidence-based, Accurate about things you know, and Links to similar information from other outlets)		

- Based on these two reports – and more research if you can – create one of the following:
 - *Your own written news report on the subject*
 - *A political cartoon on the subject (a political cartoon tries to sum up something that's going on in the news as one picture – often making fun of some of the people involved)*
 - *A short video explaining the subject*

If you have questions or want more tasks to get on with, email me at
melanie.balfour@st-augustines.edin.sch.uk

Useful website: <https://theday.co.uk/> - a great news website written for secondary-school students