

CURRENT EVENTS YEAR IN REVIEW PROJECT

Over the course of the year, you will be required to take part in an ongoing current events project. Each nine weeks you will be finding articles from a newspaper that discusses something significant that is going on today. Toward the end of the school year, you will be using these articles to produce a newscast that recaps all the important news stories of the past school year.

THERE ARE TWO PARTS TO THIS PROJECT

PART I

Being informed is a major responsibility of citizenship in the United States. Your task for Part I of this project is to read a print newspaper or online newspaper every day. Each Nine Weeks grading period, you will be submitting what you consider to be the 2 most newsworthy stories pertaining to the following topics:

- Politics and World Leaders
- War
- Business/Economics
- Law
- Sports, Entertainment, OR Human Interest
- Culture
- Science and Technology
- Health and Medicine
- Weather

For each article, you will be completing the Current Events Article Summary Form (attached in your packet). Each article will be a daily grade for the nine weeks submitted and will also be calculated into the final major grade incorporated with Part II (see below)

Due Dates for Part I

- 1st Nine Weeks Current Events due by September 28th
- 2nd Nine Weeks Current Events due by December 2nd
- 3rd Nine Weeks Current Events due by February 22nd
- 4th Nine Weeks Current Events due by April 25th

PART II

Working in groups of 2 or 3, you will create a newscast recapping the current events of the past year. The information for the segments should come from the current event articles you and your group members have been researching throughout the year. Your group must choose 8 (12 if in a group of 3) news stories and write a script, rehearse, film, and edit a newscast for these stories. The final newscast will be viewed by your classmates as part of the project.

Final Project Due May 23rd

Current Events Project Checklist

Topic	Description	Date completed	My Article Name and Source	Summary/Main Idea
Law	The making and breaking of laws has always of interest to people. Famous trials, crimes and punishments, and current bills under consideration often spark controversy and are considered newsworthy.			
Politics & World Leaders	Government leaders make decisions that affect citizens in their own countries and in the rest of the world. Elections, treaties, trade agreements, and changes in government systems are examples of political news.			
War	Throughout history, people have struggled to change the circumstances of their lives through warfare. News about wars and acts of terrorism can sometime make world peace seem like an elusive goal.			
Business	Major corporations and small businesses can make decisions that have national and sometimes international impact. News about the stock market is an indicator of the health of the U.S. economy.			
Culture	Culture refers to the way people live, such as their language, their customs, their music, and their beliefs. Around the world, people celebrate their cultures through art, religion, holidays, and traditions.			

Current Events Project Checklist

Topic	Description	Date completed	My Article Name and Source	Summary/Main Idea
Health and Medicine	Developments in disease prevention and treatment, new fitness trends, nutrition and wellness information, and environmental factors that influence people's health are things people want to know about			
Weather	Weather conditions affect travel, crops, and daily routines. From cold fronts and droughts which cause inconvenience and hardships, to blizzards, tornadoes, floods and hurricanes which can endanger human life, weather is an important and ever changing news event.			
Sports	Sporting events are a popular pastime in many countries. From the Olympics to a local Little League championship, fans want to know the latest about sports and the athletes who compete in them.			
Entertainment	News about television and movie stars, famous musicians, popular authors, and the latest Broadway hit is of interest to many people. The everyday activities of celebrities are closely monitored by the news industry.			
Human Interest	Heartwarming stories, new fashions, hobbies, pets, and humorous events make the news because they capture the spirit of everyday life.			

Current Event Article Summary Rubric

	5 points	3 points	0 points
Summary	The summary is fully developed with complete sentences.	The summary is very basic and doesn't fully cover the issue/event.	No summary
The Details	All information is included and answers are fully developed. Understanding of concepts is evident.	Some information from this section is included and/or answers are brief. Understanding of concepts is minimal.	No information in the details are included and/or answers are vague. No understanding of the concepts.
Personal Response/ Connection to self	Personal reaction including detailed opinions about the issues/views of the article and how the topic of the article affects your life.	Personal reaction has vague opinions about the issues/views of the articles and has little explanation about the connection to your life.	No personal response included.
Connection to History	Connection is well thought out and explained. Evidence of understanding of both the event and history.	Connection is vague and stretched. Hard to understand the connection student is making.	No connection made or connection is not relevant to the event.

Total Points: x5 =

3. **Personal Response / Connection to Self:** (Why is this important? What did you learn from reading this article? How do you feel about the issue? Why should the American public and/or people involved care?)

4. **Connection to History:** How does this article connect to something we have studied IN THIS COURSE. You must find some connection between the past and this current event.

****You must attach a printed copy of your article to this form before you submit it!****

Updated 8/19/2015

CURRENT EVENTS NEWS SHOW: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

You will be working in groups of 2-3 to create a newscast recapping the current events of the past school year. The information for the segments should come from the current event articles you have been researching throughout the year.

YOUR GROUP NEEDS TO COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING TASKS:

- 1. Make a name for your news show.
- 2. Decide what segments will be included in the show and in what order:
 - 2 person group: 8 segments total
 - 3 person group: 12 segments total
- 3. Complete research for the segments.
- 4. Write a script for the broadcast.
- 5. Decide who will talk on camera, who will tape, and who will edit the show.
- 6. Practice going through the whole show without cameras.
- 7. Tape the segments.
- 8. Download video clips of the segments, make titles, add music and edit the show
 - Whichever program you use to edit your movie is up to your editor. I suggest Windows MovieMaker or iMovie, but you are free to use something else if you wish.
- 9. Prepare the show to be viewed by the teacher and class.

Final Project Due May 23rd