Inquiring and Analyzing - Criterion A

Unit Title: Sustainable cities and communities

KC – Communities
RC – Sustainability
GC- Globalization and sustainability
SOI - "Exploring the interdependence of communities within sustainable cities and their role in addressing global challenges, emphasizing the synergy between local actions and the broader context of globalization and sustainability."

Command Terms

Note: Information in red box for the reference only.

Strand 1: Explain and Justify the need for a solution to a problem

Establish the context:

Use following guiding descriptors

- The problem that I want my product/ solution to address is...(what?)
- The reason that this problem exists is... (why?)
- My solution will be aimed at … Who is facing the problem? What effect is the problem having on the Client(Age, profession, personality) / Target Audience(Age group, types, profession and personality)? ...(who?).
- If I am successful in creating these product...(what will change?)
- PROOF (show proof of the problem)
- This evidence shows...(what?)
- This proves we need to create a solution for this issue because...(why?)

Design Problem:

Prompt: This should be directly linked to the statement of inquiry (provided above)
In your own words, explain what the problem/issue/challenge/concern is.

Personal Approach:

Prompt: personal approach - discuss how important this issue is to you personally &/or to your client and how finding a solution is so very important and much needed
provide reasons - use the word "because"

Need for solution

Prompt: What evidence do you have that the problem exists and needs to be solved? Provide Citation in MLA 9 format

- ***Persuade/Convince** the reader of your Criterion A report that this issue/problem is in need of a solution. Here are tips on how to persuade/convince (i.e. justify):*
    - *research - conduct some research and find and share statistics, quotes, graphs, images and anything that can add weight to your argument*
    - *prognosticate - share how bad the world will be if this problem is NOT solved - compare a happy world with a solution to a horrible world without a solution*
    - *emotive - use words that make your reader have strong feelings*
    - *rhetorical questions - to make your reader stop and think*
    - *say it again - repeat your message*
    - *undermine - mention different opinions to yours and say why they are wrong*
    - *Try one or more of these appeals:*
        - *Ethos - Values ~ getting people to trust you – show the people that you share the same values as them*
        - *Pathos - Emotions ~ appealing to the emotions of others – use language to make people feel a certain way, whether it be angry, guilty, encouraged or fearful*
        - *Logos - Logic and sense ~ using logic or evidence to appeal to the common sense of others – showing that you are basing your opinions on facts*

Strand 2: Identify and Prioritize research

Constructs a detailed research plan, which identifies and prioritizes the primary and secondary research needed to develop a solution to the problem independently.

Example of research questions

Prompt:

- *Create a long list of research topics - then change these ideas into research questions using the MYP command terms - think what data and information is needed to be collected so that you can solve the problem?*
- *Identify a variety of places to find answers and collect data (primary, secondary, qualitative and quantitative research)*
- *Consider that you have to solve this problem without your teacher's help - what do you need to know and where would you find it?*
- *Prioritise HIGH - MEDIUM - LOW and add "because" to justify your classification*
- *Organise and present your research plan (consider visuals ways to tables, flow charts, outlines, mind maps, etc.)*
- *N.B. this is a research plan... not actual research*

Strand 3: Analysing the existing products

Prompt:

- *First - cast a wide net and collect a wide range of existing product*
- *Second - find 3-6 key products that stand out and strike a chord*
- *Third - find a suitable method of analysis for the specific product*
- *Fourth - use this analysis tool to analyse your 3-6 key products and present your products and analysis*

Strand 4: Design Brief

Prompt:

- *Revisit strand 2 and conduct the research you planned and share findings*
- *Provide clear evidence that a wide variety of research was conducted (citations and bibliography)*
- *To conclude, craft a neat and concise Design Brief - tips on crafting a design brief:*
    - *present information concisely*
    - *explain how and why the information is relevant to solving the problem*
    - *link to research (i.e. cite key elements in your design brief)*
    - *revisit strand 1 and address the key elements*
    - *identify a clear goal "I will design..."*
    - *who is it for "for ...."*
    - *why "to solve..."*
    - *where "created and delivered/installed ... "*