World of 8 Billion
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PROJECT ORGANIZER

Name(s):

Date:

Have questions on how to use this Project Organizer? **Visit our Blog!**

The *World of 8 Billion* Video Contest Challenge

Create a one minute video that addresses one of [this year's global topics,](#) suggests a sustainable solution, and connects how human population growth impacts that topic.

Before you begin creating your video click on the blue boxes below to learn more about the contest:

Contest Rules and Guidelines	**Tips for Your Video**	**Judging Rubric**

Tips to keep in mind when creating your video:
1. The video can be no longer than 60 seconds. The 5-second title slide does not count towards the limit.
2. Don't speed up your audio or talk faster to fit more content in the 60 second time limit.
3. As you are creating text for your video, check and correct any typos, spelling, and grammatical errors.
4. Make sure you cite resources used (music, images, video clips, etc.) and that they are copyright & royalty free.
5. The **FAQ page** has answers to many of the questions you may have while creating your video.

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Group Responsibilities

If you are creating your video as a group, collaboration is essential. But you may want to determine what part of the project each group member may lead to stay on track. ***If you are working as an individual you can skip this slide.***

After reviewing all the project steps for this contest, fill in the chart below. You may want to add to this chart as your group progresses with the project.

Who will be your lead producer?
- Put a star next to their name.
- The Lead Producer is responsible for submitting your video and communicating with the *World of 8 Billion* team.

Name	Project Responsibilities

Project Timeline

This project organizer is broken up into 9 steps. All videos must be submitted by **11:59 PM EST on Wednesday, March 4, 2026** to be eligible to win.

Our Approximate Timeline	
Project Step	**Estimated Date To Complete By:**
1. Choose a Topic	
2. Research	
3. Make the Population Connection	
4. Define Obstacles & Develop Your Solution	
5. Organize Your Script	
6. Perfect Your Script	
7. Film Your Video	
8. Edit Your Video	
9. Submit Your Video	

1. Choose a Topic

This year's contest focuses on three global topics.
Learn a little more about each of three global topics by clicking on the boxes below.

| Energy | Wetlands | Economics |

1. After reading the topic summaries, which global topic are you most interested in?

    a. Do you have a personal connection to that topic? Has it impacted your life at all?

    b. Do any issues related to the topic you chose exist in your community? Region? Country?

    c. Can you connect how population growth impacts the global topic you are interested in?

    d. Do you think you can come up with a **sustainable solution** for your topic?

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Narrow Your Focus

The three global topics are broad and encompass a lot of challenges, but your video can only be 60 seconds. Rather than taking on the entire topic, we recommend focusing on one part of the topic (a subtopic).

> **Example:** *Rather than tackling the entire topic of energy, consider focusing in on the subtopic of energy access.*

Based on your answers from the previous page, you may already have an idea for your video's focus. But check out the Topic Backgrounders, by clicking the green box, for additional subtopics and resources to help you get started.

Topic Backgrounders

1. Circle/highlight the global topic of your video:

   Energy   **Wetlands**   **Economics**

2. What subtopic will you use to narrow your focus?

3. Why is this subtopic important to you?

2. Research

Gather Credible Information

Good videos are based on accurate information. Dozens of videos are disqualified every year because they use incorrect data, outdated facts, or unreliable sources. Click the blue box below for a helpful resource from the Meriam Library at California State University, Chico to evaluate your sources.

Is my source credible?

As you are researching, make sure to keep track of where you are getting your information. Note the title, author, organization, publication date, and website URL of the sources you use for your video. **If your video is selected as a finalist, we will ask for a copy of your cited sources.** You can choose the citation style MLA, APA, etc. but your citations should be more than a list of websites. You are welcome to also include these citations at the end of your video but it is not required at this time.

You can use the Topic Backgrounders to begin gathering information, but you will also need to do some of your own research.

View the Topic Backgrounders

Answer the questions on the next three slides to get started with your research!

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Question 1: What is the scope of your topic/subtopic? (Include data to support your answers.)

- Where is it happening?
- How big of a challenge is it?
- What will happen if it isn't addressed?

Facts to support your answer	Source (Citation)

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Question 2: Why should people care about your subtopic?

- Why is it important?
- Why should your audience take time, money, or energy to help solve your topic/subtopic challenge?

Facts to support your answer	Source (Citation)

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Question 3: Who are the stakeholders?

- Who is impacted by the issue? Who could benefit or be hurt by changes?
- Who could take action for change? Who is making the issue worse?

Facts to support your answer	Source (Citation)

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3. Make the Population Connection

Connect to Population Growth

It isn't enough to say "more people will mean more pollution." You'll need to highlight a specific way that human population growth impacts your topic, using specific data or facts to support your claim.

Example: " *As the human population grows, so does the demand for fish and shellfish, which is a major source of protein for people around the world. The ocean can't produce an ever-increasing amount of seafood. There is an upper limit to the amount of fishing that can maintain a sustainable yield.*"

How does human population growth impact my topic/subtopic?	
Facts to support your answer	**Credible sources**

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4. Define Obstacles and Develop Your Solution

What is a Sustainable Solution?

- Works to actively reduce your topic challenge without creating new issues or harming future generations.
- Identifies and listens to the needs and perspectives of all stakeholders.
- Goes beyond making donations to charity.
- Can be new or existing but is realistic and makes sense.

The United Nations defines **sustainable development** as a multi-faceted approach to problem solving that balances economic, social, and environmental needs.

Make sure your sustainable solution directly addresses your specific topic challenge and is rooted in research.
- For example: If your subtopic is microplastics in rainfall, recycling shouldn't be your solution because there isn't a clear link between how individuals recycling at home will prevent microplastics from getting into rain. A more direct solution would be to install filters in wastewater plants to filter microplastics out of water before it evaporates.

Brainstorm some sustainable solutions that directly address your subtopic.

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What specific obstacles make your issue difficult to address?

If your topic challenge was easy to solve, someone would have solved it already. Use this table to brainstorm possible obstacles and multiple **sustainable solutions** for each obstacle.

Potential Obstacles	Possible Solutions
Microplastics in Rainfall Example: People love products with microbeads.	*Start a social media campaign to replace plastic microbeads with compostable sugar. Or, add a clean-up tax to all products that use microbeads.*

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Which solutions are best?

Test your solutions by answering the questions in the following checklist.

- ❏ Does this solution have good supporting evidence for how it will directly address your topic/subtopic challenge?
- ❏ Is there a way to measure or determine "success" of the solution?
- ❏ What drawbacks might your solution have?
- ❏ Who will benefit the most from your solution? Is anyone left out?
- ❏ Will collaboration be necessary to implement your solution? Who will be involved?
- ❏ Is there a cost to implement your solution, like money or other resources? If so, where will the money and other resources come from?
- ❏ What is the timeline for your solution? How long will it take before the problem is solved?

Reflect on your answers to the checklist. Which solution(s) do you think are best. Why?

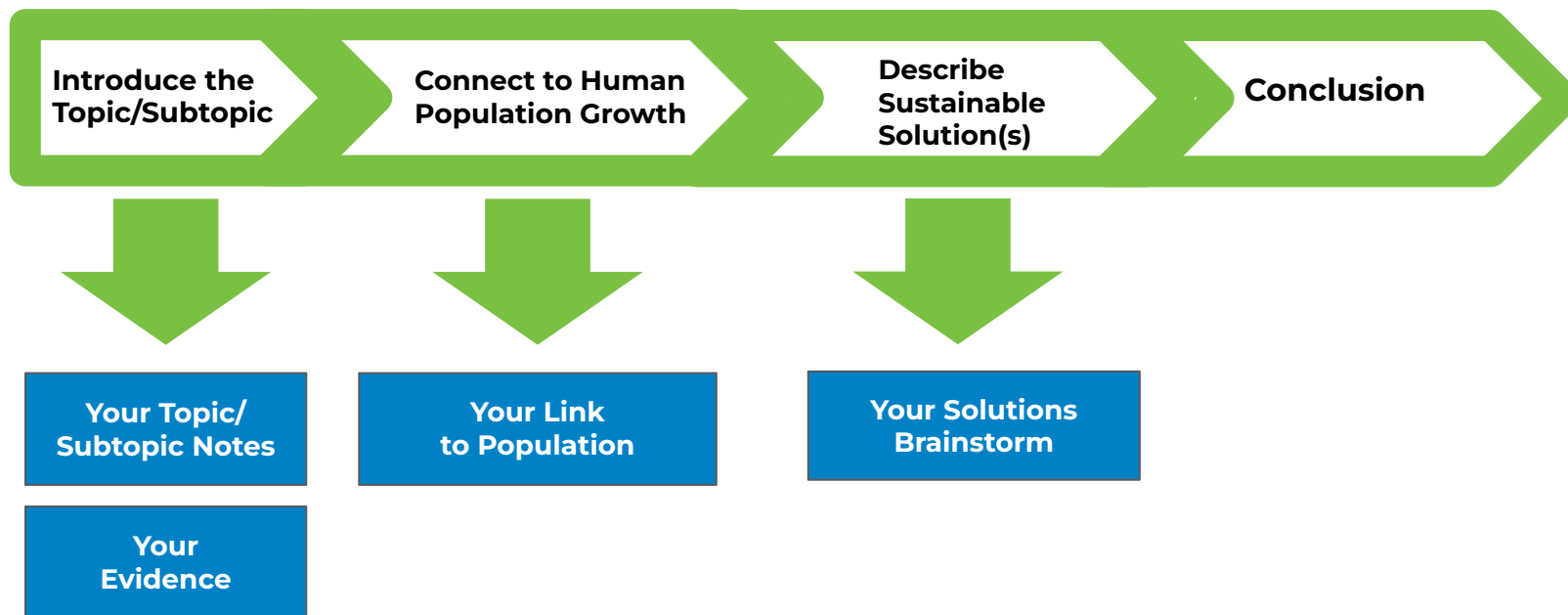# 5. Outline Your Script

How to Organize Your Script

If you've been filling out this organizer, you've already done most of the work to prepare your video script!

Videos generally consist of four sections. Click the blue boxes underneath each section to gather information that you've collected. Add your notes to the chart on the next slide.

Introduce the Topic/Subtopic → **Connect to Human Population Growth** → **Describe Sustainable Solution(s)** → **Conclusion**

Your Topic/ Subtopic Notes

Your Link to Population

Your Solutions Brainstorm

Your Evidence

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Use the Chart Below to Outline Your Script

Section	Talking Points for this Section
Introduce Topic/Subtopic Describe your topic/subtopic and why it is important.	
Population Growth Explain how human population growth impacts your topic/subtopic.	
Sustainable Solution Communicate how you will solve your topic/subtopic challenge sustainably.	
Conclusion Create a memorable ending to your video.	

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6. Write Your Script

Before You Start Writing Your Script

Review the following resources by clicking on the blue boxes below:

Tips for Your Video	**Contest Rules and Guidelines**	**Judging Rubric**

Things to Remember

- Make sure the text flows and is easily understandable.
- Have your script progress logically from one point to the next.
- Use your distinct and powerful voice! Feel free to add your own personal flair and 🌟creativity🌟 to make the video uniquely yours.
- Practice reading your script after you write it to make sure it fits into the 60 second time limit.
- Avoid the **7 most Common Mistakes** when making your video.

Use Your Outline to Write Your Script!

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Write Your Script

Use this space to write your script. Most people speak at 125-200 words per minute - aim to be within this range so your video isn't too long! (Remember: Video limit is 60 seconds not including the 5 second title slide.)

1. Choose a topic

2. Research

3. Connect Population

4. Develop Solutions

5. Outline

6. Write a Script

7. Film Your Video

8. Edit Your Footage

9. Submit

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7. Film Your Video

Film Your Video

Helpful tips:

- Speak slowly and clearly so that viewers can understand what you're saying, and be sure to enunciate your words.
- Film your video in landscape (horizontally).
- Make sure you film somewhere quiet that doesn't have a lot of background noise.
- Click the blue boxes for additional tips:

<table>
<tr><td>**How to Make an Award-Winning Video**</td><td>**Tips for Making a Great Video Using Your Phone**</td></tr>
</table>

Film Planning Questions	
Where are you filming?	
What props or additional equipment (if any) do you need?	
What are you using to film? (Example: Phone, camera, computer, etc.)	

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8. Edit Your Video

Edit Your Video

You don't need fancy software to edit your video. There are tons of free programs and apps to edit on your computer or your phone.

Things to remember:
- Make sure you include a **title slide** at the beginning with the lead producer's name, school name, school city/state/country, title of video, and total running time (not counting the 5-second title card).
- Make sure your video is 60 seconds or less. Videos that are too long will be disqualified. Don't speed up your audio to fit more content in the 60 second time limit.
- Make sure that everything is spelled correctly.
- If using images and/or music, make sure that they are not copyrighted and that you cited **Creative Commons** or other non copyrighted resources as requested by the author.

Get started with editing apps and copyright-free music by clicking the blue boxes below:

Free Smartphone Video Editing Apps

Where to Find Copyright-Free Music

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Rewatch Your Video

Once you are done filming, go back and watch your footage. Use this page to note everything you want to change, or add, in the editing process.

1.
Choose
a topic

2.
Research

3.
Connect
Population

4.
Develop
Solutions

5.
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6.
Write a
Script

7.
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Your
Video

8.
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Your
Footage

9.
Submit

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9. Submit Your Video

Have your prepped the applicable permission forms to participate in the contest?

❏ You will need to upload a signed **permission form** with your submission if you are in middle school or under 13 in the United States or if you are located outside the United States. Additional permission forms will be required if your video is selected as a finalist.

Before you submit your final video make sure:

❏ Title screen including the lead producer's name, school name, school city/state/country, title of your video, run time of your video (not including the title screen). Here is an optional **title screen template** you can use.
❏ Does your video connect how human population growth impacts your topic?
❏ Does your video offer at least one sustainable solution?
❏ Is your video 60 seconds or less (not including title screen)?
❏ Did you check for spelling and grammatical errors on any text that appears in your video?
❏ Did you check if your images and music are copyright-free and cite other sources based on the authors' requests?

Congratulations! If you can check all the boxes, then you are ready to submit! Click the green box now!

Submit your video

Make sure to submit your video by 11:59 PM EST on March 4, 2026.

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