

Read the article and answer the questions below.

Globalization and Education

Globalization is the process of the world becoming more interconnected. It is happening faster and faster as a result of more trade, cultural exchange, travel and technology. It affects many areas of our lives, especially education and employment.

Business guru Beth Godwin says that skills and abilities which were optional in the past are now essential. She thinks success in the globalized world requires the ability to work in teams – often with people from other countries, who have different cultural expectations and even different languages – while solving problems, thinking creatively and using technology.

The Committee of Economic Development of the United States believes that all multinational and many small companies need more employees with knowledge of foreign languages and cultures. That will help them to sell their products and work with partners around the globe.

However, providing people with those skills requires effort and investment. For the last twenty years, many countries, including Mexico, have expanded education. The Mexican Government hopes that education will increase economic growth, reduce poverty and improve individual well-being.

Globalization also means that schools and institutions worldwide have to set standards. These ensure quality in academic programs, facilities and research. Standardization also facilitates student exchanges, opportunities to learn new skills and interaction between individuals, countries and cultures. Educational standards are higher than ever. Some students worry about this, but they needn't; it is good for students, their country, and the world!