

# Competitive Essay for MUN Lottery Exemption

## I. TOPIC QUESTION:

***Analyze the causes of ONE of the following international problems and identify the most important.***

1. The Rise of ISIS in Iraq/Syria
2. Russian aggression into Ukraine
3. The Ebola epidemic in West Africa

## II. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

1. At least THREE pages/Typed and Double-Spaced
2. At least FIVE SCHOLARLY SOURCES properly referenced and used in the essay/parenthetical citation and bibliography
3. Submit to Turnitin.com

## III. STRUCTURE

### 1. INTRODUCTION

- Introduction/Thesis (example):  
“Political factors are the most important cause in the rise of ISIS.”
- Summarize background/context to the issue
- Define key terms: ie. “ISIS,” “Ebola Virus,” etc.
- Roadmap/list your supporting arguments

### 2. CAUSE 1: Topic Sentence (Political Cause MORE relevant than Economic)

- Fact/example
- Fact/example
- Explain how facts/examples show claim is true

### 3. CAUSE 2: Topic Sentence (Political Cause MORE relevant than Social)

- Fact/example
- Fact/example
- Explain how facts/examples show claim is true

### 4. ALTERNATE VIEW: Topic Sentence (Social OR Economic cause MORE relevant than Political)

- Fact/example
- Fact/example
- Explain how facts/examples show claim to be true

### 5. REPLY TO ALTERNATE VIEW consistent with your thesis statement

- “While true, the alternate view is not as relevant because...”
- Fact/example
- Fact/example
- Explain how facts/examples show reply to be true

### 6. CONCLUSION

- Summarize your main argument
- Bottom Line – Answer the question posed

#### **IV. Content: Causes**

- Identify at least three
- Political/Military; Economic; Social/Religious

#### **V. Sources: MUST be SCHOLARLY**

- Websites: (.gov) (.edu)
- Online/Hard Copy Academic/Foreign Policy Journals
- Mainstream News Sources Hard copy/Online (major newspapers/magazines/broadcast journalism)