

The European Union

The growth and development of a new super power.



I will talk about...

- The reason for the European Union
- The New Union
- Leadership
- Languages
- The Euro
- The EU and the rest of the world
- How can a country join the EU?
- Future Member - Bosnia

The Reason for the European Union

Why does it exist?

- Twenty-seven member states in 2008
- Total area of EU is 4,324,782 sq km
- More countries will join in the future
- Formed in 1957 under the European Economic Community (EEC) – only six countries
- In 1973, 1980 and 1990 – important new members

The New Union

- Name change in 1992 to The European Community (EC)
- New connections were made between countries
- Defence, Law, Economics, Currency
- This moved countries closer together



Formation of the European Union

In 2002 the European Union was formed under the Three Pillar System.

1. European Communities
2. Common Foreign and Security Policy
3. Police and Judicial Co-operation in Criminal Matters



Leadership

The European Council

- Two leaders from each country join together four times a year.
- Every six months one country is in control of the meeting of the European council.



European Commission

- Responsible for running the Three Pillar System
- Discuss and make laws
- MEPs are European Politicians
- Only talk about what is good for the EU
- President José Manuel Barroso



Where is the heart of the EU?

- Brussels is home to the European Commission.
- The EU Commission runs the day-to-day matters of the EU.
- Brussels is at the heart of western Europe.
- The Czech Republic say the heart of real Europe is in Prague





Languages

- No Official Language
- All countries languages are accepted
- All languages are respected
- In fact English and German are spoken the most
- The is still a major problem in the EU



The Euro

15 members of the EU have the euro.

320 million Europeans use it

The highest value in the world



Euro – International Currency ?

European Central Bank 1998

Frankfurt, Germany



The Euro

Advantages

- Free to move around Europe
- Comparing prices easier
- Businesses work faster

Disadvantages

- Lost of national feelings
- Harder for new countries to join the Euro
- All countries economies are together



The EU and the rest of the world

- Kyoto Protocol – European Union Emission Trading Scheme 2005
- Army - EU forces are peacekeepers
- Humanitarian aid – 671 million euros in 2006 went to Africa



New and Future Members

January 1st 2007 – Bulgaria and Romania joined the EU.

How does a new country join the EU?



How does a new country join the EU?

Copenhagen Criteria of 1993

European Council joining rules

1. Stable democracy
2. Respects human rights
3. Have laws and a good police force
4. A strong economy for trading in the EU
5. Must accept European Commission laws



New and Future Members

There are currently three official candidate countries

- Croatia
- Republic of Macedonia
- Turkey

And in the future

- Bosnia and Herzegovina



Mostar, Bosnia



What is the European Union and how has it changed over the last 50 years?

or

With reference to the European Union, will an Asian Union, in the future, be possible?

700 – 900 words

Minimum: one photo, one map or one graph (with figure 1.1, 1.2 etc)

All Website and lecture references

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/european_union

<http://www.cia.gov>

Choose “European Union” from
the first menu

Writing Essays from Lecturer Notes

Formal Language:

- Don't use 'I' or 'we'
- Don't write about your feelings
- Write about changes and how new conditions happened
- Try to use the phrases below in your essay

By contrast,...

Nevertheless,...

Whereas,...

As a consequence of...

...because...

However,...

Despite this,...

The aim...

The reason...