

IB Diploma Summer Assignment Theory of Knowledge

This summer take time to expand your awareness of international, ethical, or knowledge issues.

Choose one of the following to do and be prepared to respond to this experience in writing:

- See a documentary
- See a foreign film
- Visit a museum
- Read a nonfiction book
- Attend other cultural events—lectures, musical performances, political events, folk festival, etc.

React to your experience by doing the following three tasks:

1. Generate and record five thoughtful questions stimulated by your experience. Try to come up with questions relating to how the experience expanded your awareness. (For example, if you visit a museum on modern art, you could ask: How did this experience expand my understanding of what art is? Or if you see a documentary on the conflict in Iraq, you could ask: How did this film expand my awareness of the difficulties involved in understanding and making judgments about civil wars?)
2. Respond to one or two of your questions in a 250-word reflection.
3. Find a way to explore your experience further by looking at some other kind of source. For instance, if you read a book on Japan, you may want to attend a Japanese cultural event (like a tea ceremony). Identify this second source and briefly explain how it expanded your understanding of the topic. (75-100 words)

The written work will be collected in ToK classes, but the experiences will be discussed across your classes.

Suggestions from IB Teachers:

| Documentaries/films | Museums | Nonfiction Books | Cultural Events |
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| <i>Darwin's Nightmare</i> | Holocaust Museum | <i>Mountains Beyond Mountains</i> --Kidder | Smithsonian Folklife Festival |
| <i>Tibet: Cry of the Snow Lion</i> | Newseum | <i>Guns, Germs, and Steel</i> --Diamond | Political rally/convention |
| <i>Taxi to the Dark Side</i> | Sackler Museum | <i>The Omnivore's Dilemma</i> --Pollan | Trips abroad |
| <i>Man on Wire</i> | Walters Museum | <i>Outliers</i> --Gladwell | Plays |
| <i>Supersize Me</i> <i>The Fog of War</i> | | <i>Three Cups of Tea</i> --Mortenson | Dance Performances |
| <i>Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room</i> | | <i>A Whole New Mind</i> --Pink | |
| <i>Grizzly Man</i> | | See nonfiction titles on the summer reading list | |