

Summer Work History:

9th Grade:

<https://www.brinknews.com/why-is-autocracy-so-appealing/>

The article discusses the rise of authoritarian governments and populist politicians around the world and the waning of democracy.

Do you agree with the idea that democracies are losing favor with the people?

What does the author suggest?

What arguments could you use to support the longevity of democracies around the world?

10th Grade:

<https://www.cfr.org/background/ukraine-conflict-crossroads-europe-and-russia>

This article discusses the current conflict between Ukraine and Russia. Upon examination this is far from just a regional conflict. The author discusses the historic, cultural, and geopolitical issues responsible for the conflict.

Please discuss the arguments offered by the author and do some independent research of his thoughts.

What are the dangers surrounding this conflict?

Should the US and the European Union offer security guarantees for their protection?

11th Grade:

<https://apnews.com/article/tiktok-ban-montana-325a33578a2bbf5e53e9c251d528c5fb>

<https://apnews.com/article/tiktok-ban-montana-china-data-chinese-government-71143a3a87c9a0b692d927f72b6fec70>

Montana is the first state to initiate a ban on the social media app *TikTok*, which is owned by a Chinese tech company. Legislators fear the Chinese Communist Party has access to too much of Americans' personal information, but many Americans consider the ban an infringement of their constitutional rights.

Take some time to reflect on your beliefs regarding freedom of speech; when, if ever, should the government be allowed to restrict one's freedom of speech or expression?

Do you believe that a *TikTok* ban can be justified as means to maintain public safety or does the ban infringe on first amendment rights?

12th Grade:

<https://www.brookings.edu/research/the-twilight-of-the-liberal-world-order/>

The author has suggested that the global geopolitical world order established after World War 2 is in serious decline. Discuss the author's arguments and do some independent research on your own. Do you agree with the author? Why?

What are the threats to democracy in the global world we share today?