



THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND FOREIGN TRADE

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

SPECIAL EDITION
Diplomatic Courier

ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION
2021



An anthology showcasing the perspectives of young Vincentians on topics related to trade, bilateral/regional/multilateral diplomacy and consular affairs.

OVERVIEW OF THE COMPETITION

The annual Essay Writing Competition hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade is one of the Ministry's public diplomacy initiatives. The primary goal of the competition is to continually provide a platform for Vincentian students to hone their research and writing abilities. The Essay Writing Competition also provides an avenue for the participants to garner in-depth knowledge on local, regional, and international affairs and events through research and applicability to their lives, as well as to the Vincentian society.

Remarkably, since the inception of the competition, there has been a progressive increase in the number of submissions. In this effort, Digicel SVG continues to be an invaluable partner and the lone sponsor for awarding our students. We thank Digicel SVG for providing the trophies, cash prizes, and gadgets for this year's competition, once again.

There are two categories of competition: Envoys category and Ambassadors category. Students in the Envoys category are aged 9-13 years and students in the Ambassadors category are aged 14-18 years. The topics for the 2021 competition are outlined below.

The Envoys category

1. The Cuban Brigade should receive the Nobel Peace Prize. Discuss.
2. Imagine you have a business in the tourism sector – how would you adjust to remain operational and profitable during the pandemic?
3. Volcanoes, Eruptions, and Evacuations. Is there room for regional and international solidarity? Discuss.

The Ambassadors category

1. Do you think that vaccines will become the new visas for travel? Why or why not?
2. How can Saint Vincent and the Grenadines utilise information technology to be competitive in the global market?
3. Prime Minister of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Dr. The Hon. Ralph E. Gonsalves in an address to the nation stated "no one is safe, until everyone is safe". Discuss how regional and international organisations can help us to overcome the COVID-19 pandemic.

A large yellow diamond shape is centered on the page. Inside the diamond, the words "ENVOY" and "WINNERS" are written in white, bold, serif capital letters, stacked vertically.

**ENVOY
WINNERS**

The Cuban Brigade Should Receive the Nobel Peace Prize . Discuss.



Essay written by
Isabella Sam
St. Vincent Girls' High
School



In 1985, Swedish businessman, Alfred Nobel, willed that his entire fortune, 31.5 million, be invested in a fund, and that the interest be distributed annually in the form of prizes to those who, during the prior year, ***"shall have conferred the greatest benefit to mankind."*** This noble act gave birth to the prestigious Nobel Prize. It is no secret that, on a global scale, the Cuban Brigade has done, and continues to do tremendous service to humanity in the field of medicine wherever a need arises. On this basis, I believe the Brigade to be most worthy of the Nobel Peace Prize.

The Cuban Brigade illustrates what the Nobel Prize stands for -- the human right to health, the promotion of the human right to peace, the development of peoples, and unity among individuals and peoples. The Brigade was established on September 19, 2005, in response to the destruction in New Orleans as a result of hurricane Katrina. It was called The Henry Reeve International Medical Brigade as an acknowledgement of an American young man, who had joined the group of Cuban nationalists to take part in the independence war against the Spanish colonial domination. More than 9,000 Cuban medical professionals have provided care to over 4 million individuals and saved more than 89,000 lives.

Numerous countries and organisations have recognised and honored the Cuban Brigade for its contribution to humanity. On May 26th 2017, the World Health Organization presented the Dr. Lee Jong Wook Memorial Prize for Public Health to the Brigade in acknowledgment of its medical support in emergency situations. The Honduran National Congress approved the award of the "Cruz de Comendador" on August 13 2020, for the Brigade's successes achieved in combating COVID -19 in that country.

In the five months after the pandemic was declared, the Brigade visited 38 states, treating 355,785 patients and saving 9,736 lives. More than 3,700 Cuban healthcare professionals have participated in these trips. Forty-five brigades were organised specifically to combat the pandemic, 38 of which are currently providing treatment to 29 countries and 5 non-self-governing territories.

The Henry Reeve International Medical Brigade has served in nearly every nation on earth. The Brigade has also served 12 Caribbean countries, providing medical care to about 33,000 individuals. The Brigade has made a significant contribution in the fight against the pandemic in South America, rescuing almost 19,000 people.

The Cuban Brigade Should Receive the Nobel Peace Prize . Discuss.

Four medical brigades from Cuba have traveled to Europe to support domestic efforts in the fight against the epidemic, where they have treated over 16,000 patients. In addition, the Brigade provided assistance to numerous non-self-governing British territories, treating over a thousand patients and over 38,000 patients have been treated by ten Cuban medical teams in Africa. Four medical brigades have worked in the Middle East, treating around 138,000 patients.

In August 2020, Health Minister; Dr Zweli Mkhize highlighted the accomplishments of the Cuban medical brigade, four months after they touched down in South Africa to assist in the fighting of COVID-19. Mkhize said the team of about 200 medical experts had been deployed throughout the country, declaring, “even now, in our hour of need, we were able to call on our Cuban sisters and brothers and they answered to that call, leaving family, friends and relatives behind to join hands with us in solidarity against the novel coronavirus.” As a debt of gratitude, in February 2021, President Cyril Ramaphosa nominated the Cuban Medical Brigade for 2021 Nobel Peace Prize.

It is an indisputable fact that the Cuban Brigade has served well over the years and is most deserving of the Nobel Peace Prize. From sending specialised brigades to providing care for 4 million people, the Brigade has **“conferred the greatest benefit to mankind.”** It stands out as a beacon of humanity. Therefore, we must show our gratitude by honoring these selfless men and women with the Nobel Peace Prize.

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- 1) <https://www.nobelpeaceprize.org/>
- 2) <https://sacoronavirus.co.za/2020/08/14/what-the-cuban-brigade-has-done-for-sas-covid-fight/>
- 3) Archive of Cuban Embassy in St. Vincent and The Grenadines (2020)



Essay written by
Isabella Sam
St. Vincent Girls' High
School



Imagine you have a business in the tourism sector— how would you adjust to remain operational and profitable during the pandemic?



Essay written by
Seante Marshall
St. Vincent Girls'
High School



On March 11th 2020, life as we know it was turned upside down with the declaration of the COVID-19 pandemic by the World Health Organisation. The tourism sector was dealt a hard blow with the flurry of stay-at-home orders, travel bans, travel restrictions and strict COVID-19 management protocols. As noted by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (2020), the outlook for tourism is dismal, with a predicted decrease of over eighty percent (80%). It is evident that if any tourism related business such as small hotels are to thrive, we must alter our mindset and the way we do business if we are to survive and remain profitable.

As a business owner of a small cottage hotel, it is imperative that my business; *Worry Free Living* adopts measures such as improved marketing to promote guest's confidence, attractive packages geared at the local market, strengthening all COVID-19 protocols, encouraging vaccination of all workers and guests, and finally reducing overheads through green technology.

Firstly, to survive the economic fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic, it is imperative that vigorous marketing be done to attract new customers. As a business owner, I will fully utilise platforms such as Facebook, Tiktok, and Instagram to reach new persons and to promote our exciting new family or individual packages, specially priced to attract the local market. Guests, old and new must be bombarded with all the necessary information so that they can know that *Worry Free Living* is still a viable safe option. Despite the restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic, we can still have a safe and fun filled vacation without setting foot on a plane, all you must do is book a vacation with *Worry- Free Living*.

Secondly, as noted by the World Health Organisation (2021), vaccination is critical to ending the COVID-19 pandemic, thus, to remain operational and profitable, it is critical that my business ensures that all workers and guests are vaccinated, coupled with the strict adherence to COVID-19 protocols such as the wearing of masks, hand sanitising and physical distancing.

To encourage vaccination, my business will give bonuses to workers as an incentive to vaccinate and all vaccinated guests will receive a reasonable discount along with perks such as free meals and spa treatments. This in turn will ensure the safety and comfort of all guests and better working environments for all employees, ultimately leading to increased traffic and thus more income.

Imagine you have a business in the tourism sector— how would you adjust to remain operational and profitable during the pandemic?

Thirdly, with changes in our economic climate, it is necessary for businesses to cut overhead costs, save money, and ultimately make a profit. To reduce interaction time at check in, new contactless machines will be available. Moreover, the entire check-in and checkout processes will be fully online, reducing time and person to person contact. In addition, my business will move to solar energy, water harvesting, and recycling to ensure that monies are not wasted. This will ensure profitability despite reduction in guest traffic.

Finally, managing a business in a pandemic is no easy feat but with proper planning, good marketing, a greater focus on guests' and employees' health and good fiscal management, one can remain operational while making a profit.



Essay written by
Seante Marshall
St. Vincent Girls'
High School



The Cuban Brigade Should Receive the Nobel Peace Prize . Discuss.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the winner of the 2021 Nobel Peace Prize is...



Essay written by
Lynn Exumé
New Grounds
Primary School



Winning the Nobel Peace Prize is a *big deal*! The 2021 nominations have closed, and the Cuban Medical Brigade made the list. This prize is given every year to individuals or groups whose work has benefitted others in some great way. This work requires an unselfish love, and a desire to work for the common good. Cuba's Henry Reeve International Medical Brigade has exceeded these requirements and should receive this year's prize.

In the last fifteen years, the Medical Brigade saved over 93, 000 lives during natural disasters and health emergencies. With a worldwide vision to provide selfless service and help suffering humanity and a track record of social solidarity, they are well-placed to win this year's prize.

According to an article in 'Equal Times.org', the late President Fidel Castro established the Henry Reeve Medical Brigade *aka* the 'White Coat' Brigade in 2005. According to him, "Our country does not drop bombs, and our scientists are educated in the area of saving lives". The medical brigade specialises in disaster situations and serious epidemics and became famous in 2014, while fighting the dangerous Ebola in West Africa.

In December 2019, the novel coronavirus surfaced. It soon became a pandemic with devastating global impact and Cuba was there to help. Many countries were caught off guard and everyone needed a friend. This army of doctors became the most active frontline force in the global fight. A total of 1,400 doctors are fighting COVID-19 in 27 countries including: Europe, Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean, including St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Cuba is our *big brother* since we developed diplomatic relations on 26 May 1992.

Do you know that Cuba was the first Latin American country to develop a vaccine against the coronavirus? Their phase-three vaccine called Soberana 02, is now in clinical trials. If approved elsewhere, Cuba may become the smallest country to make a COVID-19 vaccine, according to *The Economist*, 10 April 2021.

My dream is to become a scientist. Every career day since kindergarten, I would dress smartly in my white coat with my kit of medical equipment and supplies. I recall how my friends would look on in amazement. If I were a doctor now, I would be scared but hopeful because other scientists have developed much needed vaccines. I would love to receive the Nobel Peace Prize, one day. I would also be happy to serve other countries around the world just like the Cuban Brigade.

The Cuban Brigade Should Receive the Nobel Peace Prize . Discuss.

Bravo! says the world and calls it a positive example of international health cooperation. A proposal to award the 2021 Nobel Peace Prize was signed by four British members of parliament, with 38 British submissions in total. The governments of Africa, Canada, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines also gave their blessings.

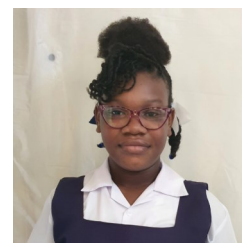
In closing, I can hear the Nobel Committee saying to the Cuban Brigade...

- “You have brought to this committee evidence of swift reaction to the novel coronavirus, with a prevention and control plan like none other”.
- “A record of exceptional service dealing with COVID-19 , across all five continents”.
- “An unselfish service that puts the health of the world first, like with Ebola in West Africa”.
- “High recognition and praise by world leaders, despite some opposition”.
- “A well-deserved win”

...then the brigade responds with a resounding, “Hasta la victoria, siempre!”.



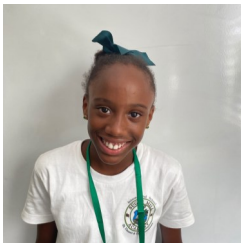
Essay written by
Lynn Exumé
New Grounds
Primary School



The Cuban Brigade Should Receive the Nobel Peace Prize . Discuss.



Essay written by
Belle Adams
Sugar Mill
Academy



The Cuban Brigade is a group of doctors and other health care workers such as nurses that travels around the world to bring life-saving action to countries. They help people who are in need. The Brigade was founded by the former Cuban President, Fidel Castro. President Castro believed that everyone has a right to see a doctor or a nurse when they are sick so that they can feel better and care for themselves and their families, and it should not depend on whether or not they have money.

The Cuban doctors and nurses are all over the world including here in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. They are helping people in rich and poor countries. They are also helping in big and small countries and even in countries far away such as in Africa and near in the Caribbean. There are no limits to where they go and what they do.

My dad and mom, who are both doctors trained in Cuba, told me about all the good work that the Cuban Brigade is doing around the world. They told me that when there are hurricanes and other disasters they would go to help. When the earthquake happened in Haiti in 2010, they were there. When the big Tsunami happened in Asia, they were there. They were also in Africa to help in the fight against Ebola. They were even here in St. Vincent and the Grenadines to help people with eye problems, through the Miracle Mission.

During the novel coronavirus outbreak, the Cuban Brigade went to many countries to help the doctors to fight the virus. They were dressed in their white coats and waved the Cuban flags. They looked very happy to do their work. They are always ready and willing to help.

The Cuban Brigade is a really good group. They are like heroes helping people to feel better no matter where in the world you may be. I think that as a way of saying thank you to them for their hard work and for helping all of us, they should receive the Nobel Peace Prize. They are doing a great job to keep us safe and to ensure that we live in a healthy and happy world.

Imagine you have a business in the tourism sector — how would you adjust to remain operational and profitable during the pandemic?

‘This is the new normal!’ ‘We need to live with the new normal!’ ‘We need to survive and thrive in the new normal!’ And the mantra goes on. The novel coronavirus pandemic has caused many persons to think about a ‘new normal’ way of life and the tourism sector is no exception.

In an article dated 18th February, 2021 titled ‘Statistics to Guide Restart of Tourism in the Caribbean’ on the UNWTO’s website, it was stated that ‘Caribbean destinations experienced a 67% fall in international tourist arrivals compared to the previous year. As expected, the tourism sector in St. Vincent and the Grenadines was also negatively impacted. As the owner of a small guest house which offers day tours, I ask myself this question. “How can I help my business to remain operational and profitable during this novel coronavirus pandemic when travel is restricted?”

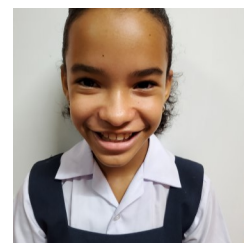
Keeping in mind that we are in a ‘new normal’, I would need to make adjustments to the way I operate my business so that it will survive and be profitable during this pandemic. I am convinced that increasing the use of technology and also educating my workers about the changes and adjustments that would be needed are important tools for our operations. According to the UNTWO, it was suggested that **‘Innovation, Education and Investments’** can be strategies used to improve the tourism industry.

With that in mind, I would educate my staff about the importance of being vaccinated against the novel coronavirus which is touted as a means of getting the country and economy back to some level of the pre-pandemic period and also for their own safety while interacting with the guests. Tourists, both locals and non-locals might feel safer interacting with an immunised staff and I believe that this would be favourable when the tourists decide to choose a guesthouse for their stay.

Another adjustment that I would make would be in investing in technology and more advertising. I would shift my main focus to targeting local tourists. With the reduction in air travel and restrictions on travel in general, I believe that there are Vincentians who could not travel abroad for vacations but would still want to spend some time away from their homes. I would offer attractive packages that would not only include a place to stay but would also include entertainment using technology. My advertisements would also target regional and international clients who would be able to access our tour services without the need to leave their homes.



Essay written by
Kuba Francis
Georgetown
Government School



Imagine you have a business in the tourism sector — how would you adjust to remain operational and profitable during the pandemic?



Essay written by
Kuba Francis
Georgetown
Government School



According to the Oxford School dictionary, innovation is defined as ‘introducing new things or new methods’. I would introduce virtual tours in 3D as a part of my tour services. The added attraction to this is that tour guides would be on hand during the virtual tours to ‘guide’ the tourists on the tours, answer questions they might have and also give background on the different sites. In my opinion, this would add a more realistic feel to the virtual tours. Tourists would get the opportunity to purchase souvenirs of their tours by having their photos engraved in signed cards which would be sent digitally to them and help to create lasting memories of their virtual tour experiences.

With the uncertainty that still looms in the tourism industry and trusting that things would improve in the future, we would all need to make adjustments to the products that we offer and the way that we offer them if we hope to remain operational, profitable and competitive during these challenging times. Education, investments and innovation must become parts of our ‘new normal’ in the tourism sector.

ENVOYS CATEGORY TOP FIVE AWARDS

1ST PLACE

MISS ISABELLA SAM



2ND PLACE

MISS SEANTE MARSHALL

MISS LYNNE EXUMÉ

4TH PLACE

MISS BELLE ADAMS

5TH PLACE

MISS KUBA FRANCIS

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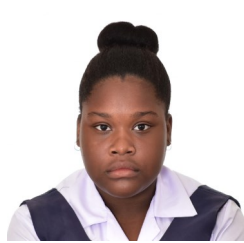
ENVOYS 2021



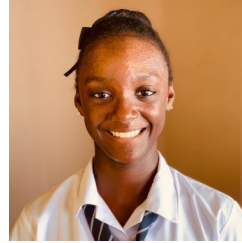
Belle Adams
SMA



Rahjé Ash
KPS



Shah-Zyah Brewster
KPS



Kiana Bailey
GHS



Lau Browne
GHS



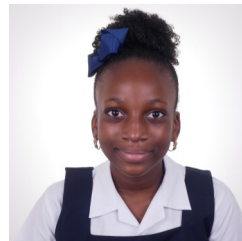
Seante Marshall
GHS



Isabella Sam
GHS



Christi Williams
GHS



Holly Browne
BGS



Shemora Cuffy
SJCK



Olivia Rodgers
SJCK



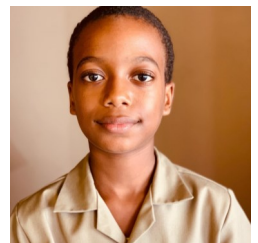
Cammisha Wilson
SJCK



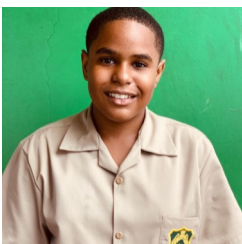
Lynn Exumé
NGPS



Kuba Francis
GGS



Dimetre Hadley
SVGS



Sage Matthews
SVGS



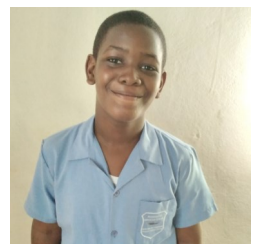
Ennabelle McMaster
WPS



Joshua Prescott
SMSS



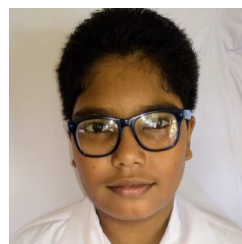
Zakeel Pompey
CWPPS



Cornelius Reece
BAS



Alessandro Roberts
BCK



Matthew Williams
SRMS

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**AMBASSADORS
CATEGORY**

Dr. The Hon. Ralph E. Gonsalves, in an address to the nation stated, “No one is safe until everyone is safe.” The question arises, ‘How can regional and international organizations help us to overcome the COVID-19 pandemic?’



Essay written by
Callia Jackson
St. Vincent Girls'
High School



The novel corona virus also known as the COVID-19 virus was first identified as the cause of the cases of pneumonia of unknown causes in the city of Wuhan, China, ([WHO/Europe | Coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\) outbreak - About the virus](#)). The World Health Organization (WHO) was informed of this situation on 31st December, 2019. Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, the Director General, of the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the novel coronavirus outbreak a public health emergency in January 2020. It was later characterised as a pandemic in March 2020 due to the rapid increase in the number of cases outside of China, ([WHO/Europe | Coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\) outbreak - About the virus](#)).

According to the Merriam- Webster online dictionary, the COVID-19 virus is a mild to severe respiratory illness that is transmitted mainly by contact with infectious material such as respiratory droplets. Countries around the world have been severely impacted by the spread of the COVID-19 virus, millions of lives were lost, and millions more have suffered severely from the virus, hospitals have become too overwhelmed with sick and dying patients, while countries endured extensive lock downs, loss of income and livelihoods.

St. Vincent and the Grenadines, a small developing state in the Caribbean, also, impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, to date, has recorded 1,954 positive COVID-19 cases, 1,786 recoveries and unfortunately 12 deaths since the beginning of the pandemic in March 2020. It is our hope that international and regional organisations including the World Health Organization (WHO), Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO), The International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank can provide vital assistance to St. Vincent and the Grenadines in the fight against COVID-19.

Firstly, the World Health Organization (WHO) can continue to provide ongoing information on the prevention, care and treatment of patients of COVID-19. The protocols of the World Health Organization (WHO) such as the washing of hands regularly with soap and water or using hand sanitisation, practising physical distancing, practicing cough etiquette, covering the nose and mouth with facial masks, lessening social gatherings and vaccination, ([WHO/Europe | Coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\) outbreak - About the virus](#)), have proven to reduce the transmission of the virus throughout the world. Therefore, receiving updated information from the World Health Organization (WHO) can greatly aid in the fight against COVID-19. In addition, the World Health Organization (WHO) can design and finance a two month sensitisation programme targeting the general public of St. Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG) to inform citizens on the scientific health

Dr. The Hon. Ralph E. Gonsalves, in an address to the nation stated, “No one is safe until everyone is safe.” The question arises, ‘How can regional and international organizations help us to overcome the COVID-19 pandemic?’

impacts of COVID-19 on humans (long COVID) and the necessity of adhering to the COVID-19 protocols and to be vaccinated to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Additionally, many members of international and regional organisations can donate medical equipment and other Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Monetary organisations such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) can provide grants and concessionary loans to St. Vincent and the Grenadines in an effort to finance health infrastructure facilities such as isolation centres and the setting up of molecular labs, as well as the procurement of medicine for the treatment and care of infected COVID-19 patients.

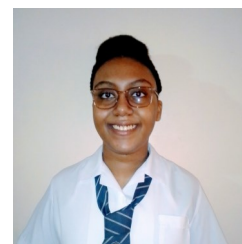
In a CDEMA News article dating back to July 23rd, 2020, it was reported that the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) officially accepted the delivery of US\$3 million worth of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), which included 35, 000 protective suits, 111,000 isolation gowns, over 67,000 goggles, 250,000 protective gloves and 160,000 masks. Thirteen (13) other Caribbean countries were also recipients of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). As a result, this aids St. Vincent and the Grenadines in having an adequate amount of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for frontline medical personnel. Frontline workers would have adequate equipment to care for COVID-19 patients, thus, helping to combat the virus.

Furthermore, many regional and international organisations have helped to provide St. Vincent and the Grenadines with the monetary resources to secure COVID-19 vaccines and in continuing to do so can greatly help us to combat the COVID-19 virus. In a NBC Radio news article dating back to April 6th 2021, it was reported that the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (CIBC) First Caribbean International Bank (FCIB) donated EC\$54,000 to the Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines to support the purchase of vaccines in an effort to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. In a Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) news article dating back to April 7th 2021, it was also reported that St. Vincent and the Grenadines received 24,000 doses of the COVID-19 vaccines through the COVAX Facility, which is a global effort between the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, the United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

In the news article, United Nations (UN) Resident Coordinator, Didier Trebucq said, “...and our goal is to leave no country behind through universal access



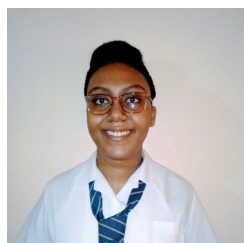
Essay written by
Callia Jackson
St. Vincent Girls'
High School



Dr. The Hon. Ralph E. Gonsalves, in an address to the nation stated, “No one is safe until everyone is safe.” The question arises, ‘How can regional and international organizations help us to overcome the COVID-19 pandemic?’



Essay written by
Callia Jackson
St. Vincent Girls'
High School



to vaccines. The only way that we can save lives and ultimately end this crisis is by ensuring that all countries are able to offer vaccinations to the whole population.” This statement proves that international and regional organisations can help and will help member countries such as St. Vincent and the Grenadines to combat the COVID-19 virus. Most recently, in a GOV. UK news article dating back to 1st March, 2021, ([New data show vaccines reduce severe COVID-19 in older adults - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-data-show-vaccines-reduce-severe-covid-19-in-older-adults)), it was reported that the Public Health England (PHE) did a study that showed that the Pfizer and Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccines are highly effective in reducing severe COVID-19 infections up to over 60% among elderly persons. This statistical information from these regulatory bodies can be used by the Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment in St. Vincent and the Grenadines to influence Vincentians to take the COVID-19 vaccines, as the benefits outweigh the risk.

In conclusion, regional and International organisations can assist us in many ways to fight against the COVID-19 virus by providing monetary support, medical equipment and personal protective equipment (PPE) and donating the newly developed COVID-19 vaccines. Though they can do all of this for us, we must also do our part and adhere to COVID-19 protocols as well as get vaccinated since “no one is safe until everyone is safe”.

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- 1) WHO/Europe | Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak - About the virus
- 2) Covid-19 | Definition of Covid-19 by Merriam-Webster
- 3) New data show vaccines reduce severe COVID-19 in older adults - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Do you think vaccines will become the new visas for travel? Why or why not?

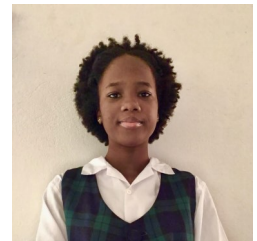
“The impulse to travel is one of the hopeful symptoms of life” - Agnes Repplier. COVID-19 has constrained this impulse significantly. The United Nations World Tourism Organisation, UNWTO has stated that the COVID-19 pandemic has caused an unprecedented fall of international tourism. In 2019, there was a four percent growth in international tourist arrivals with 1.5 billion international tourists. On a continental scale, the international tourist arrivals went as follows: the Americas with 219 million, Europe with 746 million, Africa with 70 million, the Middle East with 65 million and Asia and the Pacific with 360 million. Owing to the COVID-19 pandemic there was a 74% decline in international tourist arrivals, with only 381 million international tourists in 2020. The continental international tourist arrivals in 2020 were 69 million in the Americas, 221 million in Europe, 18 million in Africa, 16 million in the Middle East and 57 million in Asia and the Pacific. UNWTO stated that COVID-19 has caused international tourism to return to the levels of 30 years ago. This has resulted in an estimated loss in global GDP of over 2 trillion United States dollars. Many tourism experts do not expect international travel to return to pre-pandemic levels before 2023. Furthermore, UNWTO has found travel restrictions and slow virus containment as the main factors preventing the recovery of international travel. However, with vaccines as the new visas, I believe that international tourism can return to pre-pandemic levels much sooner than expected.

According to [passportindex.org](https://www.passportindex.org), a visa is an official document that allows the bearer to legally enter a foreign country. As a consequence of the global COVID-19 pandemic, I strongly believe vaccines will be required for an individual's guarantee in travelling. In other words, vaccines will be the new visas. Vaccination ensures less international transmission of COVID-19 cases, which will lessen the liabilities faced by airlines, allow countries to maintain a good tourism industry whilst protecting its locals from an influx of illness and death, and ultimately provide a herd immunity effect. Thus, it is quite conceivable for vaccines to be the new visas.

In 2020, during the early stages of the pandemic, the airline Jet Blue faced liability claims after transporting a passenger with COVID-19 amongst 114 other passengers. These passengers were told to self-isolate and monitor their health conditions. Moreover, the issue of spread by travel was highlighted by the *Time* magazine. Many American flight attendants stated “that after weeks of working without proper supplies, they have been exposed to thousands of cases and in turn become primary transmitters to the hundreds of thousands of Americans who continue to fly every day.” According to many law firms, including Arnold-Smith and Law, if an airline has failed to take the necessary steps to protect persons from exposure to the COVID-19 virus, an infected person may pursue a claim for compensation. Owing to this, it would be very optimal for an airline to require their



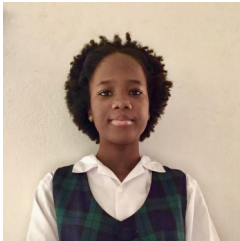
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passengers to be fully vaccinated before travel. According to yalemedicine.org, most vaccines have at least 72% efficacy in preventing contraction of COVID-19. Thus, airplanes which have been a major vector of transmission would reduce their transmission numbers and evade the liabilities that come with this contagion. ***What airline wouldn't want to reduce liabilities?*** For these reasons, I strongly believe vaccines could become the new visa. With vaccines as the new visa we can make travel *great again!*

In St. Vincent and the Grenadines, the tourism industry which accounts for a significant proportion of our GDP, has been disadvantaged by the pandemic. There have been two consecutive years without Bequia's famous Easter regatta which is known for bringing in an influx of tourists and foreign revenue to the country. Moreover, Vincy Mas has also been cancelled for the second consecutive year. People from all over the world visit St. Vincent and the Grenadines to partake in these festivities. However, fewer people, both frequent visitors from other countries and new people wishing to indulge in our culture were unable to attend. Additionally, it must be noted that St. Vincent and the Grenadines is a tropical destination where many people retreat for the summer holidays. There has also been a decrease in our summer arrivals. This is a result of a combination of issues, namely illness and lockdowns to protect locals and tourists from contagion.

For any other country across the globe, the COVID-19 pandemic has caused a dramatic socio-economic fallout. As a result, there has been a noticeable drop in hotel prices, flights, and other luxuries to make travelling more enticing to individuals. Even though this tactic has worked to some extent, countries have lost a significant amount of revenue. With vaccines giving authorisation for individuals to travel more safely, less worry will be ensued by both parties as less spread will be ensured. Thus, the tourism industries of the world including St. Vincent and Grenadines will be guaranteed more visitors. ***Which nation does not want their tourism industry to thrive again? Which Vincentian artiste isn't missing Carnival?*** Lives and livelihoods have been lost. This is why I am of strong belief that vaccines will be the new visas.

When an individual travels they usually do so in an attempt to experience something unfamiliar, whether it be culture, food, or other novelties. In doing so, they usually gain something from the country they travel to. Although, when travelling one spends money that helps raise revenue for the country they visit, and this is considered a return to the country for the experiences it has afforded the individual. However, with vaccines as the new visa, not only will travel improve the finances of the country but it can provide a herd effect. According to the World Health Organization, herd immunity is defined as the indirect protection from an

Do you think vaccines will become the new visas for travel? Why or why not?

Infectious disease that happens when a population is immune either through vaccination or immunity developed through previous infection. In other words, when more vaccinated individuals visit a country they increase the immunity of the population towards the disease. This can in turn reduce community spread, an added benefit that an ordinary visa could never provide. ***Which country would not want to put death to the COVID-19 pandemic?*** This is another reason why I strongly believe that soon, vaccines can become the new visas.

Contrarily, from a legal perspective countries argue that individuals should have freedom of choice on whether or not they choose to vaccinate. However, the irony is that using vaccines as visas can restore people's freedom and the economy. Having vaccines as a visa can allow people to go anywhere and even reduce the use of masks and remove the restrictions related to lockdowns nationally. Currently, people are not as free to travel as before the pandemic started. Generally, there are restrictions due to COVID-19 such as mandated wearing of masks to enter establishments, smaller crowds and country-wide lockdowns. Since 2013, countries such as Jamaica, El Salvador and Ghana require a yellow fever vaccination for entry. Considering that COVID-19 is so widespread, it is quite difficult to see why such a strategy should not be applied to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Freedom comes at a price, and the vaccines approved by the WHO are safe and are a fair price to pay for our freedom and safety.

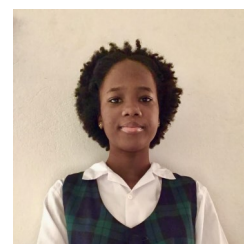
To conclude, it is evident that vaccines could indeed be the new visas. Owing to the fact that vaccines can protect airlines from liabilities, resuscitate failing tourism industries and protect populations, it is definitely hard to see why they would not be an added requirement for travel. ***Visas and vaccines already share letters and it is quite probable that soon they can share the purpose of granting an individual the authorisation of travelling to another country.***

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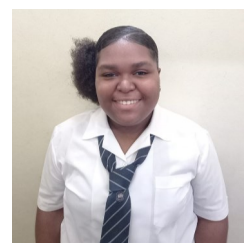
The idea of only being able to travel once fully vaccinated must be recalculated. According to Google, the word visa is defined as an endorsement on a passport indicating that the holder is allowed to enter, leave, or stay for a specified period of time in a country while the word vaccine according to the CDC is defined as a product that stimulates a person's immune system to produce immunity to a specific disease, protecting the person from that disease. Allowing the COVID-19 vaccine to become the world's new visa can be a consequential mistake as all persons cannot be vaccinated, the virus can still be contracted and spread, and it has not been fully tested or fully approved.

All persons cannot be vaccinated due to various reasons. Persons under the age of 12 cannot be vaccinated. According to an article on nbcnews.com, the COVID-19 vaccine has not yet been tested or administered to persons under the age of 12. The FDA has only recently made it available for persons 12-15 to be vaccinated. The vaccines from the companies, Moderna and Johnson and Johnson/Janssen, have not yet received authorisation to be administered to persons under the age of 18. Should the COVID-19 vaccine be made the world's new visa, it raises a conflict. According to condorferries.co.uk, "62% of parents take their kids under five years old" while traveling. This statistic is simply for family vacations. Should the COVID-19 vaccine become the world's new visa, what would then become of the children who travel for educational purposes and medical attention? According to researchgate.net, WHO has advised that persons with some medical conditions should not take the vaccine. Those persons who suffer from chronic illnesses or treatments like chemotherapy that affect the immune system should refrain from taking the COVID vaccine. According to hospitalcmq.com, the Medical Tourism Association has said that about 14 million people in the world travel to other countries in search of medical care annually. Why should persons who suffer from such diseases be put at a disadvantage when looking to travel?

The COVID-19 virus can still be contracted despite being fully vaccinated. Why then would you want to take away persons' autonomy? As stated by mind.org.uk, you cannot be forced to take medication. If you are offered medication, you usually have the right to refuse it and ask for an alternative treatment. This infringement on persons' human right of freedom of choice cannot be justified as being for their own good as the vaccine does not prevent persons from contracting the virus. According to usatoday.com, the CDC has reported that 7,157 fully vaccinated persons have contracted the COVID-19 virus and 88 persons have died. If persons do not acquire the expected immunity to the vaccine as stated, it should not be made mandatory for them to take it. According to cdc.gov, scientists are not yet sure whether the vaccine prevents you from spreading the virus. As stated by cdc.gov, different types of vaccines work in different ways to offer protection. But with all types of vaccines, the body is left with a supply of "memory" T-lymphocytes



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as well as B-lymphocytes that will remember how to fight that virus in the future. It typically takes a few weeks after vaccination for the body to produce T-lymphocytes and B-lymphocytes. Therefore, it is possible that a person could be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 just before or just after vaccination and then get sick because the vaccine did not have enough time to provide protection. If the COVID-19 vaccine does not prevent persons from contracting the virus nor does it prevent persons from spreading the virus, why must it be made mandatory? The COVID vaccine should not be made the world's new visa.

The COVID-19 vaccine has not been fully tested. According to [nytimes.com](https://www.nytimes.com), vaccines typically require years of research and testing before reaching the clinic, however, in 2020, scientists embarked on a race to produce safe and effective coronavirus vaccines in record time. These vaccines are only in the trial stage despite already being made available to clinics for persons to receive. Previously, this would not have been accepted but due to the global pandemic, vaccine trials have been pushed forward. According to [npr.org](https://www.npr.org), the vaccine companies of Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna are still seeking the approval of the FDA.

It was also said that the companies were requesting emergency use authorization. According to [fda.gov](https://www.fda.gov), the company, Pfizer-BioNTech has been granted emergency use authorisation. This approval is not as rigorous as to aid in a swifter response to the pandemic. The vaccine from the company Johnson and Johnson/Janssen was given a pause on the administration of their vaccine due to reports of six cases of a rare and severe type of blood clot in individuals who received it. However, as of April 23rd 2021, the pause has been lifted. It was said in a PDF on [fda.gov](https://www.fda.gov) that the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine is a vaccine that may prevent you from getting COVID-19. There is no U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved vaccine to prevent COVID-19. If the COVID-19 vaccines are to become the world's new visa, persons would be forced to become scientific lab rats. Why should persons serve as experimental guinea pigs for the sake of traveling?

The COVID-19 vaccine should not become the world's new visa. Based on multiple pieces of evidence it shows that the COVID-19 vaccine cannot be made available to all persons because of age limits and medical restrictions, persons can still contract and spread the virus despite being fully vaccinated and the vaccine is still in the trial process and has not yet been fully approved by the FDA. Why should persons be put at such a risk for the sake of traveling? Persons should be given the choice of whether they would like to receive the vaccine or not as forcing them has been proven to be an infringement on their human right of freedom of choice and their autonomy.

Do you think vaccines will become the new visas for travel? Why or why not?

With the sudden plight of the COVID-19 virus the entire world has been slowed down or put on hold. COVID-19 is a disease caused by a new strain of coronavirus. 'CO' stands for corona, 'VI' for virus, and 'D' for disease as stated by the world's health organisation. The virus enters the body through several ports and the infected cells multiply and help break down the body's immune system. It has and continues to change our social life, increase the rate of poverty worldwide due to the loss of jobs and has even put on hold recreational activities such travelling. This essay will outline the reasons why vaccines will become the new visas for travel and how it can help to world get back to some level of normalcy.

It is important to first know the definition of a vaccine and what is its effectiveness. According to the University of Oxford, a vaccine is a type of medicine that trains the body's immune system so that it can fight a disease it has not come into contact with before. Vaccines are designed to prevent a disease, rather than treat a disease once you have caught it and have been one of the many proposals made to limit the continuous spread of the virus. This has been proven through several vaccines before including tetanus, polio, measles mumps and rubella (MMR) along with many others that have helped to prevent hospitalisation and save millions of lives worldwide.

"Vaccination against COVID-19 is seen as a route back to normality, an escape from the current restrictions which mean we cannot shake hands, hug loved ones or travel freely. For some people, vaccination promises release from the fear that the virus may strike them, a relative or a friend, hope of reinvigorating a moribund livelihood or resuming a child's disrupted education" (McMillan (2021)). With the implementation for the COVID-19 vaccine to be a mandate for travel, it is believed that it will lower the transmission rate of the virus and will decrease the number of cases obtained by countries through travel. While travelling, you are in close contact with several persons and surfaces throughout, whether it may be through checking in, security checks or even being placed in a seat not properly disinfected from the previous passenger. Though one may have worn a mask or sanitised throughout their entire travel, there is still a great chance of being infected, as those are not the most effective ways to combat the virus.

With being vaccinated it shows that the chance of contracting the virus drops immensely. According to Judd (2021), receiving a COVID-19 vaccine can decrease the chances of catching COVID-19 by a remarkable percentage. Judd notes that getting a vaccine is much more likely to protect one's health than masking or social distancing. "The clinical trial data has demonstrated the vaccines reduce the rate of COVID by 90 percent. That is huge," Judd said. "Our best interventions to slow case transmission in 2020 were social interventions like masking and distancing, which resulted in only a 20 percent to 60 percent reduction in COVID, depending on where and how implemented."



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Do you think vaccines will become the new visas for travel? Why or why not?



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While interest in getting vaccinated for COVID-19 might vary, the desire to travel largely does not. A study released by Hilton last October indicated that 95% of Americans miss traveling. But those who either cannot or would not take a COVID-19 vaccine may find themselves shut out of some routine travel experiences, such as flying, cruising and going to business conferences.

The International Air Transport Association is developing a health app, the IATA Travel Pass, that will allow travelers to store verified test or vaccination results on their mobile devices. It is being tested by more than a dozen international airlines, including Australia's Qantas and Air New Zealand. After news that trials for Pfizer and Moderna vaccines were successful, Qantas announced that vaccinations would eventually be required for travel. Alan Joyce, CEO of the Australian airline, said the move would be "a necessity" when vaccines are widely available. With Airlines' eagerness for travelers to be able to avoid quarantine at their destination and for the elimination of extensive travel bans between countries, most are excited about this innovation.

The cruise industry which has been on hold since the first outbreak of COVID-19 has seen some cruise lines requiring mandatory vaccination as they prepare to begin the upcoming cruise season. Cruise lines such as Crystal, Saga, and Indiana-based river line American Queen Steamboat Company have announced that COVID-19 vaccinations will be mandatory for all passengers. Other cruise companies, such as Royal Caribbean, are experimenting with mandatory vaccinations.

The tourism and hospitality sector has been hit hard, with millions of jobs lost and many companies bankrupt. Most countries around the world economies are dependent solely on tourism. With the introduction of the vaccines, travelers would feel more comfortable travelling in mass and would therefore help with the reconstruction of these economies. Also, open the borders to trade and commerce on a larger scale both regionally and internationally. Vaccines will allow people to resume economic activities that were restricted or impossible to do. That includes returning to work, along with leisure activities. For example, the polio vaccine allowed children to return to swimming pools.

According to McKinsey & Company, a highly effective vaccination campaign for fighting the COVID-19 virus would return economic output in the U.S. to 2019 levels three to six months faster than a partially effective rollout. By the end of 2022, that would add between \$800 billion and \$1.1 trillion to the economy. World leaders are pushing for vaccination as they see this as a way to get economies up and running as soon as possible.

Do you think vaccines will become the new visas for travel? Why or why not?

Overall, this essay presented reasons why vaccines should become the new visas for travel. It discussed what are vaccines and the current vaccines that have prevented hospitalisation and saved lives over decades and also what is COVID- 19 and its many effects on the world. It gave the thought of experts and businesses on the introduction of the COVID- 19 vaccine as a mandate for travel and how it would benefit them. To conclude, I strongly believe that vaccines should become the new visas for travel as the positive benefits outweigh the negatives. In the words of late south African president Nelson Mandela “the lives of millions have been saved, millions have the chance of a longer healthier life, a greater chance to learn, to play, to read and write, to move around freely without suffering.” Let us continue to save lives by getting vaccinated.



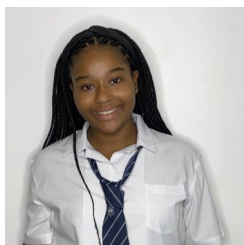
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Do you think that vaccines will become the new visas for travel? Why or why not?



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Do you think that countries should open their borders to vaccinated travellers only? Do you think that vaccines will become the new visa for travel? Can mass vaccination help stop the spread of the novel coronavirus? These are questions leaders all across the world have had to answer in the last year as countries are being hard hit with economic and social disruptions from the global pandemic caused by the novel coronavirus.

Since March 2020, traveling has become a lot harder because of the risk of exposing oneself to the virus and the alarming rates of contagion across the globe. A virus that was first detected in China found its way on planes and ships and managed to land in hundreds of countries including mine. As a result, scientists have been working overtime to find a remedy. According to the WHO, to date, there are four approved vaccines to help curb the rapid spread of the virus. It is not hard to understand why the idea of a vaccination visa was put forward. Persons need and want to travel and they want to do so safely; without running a high risk of becoming ill.

From my research, a vaccination visa would be useful, especially to persons who travel often because of work, or persons who just like to see new places. This can allow them to travel more freely, or engage in leisure activities that have largely been closed off during the pandemic. Additionally, in the event that an unvaccinated person travels, and contracts the novel coronavirus, once persons around them are vaccinated, the virus is less likely to spread amongst them (Reference: www.healthline.com).

So, do I think that vaccines will become the new visas to travel? Yes. Why? You may ask. In addition to safe travel being facilitated, a country may not want to risk visitors, breaking quarantine and infecting their population. This may raise alarm in this country and the country may enforce the rule that persons must be vaccinated once they plan on visiting that country. In the Caribbean, we have seen this rule being enforced in Antigua and Barbuda and St. Kitts and Nevis. Other countries may follow. This would result in more persons vaccinating voluntarily, due to them wanting to travel for either business or for pleasure. So what does this mean? More persons will be vaccinated which can help stop the rapid spread of the novel coronavirus.

An example of when vaccination resulted in less recorded cases was in 1921. According to www.cdc.gov , before a vaccine was developed for diphtheria, more than 15,000 Americans died of this disease, but, between 2004 and 2014, only two cases of diphtheria were reported to CDC. This is because mass vaccination occurred. Mass vaccination programmes are based on herd immunity. When a large amount of a population is vaccinated, this helps reduce the transmission of diseases from person to person. Another example of when vaccination resulted in less recorded cases was

Do you think vaccines will become the new visas for travel? Why or why not?

when vaccines against measles, mumps, rubella, and haemophilus have also reduced annual disease incidence to less than 500 cases per year. Mass vaccination can stop the spread of COVID-19 as well.

Once vaccination passports are created, or persons have to provide proof of vaccination while in an airport line, or upon boarding a cruise ship, these persons can be provided easy access to most countries, if not all countries, by creating a “vaccination express.” Where, once proof of vaccination is provided, the travellers who are fully vaccinated, have the option of self-check in or an express lane for those who do not feel comfortable with self-check in. These travellers may also be allowed little to no quarantine period, once they have arrived at their destination, as well as having the choice to quarantine in a house, or in a hotel. Currently, and for years, vaccine visas have been in place for travel to Suriname and many other African countries. In some instances, you may not even be allowed to board if you’re not vaccinated (Reference: www.who.int).

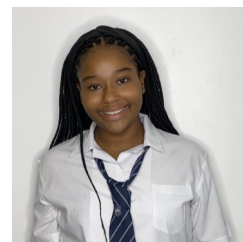
Although some countries may still open their borders to unvaccinated travellers, such as those who are against vaccination for religious, health or personal reasons, the quarantine period for unvaccinated travellers will more than likely be longer than travellers who are vaccinated, as they pose more of a threat of contracting and spreading the virus. On the other hand, for vaccinated persons, the shortened quarantine period, allows for more efficiency in doing business, more time for retail therapy, more time visiting different tourist attractions, spending time with family and friends and other activities.

Although it is not guaranteed that a person cannot contract COVID-19 once fully vaccinated, scientists advise that the symptoms will be milder for the individual and their contacts, they may even be asymptotic. However, a small percentage of fully vaccinated persons can still contract COVID-19. These cases are known as “vaccine breakthrough cases.” Most vaccine breakthrough cases take place within two to three weeks of receiving the second dose of the vaccine. This is because your body has not yet developed immunity. Therefore, a caveat to vaccine visas may be that in addition to receiving the two doses, there will be a time period attached to be waived from quarantine and other restrictions.

While travelling, we are exposed to many different persons, from different countries, and the vaccine will help with added immunity. If one is unvaccinated and travels, they may contract this disease, and become fatally ill. This is why it is advised to be fully vaccinated once travelling, either domestically, regionally or internationally. While the need to wear a mask, practice social distancing and wash your hands are advised for travelling, most fully vaccinated travellers are less likely to contract



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COVID-19. Being fully vaccinated allows for a more enjoyable trip. After all, we should bring back souvenirs and new stories to tell, not a virus.

In conclusion, yes, I do think that vaccines will become the new visas for travel. Why? For the three reasons that I outlined: facilitating safer regular travel, the historical success of mass vaccination and for the crafting of appropriate quarantine regulations. However, the majority of persons must be educated on vaccination as well as the effects of COVID-19. As this happens, and more persons are vaccinated, less cases will be recorded, and this will help to restore some level of normalcy in the world. I encourage persons to sleeve up, and get vaccinated to help stop the spread of COVID-19...after all, the world is our oyster!



How can St. Vincent and the Grenadines utilise information technology to be competitive in the global mar-

The capacity to use digital technology is becoming increasingly important to become competitive in the world. According to the Oxford dictionary “Information Technology is the development, study, or use of electronic equipment, especially computers, for storing and analysing information.” The effects of technological change on the global economy are causing massive changes in the way businesses and countries coordinate production, exchange goods, spend resources, create new products and processes, and deliver services. There are many ways that St. Vincent and the Grenadines can utilise information technology to become more competitive. Some of them are enumerated below.

The Sustainable Development Goals are a set of 17 goals that are designated to be the blueprint to achieving a better, more sustainable future for all. The fourth out of the seventeen of these goals is ‘Quality Education’ which is to “ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning for all.” Organisations in both the public (government departments, non-government, community-based, schools, etc.) and the private sector need to make better use of the internet. As our country moves towards a more technologically advanced state, most secondary and tertiary learning institutions in St. Vincent and the Grenadines have mandated that Information Technology be made a compulsory subject. Learning basic computer skills amongst other skills relating to Information Technology gives students a better opportunity to advance themselves and because there are not any limits, it allows them to specialise in many fields all at once due to the diversity that is made readily available.

In addition, the National Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (NTRC) in St. Vincent and the Grenadines is responsible for the wide spread of internet services available at most schools throughout the country, e-learning, making the internet more accessible to not only students but teachers and other stakeholders of these learning institutions by extension. The NTRC has been pushing the creation of digital skills training programmes through the I² Competition and Summer Programme ‘MyApp’, in order for young people to acquire the necessary abilities to solve locally relevant concerns and fully engage in the rapidly evolving digital world.

Secondly, technology has brought about several improvements in the business world. It is a concept that has brought great automated solutions. The benefits of technology in business cannot be overemphasised. It increases productivity, speed, ease of sharing and storing information, reduces human error through automation and many more. All these benefits lead to lower cost structure and an increase in revenue for businesses.

There has been an increase of entrepreneurs throughout St. Vincent and the Grenadines widening the private sector of the country. In St. Vincent and the Grena-



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dines, both the public and private sectors need to make better use of the internet to become more effective and to achieve efficiency. Locals and foreigners need to be able to access information, make enquiries, and conduct business without having to go to the physical locations. Businesses therefore need to have virtual presence to become more competitive. Having an online business presence would help customers to find the business; provides global connection; allows the business to develop their marketing strategy and reach more people and be accessible twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

Thirdly, another way of utilising technology to become competitive is conducting training courses via webinars. Young people can learn how to code/ graphic design/ do technical support/ video editing etcetera. If more emphasis was put on teaching these skills to students/young people then St. Vincent and the Grenadines could easily become a competitor in the global market. Coding is the act of assigning a code to something in order to classify or identify it. Coding increases academic writing abilities. To function, every website, smartphone app, computer software, calculator, and even microwave relies on a code. Children who learn to code have a greater understanding of how one should arrange and plan their thoughts. Children are the future generation, teaching them how to code is not a bad idea. There are several jobs they can aspire to have as a coder, some of them are: A Web Developer, Computer Systems Engineer, Computer Programmer, to name a few. All of those jobs utilise coding. In St. Vincent and the Grenadines, we can use persons like a web developer to put us on the map and be competitive in the global world. If we as a country create a game mobile app and it reaches top five in the world then people would be interested in the creator of this app and would want him/her to work on other projects.

Graphic design is a career in which people produce visual materials to convey messages. Designers were given greater duties as a result of this new viewpoint on design, and they now play a vital role as change agents. In St. Vincent and the Grenadines, there are many businesses with different logos and graphic designs. We can use coding, as stated prior to this, and create an app or website where we can create different logos and graphic designs for businesses and persons that can be utilised worldwide. Not only will it create jobs but it will bring in additional income since there are many businesses being created today and due to circumstances almost everyone is using technology. Yes, there are many different graphic design apps and websites but we can make sure that ours stand out by doing simple things such as: taking a unique stand, providing insight and inspiration, and making it easy to use.

Entities that provide technical help to consumers of technological goods or services are known as Technical Support Providers. A worker who manages, maintains, and repairs computer systems is known as a tech support specialist. This can help SVG be

How can St. Vincent and the Grenadines utilise information technology to be competitive in the global market?

even more competitive in global world as Vincentians help others when they're having technical difficulties. Making different relationships worldwide with different organisations and businesses can help with this. You do not have to be in the same country thanks to technology, you can simply guide them through the different steps they have to take over some sort of device. By being a good Technical Support Officer, you will gain recognition and assist in developing St. Vincent and Grenadines further.

I have witnessed video editing first hand. My friend edits videos and he has entered several competitions for editing. By doing these competitions he receives a lot of promotion and is being recognised as a good editor. This is an illustration of how St. Vincent and the Grenadines can be more competitive in the global world. Editors edit different genres of videos, they could either be: gaming, commercials, a movie/tv show, or others. Persons can get an editing job for a company anywhere in the world. Here, locally, there aren't many editing jobs but the young people like to do it for pleasure. We, as a people, can host video editing competitions for all the locals and the winner can get a scholarship to study video editing or film making overseas and further develop their skills. This can help St. Vincent and the Grenadines since we have one of our very own competing to be the best editor in the world and has a chance to prove it. This can place St. Vincent and the Grenadines on the map and will encourage more people to get into video editing and pursue their dreams.

In conclusion, St. Vincent and the Grenadines can utilise Information Technology to become competitive in the global world by ensuring all businesses have an online presence, which is very important in this day and age, in order to remain ahead of their competitors. Also, encouraging the students/young people to develop apps and pursue careers in Information Technology in order to advance their country is important while at the same time utilising webinars to conduct training to build capacity and enhance competitiveness. All the points listed above can assist St. Vincent and the Grenadines to enhance its competitiveness in the global world.

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Essay written by
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AMBASSADORS CATEGORY TOP FIVE AWARDS

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MISS KEONNA SIMON

3RD PLACE

MISS ZAIDA SMALL

MISS FIAYA LINLEY

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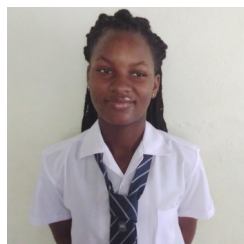
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MR. JAIR PATRICK

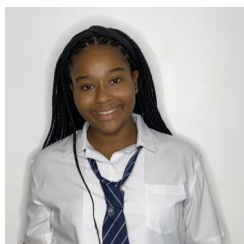
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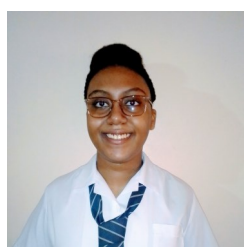
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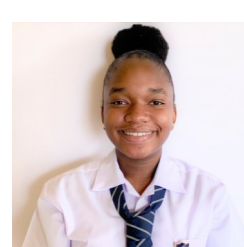
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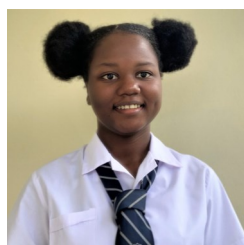
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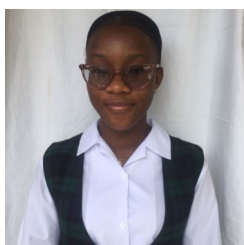
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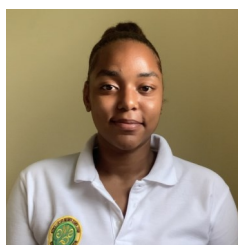
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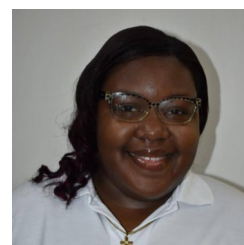
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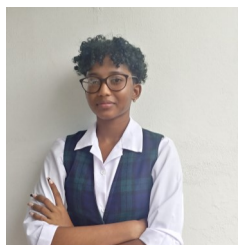
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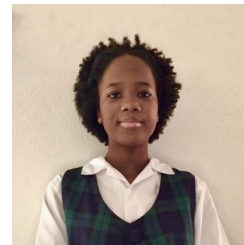
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St. Vincent Grammar School

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St. Vincent and the Grenadines Community College



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