

SOUTH GRAFTON HIGH SCHOOL

Gifted and Talented Extension Opportunities

Part 3

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Philosophy and History

Title: *OK – this is the really complex thinking that is part of studying history. Choose ONE of the following topics to write a response to, either in essay or report format.*

- 1) Many people say that if you do not learn from History you are bound to repeat it. Is that really true? Is History a linear progression to a better world or a series of cycles?
- 2) We can only ever have perspectives on the past, never the whole story. Do you agree? Why or why not?
- 3) Have you heard the statement “History is written by the victors”? Is that true?
- 4) Heroes and villains, goodies and baddies belong in the world of storytelling, not History. People rarely fit into these categories. Do you agree?
- 5) History is scientific in its methodologies. It is not about telling stories. What do you think.

Your answer to these questions should not just be your own thoughts. Find out what other people have said about the topic and use their opinions to support yours. Find examples from any period of History that support your view.

Audience: This presentation will be reviewed by your supervisor as a word processed document. This is an individual task, however you can “workshop” your ideas with others.

Method of delivery: Your completed work should be presented electronically.

Supervisor: Mr Johnstone

Assessment: Your task will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Ability to engage with the issue in the question
- Effectiveness of the communication
- Support for your arguments from history and historians

If you are interested in finding out about this or any other Gifted and Talented Extension Opportunity please see Mr Johnstone.



Polio

Title: Polio is a nasty disease that can lead to death and paralysis. In 1988 the World Health Organisation estimates that 350000 people were affected by polio. In 2013 it was just 416. Investigate the control of polio.

Audience: You may choose to present your report to other students, teachers, parents or members of the public. You may choose to work on this task individually, but are encouraged to work as a small group or team.

Method of delivery: You may choose to present your report in any way you deem appropriate to your audience. For example, it could be written, via a public speech or presentation, it could be musical or be delivered in a drama or dance.

Supervisor: Depending on your chosen method of presentation and content this could be any member of staff of your choice.

Assessment: This is an open ended and self-directed task. Only you will know when your task has been accomplished to your satisfaction. Your supervisor will evaluate your performance with the audience (if appropriate). If this task is accomplished well it will lead to awards within the school rewards system. Exceptional pieces of work may lead to recognition outside South Grafton High School.

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Population of the World

Title: In December 2015 the world population was estimated to be 7.4 billion. You are tasked with investigating the world population including the historical figures and estimates for the future.

Audience: You may choose to present your report to other students, teachers, parents or members of the public. You may choose to work on this task individually, but are encouraged to work as a small group or team.

Method of delivery: You may choose to present your report in any way you deem appropriate to your audience. For example, it could be written, via a public speech or presentation, it could be musical or be delivered in a drama or dance.

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The prickly pear in Australia

Title: Early European settlers introduced the prickly pear to Australia. Unfortunately, the prickly pear was very suited to the Australian environment and spread rapidly causing problems for the native Australian plants and wildlife. In 1926 the Australian government introduced the cactoblastis moth to control the prickly pear. You are tasked to investigate the prickly pear in Australia.

Audience: You may choose to present your report to other students, teachers, parents or members of the public. You may choose to work on this task individually, but are encouraged to work as a small group or team.

Method of delivery: You may choose to present your report in any way you deem appropriate to your audience. For example, it could be written, via a public speech or presentation, it could be musical or be delivered in a drama or dance.

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Promoting and Selling

Title: *Congratulations! You have just been accepted as employees of the sales and marketing department of Stacks of Stuff, the school shop. You will be required to work as part of a small team to develop, implement and evaluate a marketing plan for one of the store products. Here are the steps to follow:*

Developing

- Research your chosen product and its competitors. Find out about the product, its price, how it is promoted, and how it is distributed (or placed).
- Identify anything that makes the product environmentally sustainable or socially responsible.
- Identify what differentiates your product from its competitors.
- Decide on the target market for your product.
- Develop an advertising package for your product and target market. The package should include persuasive and informative ads across a range of formats appropriate to your product.

Implementing

- Work a week's shifts at Stacks of Stuff and actively promote your chosen product
- Run ads as appropriate during the week.

Evaluating

- Check the sales figures for your product before, during and after the weeks promotion. Identify any trends.
- Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of your marketing plan.

Audience: You will need to liaise with your supervisor throughout this small group task. If the school shop is not operational, use the school canteen or a year 12 fundraising activity instead.

Method of delivery: Your completed work should be presented electronically as a report.

Supervisor: Mr Johnstone

Assessment: Your task will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Evidence of product knowledge
- Effectiveness of the communication in the advertising and the final report
- Analysis of data
- Insight reflected in the marketing plan evaluation

If you are interested in finding out about this or any other Gifted and Talented Extension Opportunity please see Mr Johnstone.



Building the pyramids

Title: Of the seven ancient wonders of the world the only one still in existence is the great pyramid of Khufu at Giza in Egypt. There are other pyramids at Giza and others elsewhere in the world. You are tasked with investigating the building and purpose of pyramids.

Audience: You may choose to present your report to other students, teachers, parents or members of the public. You may choose to work on this task individually, but are encouraged to work as a small group or team.

Method of delivery: You may choose to present your report in any way you deem appropriate to your audience. For example, it could be written, via a public speech or presentation, it could be musical or be delivered in a drama or dance.

Supervisor: Depending on your chosen method of presentation and content this could be any member of staff of your choice.

Assessment: This is an open ended and self-directed task. Only you will know when your task has been accomplished to your satisfaction. Your supervisor will evaluate your performance with the audience (if appropriate). If this task is accomplished well it will lead to awards within the school rewards system. Exceptional pieces of work may lead to recognition outside South Grafton High School.

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Rabbits in Australia

Title: Early European settlers introduced rabbits into Australia. Unfortunately rabbits have been highly successful in Australia and have caused huge problems to the environment. You are tasked with investigating the spread and control of rabbits in Australia.

Audience: You may choose to present your report to other students, teachers, parents or members of the public. You may choose to work on this task individually, but are encouraged to work as a small group or team.

Method of delivery: You may choose to present your report in any way you deem appropriate to your audience. For example, it could be written, via a public speech or presentation, it could be musical or be delivered in a drama or dance.

Supervisor: Depending on your chosen method of presentation and content this could be any member of staff of your choice.

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The development of RADAR

Title: Radio Detection and Ranging (RADAR) was developed before and during the Second World War. It is now crucial not only the safe operation of aircraft and ships, but also traffic lights and self driving cars. You are tasked with investigating RADAR.

Audience: You may choose to present your report to other students, teachers, parents or members of the public. You may choose to work on this task individually, but are encouraged to work as a small group or team.

Method of delivery: You may choose to present your report in any way you deem appropriate to your audience. For example, it could be written, via a public speech or presentation, it could be musical or be delivered in a drama or dance.

Supervisor: Depending on your chosen method of presentation and content this could be any member of staff of your choice.

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Rats on South Georgia

Title: South Georgia is a small island in the South Atlantic ocean that is home or temporary home to many unique animals. Unfortunately rats that have come ashore from visiting ships have bred on South Georgia and are believed to now number in the millions. They eat the eggs and hatchlings of the rare seabirds that live on the islands and so scientists are attempting to rid the islands of the rats. You are tasked with investigating the problem of rats on South Georgia.

Audience: You may choose to present your report to other students, teachers, parents or members of the public. You may choose to work on this task individually, but are encouraged to work as a small group or team.

Method of delivery: You may choose to present your report in any way you deem appropriate to your audience. For example, it could be written, via a public speech or presentation, it could be musical or be delivered in a drama or dance.

Supervisor: Depending on your chosen method of presentation and content this could be any member of staff of your choice.

Assessment: This is an open ended and self-directed task. Only you will know when your task has been accomplished to your satisfaction. Your supervisor will evaluate your performance with the audience (if appropriate). If this task is accomplished well it will lead to awards within the school rewards system. Exceptional pieces of work may lead to recognition outside South Grafton High School.

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A Reader's Review

Title: Reading is one of the world's most popular activities, but few people will read any old book they pick up. Often readers will pick up on a particular topic or theme that they focus their efforts on, even if the storyline gets repetitive. Your task is to review a portfolio of FIVE texts that all look at the one theme. These texts may or may not be written by the same authors. Your texts can be any of the following:

- Poetry
- Film
- Novel
- Essay
- Song (with music)
- Drama

Once you have read your five texts and written a brief review for them, you will be required to write a 1-2 page response to the following question:

Compare and contrast the way in which your reviewed texts deal with your chosen theme. What choices create the most effective text?

Audience: Your reviews and response will be submitted to your teacher. This is an individual task.

Method of delivery: Word processed portfolio in digital format.

Supervisor: Mr Johnstone

Assessment: You will be assessed using the following criteria:

- Depth of analysis in each review
- Effectiveness of your final response as a piece of communication
- Insight into language use and text structure in communication

If you are interested in finding out about this or any other Gifted and Talented Extension Opportunity please see Mr Johnstone.



Belief and Culture

Title: in this task, identify ways in which a belief system has been expressed in our culture. Belief systems include religions such as Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism and Judaism as well as non-religious systems such as Humanism, Environmentalism and Feminism. Some examples you could investigate:

- Religious belief in The Simpsons
- Christianity in the arts
- Calligraphy and architecture in Islam
- The popularity of Buddhist leaders such as the Dalai Lama
- Religious beliefs among sport stars
- Hinduism in fashion
- Sikhism in Bollywood films such as Bride and Prejudice
- Religious references in novels or poetry

Create a digital montage of words and images related to your topic. Write a one page explanation of your montage explaining the reason for your choices.

Audience: Your montage will be included in a special desktop background on the school computers celebrating important holy days relevant to your chosen belief system.

Method of delivery: Your completed work should be presented electronically.

Supervisor: Mr Johnstone

Assessment: Your task will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Relationship between the words, images and your chosen topic
- Effectiveness of the communication
- Depth of understanding shown in your explanation

If you are interested in finding out about this or any other Gifted and Talented Extension Opportunity please see Mr Johnstone.



The Research Process

Title: *At a university level, many students study research methodology. Quite simply, there are agreed steps to be followed to research properly. Do you know what they are? In this project you will investigate the research process by answering the following questions:*

- What are the agreed steps of the research process? What questions do you need to answer at each stage?
- What is the difference between a key concept and a directive in a question? Why do they matter?
- List three places other than the internet you can go to research a topic? Provide addresses, phone numbers and URLs.
- What is the difference between a search engine and a meta search engine? Provide an example of each. Which one is Google?
- What are the strengths and weaknesses of Wikipedia for research?
- What is the difference between primary and secondary research?
- What is the difference between a qualitative and a quantitative method in research?
- How do you choose between conflicting sources when completing a project?
- What are some of the reasons why planning is so important in completing an assignment?
- What is the role of a Gantt chart in planning assignments?
- How do you know when you have done enough research to finish an assignment?
- What is the writing process?
- How do computer technologies assist with the writing process?
- What are tracking and comments used for in MS Word?
- What is the difference between an essay and a report?
- How do you know what mark you should get on an assignment before the teacher gives it back?
- What is plagiarism?
- How do you avoid plagiarism in research projects?

To complete this task use internet sources and interview senior students or staff members.

Audience: This presentation will be reviewed by your supervisor as a word processed document. It can be completed as an individual, pair or small group task.

Method of delivery: Your completed work should be presented electronically.

Supervisor: Mr Johnstone



Assessment: Your task will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Accuracy and thoroughness of your responses
- Effectiveness of the communication

If you are interested in finding out about this or any other Gifted and Talented Extension Opportunity please see Mr Johnstone.



Revolution!

Title: Revolution is a common event in modern history and has dramatically shifted life for everyday people around the world. Using ONE example of a revolution from anywhere around the world, complete any of the following tasks. Commonly studied revolutions include Russia, France, China and Cuba.

- a) Investigate the leaders of the chosen country before and after revolution. Compare and contrast their lives, emphasising their time in power. How important is leadership in a revolution?
- b) Political theorists like Brinton argue all revolutions follow the same pattern and end with not a great deal of change. Investigate this idea. Do you agree with his model?
- c) Most revolutions have a stage known as the terror where ordinary people are targeted for murder or “rededication”. Investigate the life story of a survivor and summarise the events of their life.
- d) Ideology is a set of ideas that are applied to an entire set of circumstances in society. How important is ideology in explaining the reason for revolution, their success or their failure?

Audience: Your answers will be reviewed by your supervisor as a word processed document. This task can be completed individually, in pairs or as small groups.

Method of delivery: Your completed work should be presented electronically.

Supervisor: Mr Johnstone

Assessment: Your task will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Ability to engage with the issue in the question
- Depth of understanding of revolution in a particular country
- Effectiveness of the communication
- Use of relevant examples

If you are interested in finding out about this or any other Gifted and Talented Extension Opportunity please see Mr Johnstone.



The Same Old Story

Title: in English studies, more than a few writers have suggested that despite all the stories, novels, poems and films that have been written there are actually only a few basic plots or storylines. The most recent is Christopher Booker's The Seven Basic Plots (2004). They are:

- *Overcoming the monster.*
- *Rags to riches*
- *Tragedy*
- *Voyage and return*
- *The quest*
- *Rebirth*
- *Comedy*

Based on this idea, choose ONE of the following activities to complete:

- e) *Conduct a survey across the school to identify which story plots are the most popular today and why. Identify any patterns across age, gender, culture or geography. Present your findings in a report using graphs and statistics.*
- f) *Identify TWO texts of your own choosing that reflect one of these basic plots. Compare and contrast the other aspects of storytelling such as characters, language use, themes and structure.*
- g) *Do you agree with this idea? Review other theories with a different set of basic plots and present your findings and personal opinion. Support this with reference to texts you have read, viewed or listened to.*
- h) *Does this idea cross cultures or is it only a western concept? Watch a Xia film such as *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* and compare the basic plot with a more recent Hollywood film such as *The Hunger Games* series.*

Audience: Your answers will be reviewed by your supervisor as a word processed document. This task can be completed individually, in pairs or as small groups.

Method of delivery: Your completed work should be presented electronically.

Supervisor: Mr Johnstone

Assessment: Your task will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Ability to engage with the issue in the question
- Effectiveness of the communication
- Use of relevant examples

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Small BASIC

Title: In the past few decade, Computers have changed the world. There is a continued and growing demand for coding skills. You are tasked to learn Small Basic, a computer programing language that is a simplified version of Visual Basic.

Audience: On completion, you will be asked to present your work to your supervisor. Due to the nature of coding it is likely that this will be an individual task, but there are opportunities to work in a pair or in a team.

Method of delivery: Your completed work should presented electronically.

Supervisor: Mr Johnstone

Assessment: You will be asked to work through the Small Basic manual completing the exercises within. For extra credit you should produce your own programs in Small Basic.

If you are interested in finding out about this or any other Gifted and Talented Extension Opportunity please see Mr Johnstone.



Smallpox

Title: Smallpox was a terrible disease that caused the death and disfigurement of many people. The World Health Organisation announced that smallpox was eradicated in 1980. Investigate smallpox and its eradication.

Audience: You may choose to present your report to other students, teachers, parents or members of the public. You may choose to work on this task individually, but are encouraged to work as a small group or team.

Method of delivery: You may choose to present your report in any way you deem appropriate to your audience. For example, it could be written, via a public speech or presentation, it could be musical or be delivered in a drama or dance.

Supervisor: Depending on your chosen method of presentation and content this could be any member of staff of your choice.

Assessment: This is an open ended and self-directed task. Only you will know when your task has been accomplished to your satisfaction. Your supervisor will evaluate your performance with the audience (if appropriate). If this task is accomplished well it will lead to awards within the school rewards system. Exceptional pieces of work may lead to recognition outside South Grafton High School.

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Smoking

Title: Use the Australian Bureau of Statistics, the World Health Organisation and other websites to investigate smoking statistics.

Audience: You may choose to present your report to other students, teachers, parents or members of the public. You may choose to work on this task individually, but are encouraged to work as a small group or team.

Method of delivery: You may choose to present your report in any way you deem appropriate to your audience. For example, it could be written, via a public speech or presentation, it could be musical or be delivered in a drama or dance.

Supervisor: Depending on your chosen method of presentation and content this could be any member of staff of your choice.

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Space Stations

Title: There have been several space stations in orbit around the earth. At the moment there are two, the International Space Station and the Chinese Tiangong -1. You are tasked with investigating space stations.

Audience: You may choose to present your report to other students, teachers, parents or members of the public. You may choose to work on this task individually, but are encouraged to work as a small group or team.

Method of delivery: You may choose to present your report in any way you deem appropriate to your audience. For example, it could be written, via a public speech or presentation, it could be musical or be delivered in a drama or dance.

Supervisor: Depending on your chosen method of presentation and content this could be any member of staff of your choice.

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Types of star

Title: From the neutron, to the pulsar, to a red giant, to the white dwarf to a black hole, there are believed to be many types of star in the universe. You are tasked with investigating stars.

Audience: You may choose to present your report to other students, teachers, parents or members of the public. You may choose to work on this task individually, but are encouraged to work as a small group or team.

Method of delivery: You may choose to present your report in any way you deem appropriate to your audience. For example, it could be written, via a public speech or presentation, it could be musical or be delivered in a drama or dance.

Supervisor: Depending on your chosen method of presentation and content this could be any member of staff of your choice.

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Superconductors

Title: On 8th April 1907, the Dutch physicist Heike Onnes discovered superconductivity. Superconductive materials transmit electricity with no resistance but have to be kept at very low temperatures. In recent years scientists have discovered superconducting materials that operate at higher temperatures. You are tasked with investigating superconductivity.

Audience: You may choose to present your report to other students, teachers, parents or members of the public. You may choose to work on this task individually, but are encouraged to work as a small group or team.

Method of delivery: You may choose to present your report in any way you deem appropriate to your audience. For example, it could be written, via a public speech or presentation, it could be musical or be delivered in a drama or dance.

Supervisor: Depending on your chosen method of presentation and content this could be any member of staff of your choice.

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Surnames

Title: The website <http://gbnames.publicprofiler.org/> gives huge amounts of information about surnames that originated in the United Kingdom. Investigate surnames.

Audience: You may choose to present your report to other students, teachers, parents or members of the public. You may choose to work on this task individually, but are encouraged to work as a small group or team.

Method of delivery: You may choose to present your report in any way you deem appropriate to your audience. For example, it could be written, via a public speech or presentation, it could be musical or be delivered in a drama or dance.

Supervisor: Depending on your chosen method of presentation and content this could be any member of staff of your choice.

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Sydney Harbour Bridge

Title: The Sydney Harbour Bridge was opened on 19th March 1932. You are tasked to investigate the building of the bridge using a variety of sources.

Audience: You may choose to present your report to other students, teachers, parents or members of the public. You may choose to work on this task individually, but are encouraged to work as a small group or team.

Method of delivery: You may choose to present your report in any way you deem appropriate to your audience. For example, it could be written, via a public speech or presentation, it could be musical or be delivered in a drama or dance.

Supervisor: Depending on your chosen method of presentation and content this could be any member of staff of your choice.

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Synthetic Gems

Title: There are many varieties of gemstones from diamonds, rubies, emeralds to musgravite. Natural gemstones are produced deep inside the earth. In recent years scientists have started to recreate the conditions found deep inside the earth to create gemstones in the laboratory. You are tasked with investigating these synthetic gems.

Audience: You may choose to present your report to other students, teachers, parents or members of the public. You may choose to work on this task individually, but are encouraged to work as a small group or team.

Method of delivery: You may choose to present your report in any way you deem appropriate to your audience. For example, it could be written, via a public speech or presentation, it could be musical or be delivered in a drama or dance.

Supervisor: Depending on your chosen method of presentation and content this could be any member of staff of your choice.

Assessment: This is an open ended and self-directed task. Only you will know when your task has been accomplished to your satisfaction. Your supervisor will evaluate your performance with the audience (if appropriate). If this task is accomplished well it will lead to awards within the school rewards system. Exceptional pieces of work may lead to recognition outside South Grafton High School.

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Tasmanian Devil

Title: In 2008 the Tasmanian Devil was declared endangered. Investigate the reasons why numbers of Tasmanian Devils are falling and what can be done to prevent them becoming extinct.

Audience: You may choose to present your report to other students, teachers, parents or members of the public. You may choose to work on this task individually, but are encouraged to work as a small group or team.

Method of delivery: You may choose to present your report in any way you deem appropriate to your audience. For example, it could be written, via a public speech or presentation, it could be musical or be delivered in a drama or dance.

Supervisor: Depending on your chosen method of presentation and content this could be any member of staff of your choice.

Assessment: This is an open ended and self-directed task. Only you will know when your task has been accomplished to your satisfaction. Your supervisor will evaluate your performance with the audience (if appropriate). If this task is accomplished well it will lead to awards within the school rewards system. Exceptional pieces of work may lead to recognition outside South Grafton High School.

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Open Task

Title: You can choose to investigate almost anything you want in almost any way you want. Is there something you always wanted to learn?

Audience: Your work will be assessed by your supervisor. You may choose to work individually or in a group.

Method of delivery: You may present your work in any way agreed with your supervisor.

Supervisor: A teacher of your choice.

Assessment: Your work will be assessed by your supervisor and audience if appropriate.

If you are interested in finding out about this or any other Gifted and Talented Extension Opportunity please see Mr Johnstone.



The Trebuchet

Title: A trebuchet is a type of catapult that was used in the middle ages to batter castles. Investigate the design and use of trebuchets.

Audience: You may choose to present your report to other students, teachers, parents or members of the public. You may choose to work on this task individually, but are encouraged to work as a small group or team.

Method of delivery: You may choose to present your report in any way you deem appropriate to your audience. For example, it could be written, via a public speech or presentation, it could be musical or be delivered in a drama or dance.

Supervisor: Depending on your chosen method of presentation and content this could be any member of staff of your choice.

Assessment: This is an open ended and self-directed task. Only you will know when your task has been accomplished to your satisfaction. Your supervisor will evaluate your performance with the audience (if appropriate). If this task is accomplished well it will lead to awards within the school rewards system. Exceptional pieces of work may lead to recognition outside South Grafton High School.

If you are interested in finding out about this or any other Gifted and Talented Extension Opportunity please see Mr Johnstone.



Urbanising the Clarence

Title: No modern development in Australia takes place without planning. If the Clarence Valley were to become a city development like the Gold Coast, what would we look like?

In this task you get to make these decisions. Design a master plan for an area of the Clarence Valley that considers:

- Heritage value of the built and natural environment
- Transport needs
- Sustainability initiatives
- Waste management
- Cultural needs of the people living there such as parks, schools
- Essential services such as fire protection, police, SES,
- Economic development such as shops and industrial zones

Present your decisions as an interactive map and report.

Audience: On completion, you will be asked to present your work to your supervisor. You may work on this individually, in a pair or as a team.

Method of delivery: Your completed work should be presented electronically.

Supervisor: Mr Johnstone

Assessment: For this task you will be assessed using the following criteria:

- Evidence of research
- Evidence of a range of stakeholder perspectives
- Practicality of your plan
- Sustainability, equity & social justice implications of your decisions
- Presentation of your findings using appropriate communication
- Use of appropriate technologies to complete the project

If you are interested in finding out about this or any other Gifted and Talented Extension Opportunity please see Mr Johnstone.



Vectors taught module

Title: Vectors are an incredibly useful way to describe position and movement in Mathematics and Physics. In NSW vectors are only a small part of the Mathematics curriculum. If you would like to study Mathematics that you would not normally study in class then if there is sufficient interest from other students you could choose to study vectors with Mr Johnstone before school.

Method: This is a taught GATEO that will be delivered by Mr Johnstone to year 9 -12 students in ten before school lessons if there is sufficient interest.

Supervisor: Mr Johnstone

Assessment: This task will be assessed by Mr Johnstone by means of a test. Your score will determine your grade.

If you are interested in finding out about this or any other Gifted and Talented Extension Opportunity please see Mr Johnstone.



The Vikings

Title: During the 8th to 11th Centuries, a group of people called Vikings set out from what is now Norway, Denmark and Sweden to attack countries across Europe. They are believed to have travelled as far as Baghdad and North America. You are tasked with investigating the Vikings.

Audience: You may choose to present your report to other students, teachers, parents or members of the public. You may choose to work on this task individually, but are encouraged to work as a small group or team.

Method of delivery: You may choose to present your report in any way you deem appropriate to your audience. For example, it could be written, via a public speech or presentation, it could be musical or be delivered in a drama or dance.

Supervisor: Depending on your chosen method of presentation and content this could be any member of staff of your choice.

Assessment: This is an open ended and self-directed task. Only you will know when your task has been accomplished to your satisfaction. Your supervisor will evaluate your performance with the audience (if appropriate). If this task is accomplished well it will lead to awards within the school rewards system. Exceptional pieces of work may lead to recognition outside South Grafton High School.

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Volcanoes

Title: Each year there are about 60 volcanoes that erupt and there are about 600 volcanoes that have erupted throughout recorded history. Investigate volcanoes.

Audience: You may choose to present your report to other students, teachers, parents or members of the public. You may choose to work on this task individually, but are encouraged to work as a small group or team.

Method of delivery: You may choose to present your report in any way you deem appropriate to your audience. For example, it could be written, via a public speech or presentation, it could be musical or be delivered in a drama or dance.

Supervisor: Depending on your chosen method of presentation and content this could be any member of staff of your choice.

Assessment: This is an open ended and self-directed task. Only you will know when your task has been accomplished to your satisfaction. Your supervisor will evaluate your performance with the audience (if appropriate). If this task is accomplished well it will lead to awards within the school rewards system. Exceptional pieces of work may lead to recognition outside South Grafton High School.

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Voyager 1 and 2

Title: Voyager 1 is a space probe launched by NASA on 5th September 1977. Voyager 2 was launched on 20th August 1977. Investigate the Voyager missions.

Audience: You may choose to present your report to other students, teachers, parents or members of the public. You may choose to work on this task individually, but are encouraged to work as a small group or team.

Method of delivery: You may choose to present your report in any way you deem appropriate to your audience. For example, it could be written, via a public speech or presentation, it could be musical or be delivered in a drama or dance.

Supervisor: Depending on your chosen method of presentation and content this could be any member of staff of your choice.

Assessment: This is an open ended and self-directed task. Only you will know when your task has been accomplished to your satisfaction. Your supervisor will evaluate your performance with the audience (if appropriate). If this task is accomplished well it will lead to awards within the school rewards system. Exceptional pieces of work may lead to recognition outside South Grafton High School.

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Water poverty

Title: Water poverty is not having sufficient water of suitable quality to meet one's basic needs. Investigate water poverty across the world.

Audience: You may choose to present your report to other students, teachers, parents or members of the public. You may choose to work on this task individually, but are encouraged to work as a small group or team.

Method of delivery: You may choose to present your report in any way you deem appropriate to your audience. For example, it could be written, via a public speech or presentation, it could be musical or be delivered in a drama or dance.

Supervisor: Depending on your chosen method of presentation and content this could be any member of staff of your choice.

Assessment: This is an open ended and self-directed task. Only you will know when your task has been accomplished to your satisfaction. Your supervisor will evaluate your performance with the audience (if appropriate). If this task is accomplished well it will lead to awards within the school rewards system. Exceptional pieces of work may lead to recognition outside South Grafton High School.

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The Wollemi Pine

Title: *The Wollemi Pine is a prehistoric relic discovered in the Blue Mountains National Park in NSW. When scientists first began researching the species its location was kept secret to protect the plant. Horticulturalists identified how to propagate the plant and so protect the species. It can now be bought across Australia like any other plant. Across Australia are many unique species. For the Wollemi Pine or another plant of your choice, create a report that:*

- Describes the species scientifically. Include relevant diagrams.
- Identifies how the plant is propagated. Create a set of instructions.
- Explain why other standard industry methods of propagation are not used
- Evaluate how the plant's original range is protected
- Identify how the plant can be purchased
-

Audience: This presentation will be reviewed by your supervisor as a word processed report.

Method of delivery: Your completed work should presented electronically.

Supervisor: Mr Johnstone

Assessment: Your task will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Evidence of research
- Effectiveness of the communication
- Identification common propagation techniques
- Evaluation of environmental practices to protect species

If you are interested in finding out about this or any other Gifted and Talented Extension Opportunity please see Mr Johnstone.



Writer's Workshop

Title: Life is complex, and it is the job of the author to capture that in the work they create. Often a writer will pick a particular topic or theme that they focus their efforts on, making a body of work that investigates that idea from many perspectives. Your task is to create a portfolio of FIVE texts that all look at the one theme. Some examples include love, conflict, belonging, choices, growing up or friendship – but the choice is endless. Your texts can be any of the following:

- Poetry
- Short Film
- Short Story
- Essay
- Song (with music)
- Picture Book
- A drama act
- A newspaper report

Audience: Your work will be submitted to your teacher and your best piece selected for publishing or performance within the school. This is an individual task.

Method of delivery: Word processed portfolio in digital format.

Supervisor: Mr Johnstone

Assessment: You will be assessed using the following criteria:

- Complexity of your understanding of your chosen theme
- Effectiveness as a piece of communication
- Complexity of structure and language use
- Originality of your portfolio

If you are interested in finding out about this or any other Gifted and Talented Extension Opportunity please see Mr Johnstone.



World War Two Controversies

Title: *Warfare creates debate amongst historians as more details about what really occurred are released by governments or shared by individuals who had been sworn to secrecy.*

Debate 1: The Bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki

Many people today argue whether the bombing of these Japanese cities at the end of WW2 was really necessary. Some historians suggest it was the start of the Cold War – more about the USA and the USSR than anything about Japan.

Debate 2: The Holocaust

The deliberate and systematic murder of over 6 million Jewish, Roma, homosexual, disabled and Jehovah's Witness people during WW2 in a network of concentration camps and extermination centres has created endless debate since its discovery. While the testimony of eyewitnesses is endless and the video footage harrowing, a few historians have argued it didn't happen. This has led to a campaign by survivors to ensure the truth is never forgotten.

Debate 3: Responsibility

War leaders from around the world were put on trial for their decisions during the war, and many were executed. In Japan however, Emperor Hirohito was not held accountable. He died in 1989, with our Prime Minister Bob Hawke refusing to go to his funeral. After all, many Australians suffered as prisoners of war because of Japan's actions.

Debate 4: The Business of War

Another example of how responsibility can be confused . . . what responsibility do the company's who benefit from a war have. Should they benefit from trading with both sides and even be compensated for losses as global businesses?

Chose ONE of the above debates. Develop a question to investigate and present at least three arguments from each side of the debate. Include reference to the historians whose perspectives you discover.

Audience: This presentation will be reviewed by your supervisor as a word processed report.

Method of delivery: Your completed work should be presented electronically.

Supervisor: Mr Johnstone

Assessment: Your task will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Evidence of research
- Effectiveness of the communication
- Understanding of historical debate

If you are interested in finding out about this or any other Gifted and Talented Extension Opportunity please see Mr Johnstone.

