

Part 1: Comprehension

60 minutes

How Scotland will lead the world

Alex Salmond, first minister of Scotland and leader of the Scottish National Party, believes small, independent nations will be champions of change

After the Second World War ended the United Nations comprised 51 independent nations. Today that figure has risen to 193. Globalisation has gone hand in hand with a growing desire for nations to take responsibility for their own affairs and make a full contribution as a member of that global family of nations.

5 I write as the leader of a nation which is not yet a member of that family in its own right, but I lead a government which aspires to that status. Scotland will hold a referendum on independence before the end of this parliament in 2016, and in 2012 we will lay the foundations by wielding the powers we currently have to boost economic growth. [...]

10 Scotland on its path to independence is another example of smaller-nation success: with our limited powers we have already set a more dynamic pace than the rest of the United Kingdom. Lest anyone doubt the capacity of smaller nations to influence the global future, a former secretary-general of the UN, Kofi Annan, has cited Scotland's history in science, technology and economics as proof that our nation has a "leading role" to play in tackling some of the biggest challenges of our age.

15 Climate change is one such challenge—and Scotland has passed world-leading climate-change legislation, with a target of reducing carbon emissions by 42% by 2020. That is ambitious but achievable, and it will hopefully act as a spur for other nations, large and small, to act now for a sustainable future.

20 It is not the size of a nation that is important, but the size of its ambition and of the contribution it can make to the world

The climate-change agenda goes together with the drive to find more sustainable ways of producing the energy we need, and again Scotland is forging ahead in developing the clean renewable-energy technology which can power the global future. We have set ourselves another challenging but achievable target by aiming to produce the equivalent of all our own electricity needs from renewable sources by 2020—and around as much again from other sources. That will allow Scotland to become a significant exporter of energy to our European neighbours.

25 It is possible because we have a huge share of the whole continent's green-energy potential. Recent investment in Scotland's renewable sector by multinational companies is testament to the scale of that potential, and 2012 will see us redouble our efforts. Energy security and the safe, sustainable delivery of power is one of the biggest issues of our time, and Scotland is already playing a leading role in securing that prize.

30 These new technologies, along with our strengths in areas like life sciences and finance, give Scotland the opportunity to continue to carve the distinctive contribution our nation has made over the centuries, from our earliest days as an independent trading nation, through the Scottish Enlightenment of the 18th century and right up to the present day. Today, more patents are issued to Scottish universities than to any other nation in the world, as measured per head. It was one of those Scottish Enlightenment figures, Adam Smith, who observed that economic progress must, inevitably, be accompanied by social progress—and that holds as true today as it did then, giving us the hope that globalisation can indeed transform the world for the better.

The thorns and the thistle

45 The age of empires is long gone; even the cold war is now a subject for the history books, and the old certainties which once underpinned international relations have unravelled. In their place we have a more complex, more uncertain world, but also one which is more alive with possibilities for positive change than ever before, where more

nations than ever exercise independence in an interdependent world, and where Scotland can and will be a force for good.

50 That includes playing a full part in the European Union, whose last big expansion in 2004 saw the admission of ten new states—six of them smaller than Scotland, and six of which had become independent since 1990.

55 As the United Kingdom's prime minister, David Cameron, conceded in last year's edition of this publication, the UK is saddled with a large deficit, so size clearly offers no protection or immunity from the vagaries of the global economy. Instead, the countries which appear best equipped to deal with such conditions are those that are nimble and fleet-footed enough to adapt quickly to change. It is not the size of a nation that is important, but the size of its ambition and of the contribution it can make to the world. Scotland is ready to meet that challenge.

The Economist, Nov 17th 2011 | from The World In 2012 print edition

Glossary:

- l 8 wield → to have and/or use (power, authority, influence, etc.)
- l 11 lest → in case
- l 17 spur → encouragement
- l 38 Scottish Enlightenment → the period between 1730 and 1800, which was one of the brightest in the history of the Scottish universities
- l 45 to underpin → to give support or strength to something
- l 56 nimble → quick and exact either in movement or thoughts
- l 57 to be fleet-footed → to be able to run fast

1.1 Use the word in CAPITAL letters to form the correct word for the blank in each sentence. In some cases negative prefixes may have to be left out or added to form sentences that make sense

<i>given word</i>	<i>context</i>	<i>answer</i>
example: HARM	That snake is not a problem; it's ___ .	<i>harmless</i>
1. GROWING	The scientist discovered a substance that promotes the ___ of new blood vessels.	
2. INDEPENDENCE	Whether or not we play baseball will ___ on how much rain we get.	
3. SUCCESS	The businessman sold his ___ dry-cleaning business and retired to Hawaii.	
4. REST	His ___ and discontentment in his job led him to find a new and more interesting one.	
5. ECONOMY	Truthfully, there is no need to resort to drastic measures if you know how to heat your home ___.	
6. EMISSIONS	It is quite unbelievable but this telescope can detect light ___ by distant galaxies.	
7. PRODUCING	Some staff members are more ___ than others.	
8. DEVELOPING	Among other things good nutrition is important for proper muscle ___.	
9. OWN	Several people have claimed ___ of the bracelet found in the park on Saturday.	

10. NEIGHBOUR	We're hoping to find ourselves a nice little house in this beautiful __.	
11. SAFE	I prefer to watch that horror movie on TV from the __ of my own armchair.	
12. LEAD	I was totally __ by what I had read about her in the newspapers.	
13. SECURE	What a mess. The boxes on the truck cannot have been __ fastened.	
14. STRENGTH	After we could not make up our minds about what to eat for lunch the waiter __ recommended the dish of the day.	
15. MEASURED	Accurate __ are required in architecture.	
16. UNCERTAIN	Scientists still do not know with any degree of __ why the disease spread so quickly.	
17. EXPANSION	This liquid __ and contracts with changes in temperature.	
18. IMPORTANT	The teacher lectured the students on the __ of mutual respect.	
19. AMBITION	The company was created by two very __ hardworking young men in the early 1900s.	

1.2 Rephrasing – Find synonyms for the following highlighted words and phrases:

1. Globalisation has gone **hand in hand** with **a growing desire** for nations to take responsibility for their own affairs and make a full contribution as a member of that global family of nations.

2. Scotland will hold a referendum on independence before the end of this parliament in 2016, and in 2012 we will lay the foundations by wielding the powers we **currently** have to **boost** economic **growth**.

3. Lest anyone doubt the capacity of smaller nations to influence the global future, a former secretary-general of the UN, Kofi Annan, has cited Scotland's history in science, technology and economics as proof that our nation has a "leading role" to play in **tackling** some of the biggest **challenges of our age**.

4. Climate change is one such challenge—and Scotland **has passed** world-leading climate-change **legislation**, with a **target** of reducing carbon emissions by 42% by 2020.

5. Recent investment in Scotland's **renewable** energy by multinational companies is **testament to the scale** of that potential, and 2012 will see us redouble our efforts.

1.3 Answer the following questions. Use only the information you get from the article and don't copy your answers entirely from the text.

1. What further current trend has developed along with the concept of globalization? How can this be explained?

2. Why does Scotland have good conditions to be successful as a small independent state according to Alex Salmon and Kofi Annan?

3. What are the two main challenges Scotland has already faced successfully? How has it been done?

4. Why is the author so optimistic about the economic and social progress of Scotland?

5. What's the author's conclusion when comparing the economic roles of small and large states, in particular the role of Scotland and the United Kingdom?

2.2 MIXED TENSES: Interview excerpt with Madonna (adapted)

Gus Van Sant: Hey, Madonna.

Madonna: Gus, is that you?

Gus: Yes. I'm at my house in L.A., just _ (1 read) the paper.

M: _ (2 live) in L.A. now?

Gus: No, I _ (3 live / still) in Portland [Oregon], but I have a place in L.A., and I'm starting to work on this film down here.

M: Can't you do anything else? You _ (4 work /always) on a film.

Gus: I can't help it. [laughs] I _ (5 hear) you're going to Africa.

M: Yeah. I _ (6 go / usually) to Malawi twice a year. It's where two of my children _ (7 adopt) from, and I have a lot of projects there that I go and check up on and children who I look after. It's sort of a commitment that I _ (8 make) to this country ever since I _ (9 adopt) my children and the hundreds of thousands of children there who _ (10 orphan) by AIDS.

Gus: You made a documentary about this in 2008, _ (11 you do)?

M: Yes, I did. It was called I Am Because We Are, and it _ (12 become) part of my life. I _ (13 meet) Jeffrey Sachs next week [the economist]. I'm sure you've heard of him. He _ (14 currently start) a global education initiative, and I'm going to be his Girl Friday, so to speak. We _ (15 hold) a press conference to talk about the school for girls that I'm building in Malawi soon. It's kind of our way of making sure that every kid _ (16 have) a chance to have an education - more specifically girls, but boys as well. Girls, though, in a lot of developing countries _ (17 not / have) the opportunity to go to school, nor are they encouraged to go to school. So what we _ (18 do) at the moment is the beginning of a dream. But I'm going to Malawi for lots of reasons.

Gus: You _ (19 do) a lot of work with Jeffrey Sachs already, haven't you?

M: Yeah. We _ (20 support) each other for years now and I _ (21 work) on some Millennium Villages with him. We have two Millennium Village sites in Malawi, and they're both doing very well. He _ (22 be) an incredible human being.

Gus: I've never met him, but I have heard he's very charismatic.

M: He's extremely charismatic. Very well-spoken and charming. He's one of the few people I know who _ (23 talk) the talk and also walks the walk. I tell you, he thinks very big and if I _ (24 not/have) his support of excellent ideas from the beginning, I _ (25 not / be able) to accomplish all this.

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Part 3: Essay

60 minutes

Choose one of the three topics that are set for your class to write about. Indicate clearly which topic you have chosen. Mind essay structure, use your own words as far as possible. Your essay will be assessed according to the criteria of content, structure, language and style. The essay must be between 350 and 400 words. Please give the total number of words in brackets.

Class 7Sa (Franz Xaver Goop)

- Today a considerable part of the population of Scotland is striving for independence from the UK. Do you think that nowadays small countries are more successful in a globalized world than large countries? Why or why not? What about Liechtenstein? Can Liechtenstein be seen as a good role model?
- The UK and the USA are among the nations with the highest proportions of inhabitants from multi ethnic backgrounds. Do you consider this as an advantage or a disadvantage for these countries?
- What happens to Mrs Mallard in Kate Chopin's "Story of an Hour"? Introduce the story and write an inner monologue from her point of view. How does the story end? Can Mrs Mallard be interpreted as an early representative of a modern, emancipated woman?

Class 7LSa (Ulrike Mayer)

- Today a considerable part of the population of Scotland is striving for independence from the UK. Do you think that nowadays small countries are more successful in a globalized world than large countries? Why or why not? What about Liechtenstein? Can Liechtenstein be seen as a good role model?
- The UK and the USA are among the nations with the highest proportions of inhabitants from multi ethnic backgrounds. Do you consider this as an advantage or a disadvantage for these countries?
- Dreams do not necessarily come true, but if they do there's most probably an abyss between desire and reality.
Find and compare different situations in any two works of English literature where the main protagonists desperately long for happiness, but nevertheless fail, as in the case of Jay Gatsby, whose "dream must have seemed so close that he could hardly fail to grasp it. He did not know that it was already behind him..." (The Great Gatsby, 179/180)

Class 7Ma (Christoph Eggarter)

- Today a considerable part of the population of Scotland is striving for independence from the UK. Do you think that nowadays small countries are more successful in a globalized world than large countries? Why or why not? What about Liechtenstein? Can Liechtenstein be seen as a good role model?
- The UK and the USA are among the nations with the highest proportions of inhabitants from multi ethnic backgrounds. Do you consider this as an advantage or a disadvantage for these countries?
- *The Tenth Man*: Analyse L.Chavel's development from his time in prison to the end of his life; base your analysis on the plot, the historical and also the political aspects of the novel.

Class 7Na (Corinna Frommelt)

- Today a considerable part of the population of Scotland is striving for independence from the UK. Do you think that nowadays small countries are more successful in a globalized world than large countries? Why or why not? What about Liechtenstein? Can Liechtenstein be seen as a good role model?
- The UK and the USA are among the nations with the highest proportions of inhabitants from multi ethnic backgrounds. Do you consider this as an advantage or a disadvantage for these countries?
- Discuss the title of the play *A Raisin in the Sun*. How does it relate to the dreams of each of the main characters Mama, Ruth, Beneatha and Walter? How are their dreams deferred?

Class 7Ws (Corinna Frommelt)

- Today a considerable part of the population of Scotland is striving for independence from the UK. Do you think that nowadays small countries are more successful in a globalized world than large countries? Why or why not? What about Liechtenstein? Can Liechtenstein be seen as a good role model?
- The UK and the USA are among the nations with the highest proportions of inhabitants from multi ethnic backgrounds. Do you consider this as an advantage or a disadvantage for these countries?
- Discuss the title of the play *A Raisin in the Sun*. How does it relate to the dreams of each of the main characters Mama, Ruth, Beneatha and Walter? How are their dreams deferred?