

Current Event Project

"The whole past is the procession of the present."
Thomas Carlyle

One of the major goals of a history class is to equip you with the skills to analyze what is happening today, before it becomes history. Thus, you must know what is happening in the world around you, on a local, state, national, and international level. Each of you will be required to prepare and present one current event each semester. We will be kept up to date and informed by one another. Current event presentations will be made in the beginning of class Wednesday and Thursday of every week.

Your current event article must come from either a newspaper, news magazine (TIME, Newsweek, National Geographic), or a reputable internet news source. Remember, an acceptable article must relate to current problems, issues, or programs that deal with our society or global matters that are appropriate for school. Entertainment or sports news is not acceptable.

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS:

You will compose a current event paper that you will present to the class on the date assigned to you. Your current event paper **MUST be 2 typed pages, double-spaced, size 12-font with standard margins (1" OR 1.25")**. The paper must have a single spaced heading only, with name, date, and period. Title should say "Semester 1 (or 2) Current Event". The body of the paper should be divided into two paragraphs:

- **Paragraph 1: What happened?**
 - o Start with a general topic sentence that includes the topic of the article.
 - Example: The *Los Angeles Times* article "Marines in Afghanistan prepared for a long haul" describes/explains/comments on...
 - DO NOT: "I chose this article because...."
 - o Provide the WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN, WHY of the event.
 - o Include two concrete details (statistics, quotes) and correctly cite the author.
 - Example: According to (author of article, person interviewed, etc)....
 - DO NOT: Copy straight out of the article unless it is a direct quote.
 - DO NOT: Use lengthy quotes as filler in your paper.

Remember! NEVER use "I" in formal written work that is based on fact. Your opinion has no place in this paragraph.

- **Paragraph 2: So What? (At least ¾ of a page)**

- Explain why you think this current event is important.
 - How is it important on a local, state, national or international level? How might it impact you or those around you?
 - Remember your audience: Why should your peers know about this event?
- End with a concluding sentence that ties up your paper.

<p>Remember!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Attach the article to your paper.</u> - <u>PLAGIARISM RESULTS IN AN AUTOMATIC 0. Any portion of the article in your paper must be in quotations.</u> - Proofread your work and cite your sources correctly. Spelling/grammar/punctuation count! - Read through your paper once before your presentation. You may catch mistakes you missed and it will give you needed practice on hard-to-pronounce names. - TURN IN YOUR PAPER TO TURNITIN.COM THE NIGHT BEFORE YOU GIVE YOUR PRESENTATION. CLASS ID AND PASSWORD ARE ON THE CLASS' WEBSITE.

You will be graded as follows:

<p>Part 1: Facts Section</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Includes title of the article and news source in the first paragraph - Answers Who/What/Where/When/Why - Includes two concrete details - At least one full page - NO CREDIT IF NOT TURNED IN TO TURNITIN.COM 	<p>_____ / 15</p>
<p>Part 2: Commentary Section</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reflects on significance of event - At least ¾ of a page - NO CREDIT IF NOT TURNED IN TO TURNITIN.COM 	<p>_____ / 15</p>
<p>Part 3: Preparation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spelling/grammar/punctuation is correct - Abides by formal stylistic requirements - Article is attached - Presentation is given confidently with eye-contact and a clear voice <p>***Paper MUST be 2 full pages AUTOMATIC DEDUCTION IF LATE -10 PTS</p>	<p>_____ / 15</p>
<p>_____ / 45</p>	