

## About the coursebook

English 2 for Sociology Students is a coursebook for second-year students of the university study programmes in Sociology. It is a result of a needs analysis carried out among Sociology students, ex-Sociology students and lecturers in Sociology study programmes, which helped determine the discipline-specific English language competencies and transferable skills required for academic success and effective performance in the workplace.

The coursebook is complemented by the website 'Web Resources for Sociology students' (<http://www2.arnes.si/~vzorko/>) containing resources that are used in class and in autonomous learning at home. They include authentic audio, video and text resources on a range of sociological topics as well as language practice activities.

The coursebook units are designed to cater for the needs of students with different language proficiency levels. Units 8, 9 and 10 focus on selected areas particularly suited for students of Analytical Sociology, Social Informatics and Human Resources Management, respectively.

We hope you enjoy using this coursebook.

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## 1 GLOBALISING THE WORLD



### TALKING ABOUT GLOBALISATION

- ▶ Think of the events, situations, phenomena and concepts that you associate with the term globalisation. Brainstorm the concept.



- ▶ Now, think of the advantages and disadvantages of each of the above concepts and discuss them with your partner.

► Write a statement using one of the following phrases for balancing:

Fortunately... Unfortunately...  
On the one hand..., but on the other hand...  
Although..., we mustn't forget...  
In spite of..., I still think...

Example:

**On the one hand**, multinational drug firms have the resources to develop drugs for diseases like AIDS, **but on the other hand** they charge so much that those who need them most cannot afford them.

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Read your statement to the class.

► Here are some acronyms associated with globalisation. What do they stand for?

NGO \_\_\_\_\_

WTO \_\_\_\_\_

GATT \_\_\_\_\_

IMF \_\_\_\_\_

OECD \_\_\_\_\_

OXFAM \_\_\_\_\_

► You are going to read the text titled **Resulting Problems of Globalisation** that deals with five globalisation issues. First discuss them and then read the text filling in the gaps.

- diminishing role of the nation state
- environmental destruction
- gulf between the rich and the poor
- non-controllable MNCs
- social dumping

interdependence	erosion	referred to	supranational	abdicated
superfluous	payroll fringe	phenomena	indicative of	undisputed
foundation	social dumping	prominent	framework	prior to
accelerated	permeable	originates	low wage	destruction

### Commentaries on the Resulting Problems

The frequently quoted maxim that the nation states are too small for the large problems, and too large for the small ones \_\_\_\_\_ from a paper written by Daniel Bell in the 80s. Global problems such as the greenhouse effect are just as difficult to solve within the \_\_\_\_\_ of the single state as local problems are in education.

The result: an \_\_\_\_\_ of the nation state. It does not disappear, or become \_\_\_\_\_, as many commentaries suggest, but simply erodes. Additional levels to solving the problem both above and below the level of the nation state are added to the picture. The former fixed limitations of territory of state, state power and the nation state is becoming more \_\_\_\_\_. No more, but certainly no less lies at the \_\_\_\_\_ of the comment concerning the ‘erosion at the nation state’, which is particularly far advanced in Europe in the form of the EU. Here, the states have \_\_\_\_\_ their central competencies up to and including sovereignty of currency to a new, \_\_\_\_\_ organisation.

These \_\_\_\_\_ are altogether nothing new - they have been in discussion since the 70s under banner of \_\_\_\_\_ - however, the processes have \_\_\_\_\_ and reached new dimensions in quality and quantity. This is what is new in globalisation.