

Weekly Current Events Guide

The objective of the ongoing current events assignment is for students to practice reading informational writing, to gain knowledge of events going on in our country and the world and to practice written summarization skills.

Students will be required to complete a current events assignment every week. Current events are due **"by Friday at the beginning of class"** each week. This means that they will be accepted all week long (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), including the actual day it is due (Friday). Late current events will not be accepted for credit. If students are absent on Friday they need to turn their current event in on the day they return at the beginning of the period or it will not be accepted for credit.

Lunch detention will be given for current events not turned in on Friday.

Students will need to find a current events article in a newspaper or on-line. (Please be careful on-line, though, some on-line entries tend to be more blurbs than articles.) **Articles must be social science related, that is relating to history, economics, geography, social or cultural activities, NOT accidents, crimes, entertainment or sports.**

Assignment Steps

1. **Select a newspaper article on a subject of local, state, national, or international concern.** Your article may come from a printed newspaper or online news source. Make a valid effort to select an article that is challenging for you and relates to the subject matter of this class. Unfortunately, many news sites now emphasize "fluff" articles, so you will need to sift through the news to find something of consequence. For example, avoid gossip about Hollywood celebrities or stories about random strange and gruesome acts. Instead, focus on stories that pertain to issues that affect our community, state, nation, or world.
2. **Read the article you selected 2-3 times, and make sure that you have a good understanding of the material.** Look up new terms, and find the locations of any cities, countries, or regions that are referenced in the article.
3. **Write your current event summary in paragraph form using good sentence structure with proper spelling, grammar and punctuation.** Write the summary in your own words. Use all of the space provided on your form.
4. **Put the article aside, and write a summary of the article.** Do this without looking at the article. This will help you to put the information in your own words. Only look back at the article after you are finished with your summary, so you can make sure that your spelling is correct and double-check any facts that you are unclear about.
5. **Write an analysis of the article.** In this section, focus on your opinions or reactions to the article. Why is this an important story? What might be some impacts of this? What, if anything, do you think should be done about this issue? Why did you choose this article?