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Level 2 Social Studies, 2016

91281 Describe how cultural conflict(s) can be addressed

9.30 a.m. Wednesday 30 November 2016
Credits: Four

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Describe how cultural conflict(s) can be addressed.	Describe, in depth, how cultural conflict(s) can be addressed.	Describe comprehensively how cultural conflict(s) can be addressed.

Check that the National Student Number (NSN) on your admission slip is the same as the number at the top of this page.

You should attempt ALL parts of the task in this booklet.

If you need more room for your answer, use the extra space provided at the back of this booklet.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–12 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

YOU MUST HAND THIS BOOKLET TO THE SUPERVISOR AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.

Excellence

TOTAL

8

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INSTRUCTIONS

Using a cultural conflict(s) you have studied this year, complete the task below to describe ways the cultural conflict can be addressed to achieve the desired outcomes for society.

You must use **social studies concepts** and **specific evidence** in your answer.

You should answer in essay form or in a series of paragraphs. You may support your answer with diagrams, pictures, graphs, or other forms of illustration.

Space for planning is provided on pages 4 and 5. Begin your response on page 6.

TASK: DESCRIBE HOW CULTURAL CONFLICTS CAN BE ADDRESSED

With reference to a cultural conflict(s) you have studied this year, describe:

- the focus of the cultural conflict(s)
- the individual(s)/group(s)/society(ies) involved and their points of view, values, and perspectives
- the factors that shape the way the conflict(s) is addressed
- way(s) of addressing the conflict(s)
- possible outcomes arising from ways of addressing the conflict(s)
- your recommendation for the best way of addressing the conflict(s) to achieve the desired outcomes for society.

Begin your answer here:

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The focus of the conflict is a clash of beliefs between the Irish Travellers and Basildon Council in Britain about a 6 acre plot of land, on the outskirts of Essex, known as Dale Farm. The land, bought by a Traveller family in 2001 was previously an illegal scrapyard and is situated on greenbelt land (reserve council land) which is illegal to build on by anyone. Feeling discriminated against after constantly being denied planning permission, the Travellers went to court attempting appeal the enforcement notices and fight for their land. In 2005 inspectors found that structures on the site did breach numerous regulations. ~~(and complaints)~~ Due to this and the complaints made by local villagers about the traveller "dirty" lifestyle, Basildon council bailiffed the site and attempted to evict 86 families from the land on October 19th 2011.

Tony Ball, leader of Basildon council believed this was the right decision because an online poll found that 70% of the public agreed with the judicial action. Moreover as a councillor, it is his job to abide by the law and follow

through on the populous vote. "I agree people should not live on land without planning permission!" Ball values legislation and his job. This shapes his belief by encouraging him to uphold the law and do what's right by the people. In order to continue being a councillor, this is part of his job. "It's the right thing to do by the law... Wrong is wrong, there can't be a law for one and another for another." It is this position that he's in that makes his perspective a political one. As leader of Basildon Council he must put any emotional aspect aside and focus on the laws that are being broken. ("The council has a ~~ultimately, the law~~ ^{representative of the gypsy council} duty to uphold the law.")

In contrast Candy Sheridan ^{believes} the eviction is unfair and linked to prejudice. She thinks this because she has found land for the community to move to and they are willing to leave but the council will not give them time. "It's not fair, he just wants to make us homeless." Sheridan values the sense of community at Dale Farm where people look after one another, bringing meals, encouraging children. This shapes her belief by making her want to do everything in her power to

ensure her "family" is looked after. This makes her perspective a cultural one. As a traveller herself, grown up in England and well educated, she can see where the council are hanging things over her head. She cares a lot about these people - people who are elderly and sick, and need electricity, "which the council was going to turn off, to operate breathing masks. She wants to do what is best for her people. "There is no ideal site" //

Factors that shape this conflict stem entirely from historical prejudice and the laws in place in Basildon. Traditionally Travellers have been seen as white trash.

They are often verbally or physically abused, hotels and restaurants have refused to serve them and schools have denied entrance to Traveller children on basis of "over-capacity" or "in-appropriateness." This leads to families distrusting the education system altogether when their children are bullied or they feel like it takes away from their values, and so the ethnic group ends up largely uneducated. This prejudice is only encouraged through constant denial of planning permission and negative media response which Candy Sheridan says "vilify them." //

The other factor shaping the conflict would be

the laws in Britain which prohibit building structures on greenbelt land and that don't require councils to provide land for Travellers specifically. Greenbelt land was introduced to ^{try to} preserve some of Britain's country side. These are therefore illegal to build on. A section of Dale Farm is situated on the metropolitan green belt surrounding London - the biggest in England. The traveller's presence has contaminated the landscape with rubbish and raw sewerage, leaving the council and locals angry. Len Cridley whose lawn backs on to Dale Farm says "They're horrible neighbours... I hope the value of my house doesn't plummet thanks to them." This comment touches on not only how they break the law and its effects but also shows typical discrimination you find.

It is also important to note that in 1970, the Caravans Site Act was introduced and required councils to provide pitches for Travelling families to live on. Where 117 were present, Basildon put up 6 more but later when the law was overturned, 107 were closed in Basildon - just like the rest of the country. Councils were not encouraged to keep the pitches due to the way Travellers treated them and the complaints like that of Len Cridley. Now they say "We have no where to go." (~~Planning permission and~~)

(~~enforcement notices were also~~)^{*} [a big part of the conflict. The land was bought with 42 enforcement notices already on it. They accumulated over the decade long conflict with attempt to appeal them and gain planning permission, but their requests were typically dismissed like those of plots 45 and 50 which the secretary of state deemed to be in "derelict condition." Whether it's discrimination or legislation, 80% of planning permission in Britain is accepted and yet 90% of travellers are denied it. //

The conflict was addressed largely through media and the court system. Media tended to follow the traditional view of Travellers - they should Travel, little empathy - until actress, Vanessa Redgraves spoke out and got involved. This swung the media's and public's view to focus more on what human rights are being denied. ~~and~~ The conflict was mostly shown through British newspapers and radio like the 'Guardian' but made it to the world stage through extensive coverage by BBC - a helicopter constantly hovering over the site. Candy Sheridan believes this media "villify" ~~them~~ her community and has left women to face "all sorts of racism".

Court action was taken from the very beginning after locals lodged formal complaints to the council and inspectors deemed some structures on the site illegal. The Basildon Council and

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Write the question number(s) if applicable.

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Gypsy council and negotiated for ~~year~~^{over} decade about planning permission and enforcement notices-

* [] Even after finding a place to go, "racist planning" went ahead anyway and the council obtained the permit to forcibly remove 86 families from Oak Farm

By addressing the conflict in this way, it has only resulted in a lot of angry people, a site of pure destruction and huge costs to the local taxpayer. Not only are the gypsies upset but local villagers too. 13 caravans remain ~~and~~^{on} the land and according to Colleen Sheridan, "It looks like a tip" ^{there are washing machines in the road} and the council have no intentions to return the land to its greenbelt state. Len Gridley regrets ever complaining saying "3 years on and its more worse now than it ever was... The council has achieved nothing with this eviction." 86 families are facing a new lifestyle without electricity and no running water - a single tap between those left and the caravans on Oak Lane leading to Oak Farm.

In addition, this eviction was costly. Tony Ball says "We have known for years this action was to come and we have budgeted accordingly" It was estimated that 21 million pounds of taxpayers money would go towards police funding, resources and legal costs. In reality 7.1 million pounds came from council

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reserves. The lasting ~~effect~~ ^{seven million} it had was a ^{parad} budget cuts to services like elderly care centres. "I would prefer to use the money on services that our people want or need but ultimately, the law must be upheld"
-Tony Ball. //

Therefore in terms of recommending a different way of addressing the conflict, I would suggest a treaty. With feelings of discrimination and distrust~~s~~ growing over the years, it is important that the conflict come to a mutual ^(agreement and thus) close. ^{feel they}

A treaty would ensure that both sides are being listened to and it is less hostile. The terms would be negotiated between Basildon Council and the Gypsy Council on behalf of and for the benefit of their respective people. With more Travellers' views shifting to fit western society, more may decide to semi-permanently settle, making these conflicts more common. ~~A~~ treaty would be therefore beneficial because its terms theoretically last forever. //

It is safe to dismiss the police eviction as ineffective because it was hostile and costly. 45 people were arrested and

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shaped the conflict was the distrust in the education system, leaving the population largely uneducated. ~~It~~ ^{It} should be a requirement that all Travellers go to school until the age of 16 and ~~then~~ ^{then} decide on further study. This would open their minds to other cultures and ensure they at least have the ability to read and write. It could also prevent them from making the mistake of buying land with 42 enforcement notices on it. Because they are afraid schooling will twist the child from Traveller traditions, they are welcome to do private tutoring but this will not be paid for by the government. The same school subsidies will be given that every British family has. //

Beyond all of this, the whole situation could have been avoided had the 1970 Caravan Act still been valid, Pitches ^{can be} allocated by the government but I would amend it to say ^{Traveller} ~~they~~ must pay for any electricity or water supply. The pitches will be just like a camp site that they can park caravans on. Basic grounds with also a public toilet. Occupation of this land would also have a maximum ^{capacity} per square meter to keep in mind the feelings of any neighbouring houses.

To try and reach an agreement through a treaty may be difficult but after looking at the affects, it may be the best option to restore peace should this conflict arise elsewhere.

Role Form is just a learning curve. → next page

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some were dragged off the site saying "They'll have to take me in a body bag" Generally it created a lot of backlash on Basildon Council with negative media response and local villagers dissatisfied too. "They've pissed off everyone and wasted millions." - Ken Gridely //

Moreover just using the justice system is not ideal either, proven by the 10 year process, it takes too long and is constant back and forth. Candy Sheridan saw that the system lacks trust and favours a popular view, having leaked the final terms of the eviction to a local newspaper before herself. "This slow negotiated approach, has it reaped me any rewards? I can't think of any one." //

This leaves a treaty as a good option. Sides would have to both make major sacrifices but it could work. Included in the terms of the treaty could include assistance for planning permission, rubbish disposal, education and the reinstatement of the 1970 Caravans Act which required councils to provide Traveller pitches. One of the biggest issues with the Travellers presence is that they accumulate a lot of rubbish and smell of sewerage. A solution to this would be to allow an ^{on site} connection to the sewerage pipeline and weekly rubbish pick up or dump ^[accessability] ~~availability~~.

A huge factor of Traveller lifestyle and which

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Subject:	Social Studies	Standard:	91281	Total score:	E8
Q	Grade score	Annotation			
1	E8	<p>This candidate has provided a detailed response, gaining an E8 because;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Specific evidence is used appropriately and consistently throughout. - Candidate demonstrates a strong understanding of the cultural conflict through detailed description of the focus of the conflict, the points-of-view, values and perspectives of people involved, the factors that shape the conflict and way(s) of addressing the conflict. - Possible outcomes from the ways of addressing the conflict have been described and supported with evidence. - For E8, this candidate has given recommendations of how to address the conflict. The recommendations are clearly linked to desired outcomes and goes beyond generic solutions for peace by giving specific details of how and why this recommendation has been made. For example, as part of the candidate's recommendation, a suggestion is made for camping ground type facilities be available for Travellers. The candidate has further considered details such as the need for public toilets and a maximum occupancy per square metre. - In addition for this, the recommendations are supported with well-developed reasoning. For example, that education requirements should be placed on the Travellers so they can understand legalities of land purchases. 			