



East Timor is facing the future with many problems, and with some positive strengths.

1. Brainstorm what you think are some of those problems and potential strengths.

2. Look at this list of possible problems and strengths. Beside each, explain what you think might be the implications of each. One has been done to help you. Space has been left at the bottom to allow you to add other elements that you might wish to include

Element	Implications
It is a very poor nation. There are very few jobs for people until the economy can be re-established, and very little money available to stimulate the economy.	
It has a mainly agricultural economy - with coffee (organically grown) the biggest crop, followed by cloves, coconut, corn, rice, cattle, fishing.	
It has had tourist connections with Australia in the past - especially the Baucau area.	Tourism could be developed as an industry - close to Australia. Perhaps an alternative to Bali? Or perhaps as a more 'ecotourist' site?
East Timor is probably legally entitled to exploit the potentially huge oil and gas reserves in the Timor Sea (Indonesia may contest control).	
Isolation, underdevelopment and the destruction following the independence vote means that there is virtually no infrastructure (water, hospitals, schools, sewerage, roads, etc).	
There are still a number of East Timorese who favour integration with Indonesia - and some, in the militias, may be prepared to try and achieve this again by force.	
There is no local government, and few who have been trained to run a nation.	
Part of East Timor is located within West Timor, though with access by sea to East Timor.	
East Timor shares a rugged border with West Timor, and it may be difficult to stop pro-integrationist militia in West Timor from entering and carrying out attacks on people.	
There are an estimated 150,000 East Timorese refugees still in camps in West Timor. Nobody knows when they will be repatriated.	
The people of East Timor have had much violence visited on them by militias and Indonesian troops. There may be bitterness and resentment if justice is not done.	