

EVS

LESSON #3

BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE

Why background knowledge??

The answer is simple, is to
make sure you **understand!**

What is background knowledge??

Background knowledge is the information that is essential to understand a concept, a situation or a problem.

For example, in your book Interesting Stories lesson #3, we talk about globalization. Globalization is a concept that we hear a lot nowadays, but do we really understand what it means??

To understand the text of Lesson #3, it is essential to understand the word “globalization” and its background knowledge.

There are few steps
you have to do, you choose a
keyword, then:

When you are reading or listening to someone's idea, you must identify the keywords to make sure you understand the main ideas.

Then, the first step you must do to make sure you understand the keywords' meaning is to find the definition.

↔ **1. Search for the definition** → When you do not know or want to make sure you understand the word/words meaning. Look for the definition (dictionary or Internet).

3 ways to prove that you really understand

↔ **2. Explain in your own words** → Try to explain the words or the concept in your own words.

↔ **3. Concrete example** → When you understand the words/ concept, try to give a concrete example in another context.

↔ **4. Connect it to your own life** → When you understand the words/ concept, try to connect it to your own personal life/experiences.

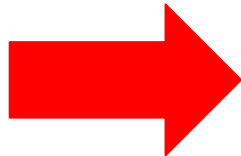
How to research background knowledge

↔ **5. Ask yourself questions** → What is the history behind the words, concept? When did we start using the words, concept? Where do the words, concept come from? Do the words, concept mean the same everywhere?

↔ **6. Historical context** → When words or concepts are linked with a historical context. **not always the case*

There are few steps
you have to do, you choose a
keyword, then:

**Pay attention, there is not
always an historical context to
your word / concept**



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Example
Keyword chosen:
“Globalization”

↪ **Search for the definition** → “*Globalization is the process by which businesses or other organizations start doing business on an international scale.*”

↪ **Explain in your own words** → A business or organization that does business, or have interactions with businesses from other regions, other countries.

↪ **Give a concrete example** → Samsung products that are designed in South Korea, but they buy their components from China.

↪ **Connect it to your own life** → The clothes I buy in Canada are featured on Instagram by Japanese and Colombian models. The clothes are manufactured in the United States, and are delivered to me by DHL, a German shipping company.

↪ **Ask yourself questions** → When did we start using the word?
The contemporary process of globalization likely occurred around the middle of the 19th century as increased capital and labor mobility coupled with decreased transport costs led to a smaller world.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_globalization

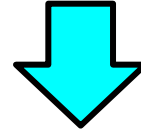
↪ **Historical context** →
Territorial expansion by our ancestors to all five continents was a critical component in establishing globalization. However, globalization failed to accelerate due to the lack of long-distance interaction and technology. Globalization results in the expansion of international cultural, economic, and political activities. As people, ideas, knowledge, and goods move more easily around the globe, the experiences of people around the world become more similar. National Geographic Encyclopedia
<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/encyclopedia/globalization/>

Homework Week #3

For this week's homework:

Please select **one keyword** for lesson #1 & Lesson #2, and please follow the steps shown on last side to show you understand the keyword you have chosen and see if you can acquire some background knowledge.

Steps



1. Search for the definition
2. Explain it in your own words
3. Give a concrete example
4. Connect it to your life
5. Ask yourself a question
6. Historical context (if there is any, not always the case!)

EU3 今週の課題 4月23日配信

課題： **Lesson1**と**Lesson2**のBackground knowledgeを調べて提出する。

以前の宿題ですでに挙げた Key wordsからひとつ選ぶ（宿題としてはひとつだけでOK）

1. Key wordの意味を調べて書く（英英事典、Wikipedia、<https://www.merriam-webster.com/> などを利用する）
2. 1で調べた意味を、自分の言葉で言い換える
3. 意味が理解できたところで、key wordの具体例を挙げる
4. 自身の経験や人生において当てはまる具体例を探して挙げる（3とは別の自分にとって身近な例）
5. このKey wordに対して様々な問いを考える。問いの中からひとつ気になる問いを選んで書く。（宿題としてはひとつだけでOK）問いの答えを調べて書く。参考文献を載せるのを忘れずに。
6. もし、Key wordに歴史的背景などがあれば、調べて書く。

1～6のステップを実施し、Google documentで提出（submit.kokusai@gmail.comと共有する）

Lesson 1のステップ1～6を入力したあとで、Lesson2のステップ1～6を入力して、1つのドキュメントを提出。

スライドNo.6の右のページに例があります。質問がある人は kokusaialt@gmail.comへ！

I hope that “Interesting Stories” have been interesting for you!