The Exhibition

TOK

The TOK Exhibition: Basic Stuff

- ☐ The goal is to demonstrate how TOK is relevant in the modern world
- ☐ The Exhibition must address one of 35 questions called “IA Prompts” (see the Cave)
- ☐ You will need to decide on 3 objects that have a connection to your chosen prompt
- ☐ Your work should be based on one of the 3 Themes we have studied: the Knower; Politics; Language
- ☐ You will include a typewritten commentary on each object (with image; 300 words) explaining (1) its real -world context, (2) why you have chosen it, and (3) how it relates to the prompt. Citations should be included (outside the word count). These documents will be your Exhibition File (950 words max)
- ☐ Mr N can read and give feedback on one draft of your Exhibition File prior to your final version

The TOK Exhibition: Objects

- ☐ An object can be physical or digital but it must have a tangible presence in your Exhibition (as in a photo or a printed tweet). Obviously, if you stage your Exhibition with one or more physical objects, you still need a photos of them in your file to send to the IB
- ☐ References/Citations are important so that someone could check the source or origin
- ☐ You must understand what the question is asking before you select the objects you plan to connect to it
- ☐ You must supply evidence supporting your understanding of the link to the prompt, in addition to explaining why you have selected it—it should not be simply a generic object taken from the Internet, but should have some personal importance to you

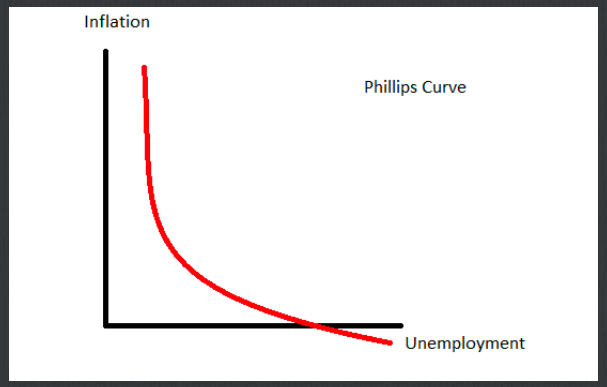
The TOK Exhibition: Objects / Examples

- ☐ A tweet from the President of the United States
- ☐ An image of the painting Guernica by Pablo Picasso
- ☐ The student's own essay
- ☐ A basketball used by the student during a game or their physical education lessons
- ☐ The graphic novel The Colour of Earth by Kim Dong Hwa
- ☐ A painting that the student created in a visual arts course
- ☐ A refillable water bottle provided to each student in a school as part of a sustainability initiative
- ☐ A news article from the popular website Buzzfeed
- ☐ A photograph of the student playing in Band singing in Troubadors

Example 1: Knowledge & Politics

Prompt: Can new knowledge change established values or beliefs?

- ☐ A photo of the Rex Cinema fire in Iran (8/18/78) that triggered the Islamic Revolution
- ☐ A hangman's noose once used for capital punishment
- ☐ A Phillips curve—a once-held economic theory



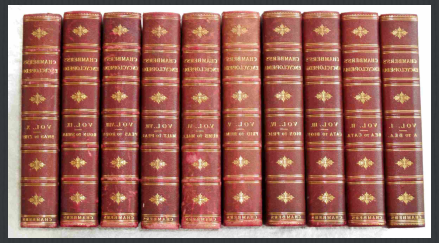
Each of these objects gives you opportunities to explore what the new knowledge is or was, and how it has changed established beliefs and values

Example 2: Knowledge & Language

Prompt: How does the way that we organize or classify knowledge affect what we know?

- ☐ A photo or copy of Chambers Encyclopedia dating from the 1890s, which makes scientific classifications that we may no longer recognize or agree with
- ☐ An article on "The Cold War" (a classification for a period in the 20th Century)
- ☐ A photo of a medieval map which classifies countries according to their proximity to Rome

Each of these objects gives you opportunities to explore the extent to which the labels and language we use to group and classify, shape, and influence what we know



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