

Introduction to Current Events



Why read about current events?

- It is a civic responsibility of all citizens in a democratic society to be informed about current events.
- Being informed is necessary in order to make informed decisions about candidates and issues.
- You will have a current event assignment each week for the entire school year.



Writing a Summary

Step #1 Find an Article

- You must find an **ARTICLE** that provides a factual account of an event.
- Articles are written by journalists who gather fact based information to inform citizens
- Articles are not opinions of an individual with a personal interest in an issue
- You must find an article that is current. This means that you must use an event that occurred the week it is assigned. Current events are assigned on each Monday. Current events are due that following Monday.



Writing a summary: What NOT to use for this assignment:

**DO NOT use an Editorial, a Commentary
or a Letter to the Editor**

Because:

- They are not fact based sources of information
- They are an opinion of an individual who has a personal interest in the outcome of a particular issue

Writing a summary



Step #2 Read the Article for important information:

Include this information in your final summary

Who is involved in the current event?

What happened?

Where did the event take place?

When did the event occur?

Why did this event occur?



Writing a Summary

Step #3 Write the thing!

Your summary must be written analytically:

- **Do not write in first or second person- do not use the words "You" , "I" , "We" , "Our"**
- **Write formally- do not use slang or informal language as though you are having a spoken conversation with the reader**
- **Do not include your own opinion in the summary**



Writing the impact analysis

Step #1 Understanding what impact means:



- **Impact:** The power of an event to produce change
- **Analysis:** To break down into smaller parts in order to understand better.
To make meaning out of information.



Writing the impact analysis

Step #1 Understanding what impact means:

To write an impact analysis:

- Come to a conclusion about how the event **MAY** change society.
- Explain the change that may happen and its effect on society



Writing the impact analysis

Step #1 Understanding what impact means:

What is an impact?

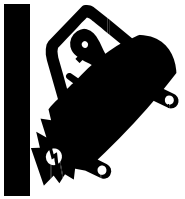
- **Political**: Change in elections, policies/laws, issues
- **Economic**: Change in behavior, trade, supply, demand, production, laws
- **Social**: Change in values, beliefs or practices of citizens
- **Technological**: Change in design, production, demand, supply of technology. Change in how citizens may lead their lives.
- **Environmental**: Change in climate or environmental policies or practices



Writing the impact analysis

Step #2 Figure out what the impact may be:

- 1. What type of change may occur?**
- 2. Why might this change occur?**
- 3. How might society be different?**



Writing the impact analysis

Step #3 Write the impact analysis:

- Your impact analysis is NOT your opinion about the event**
- Your impact analysis is NOT your recommendation for what should happen**
- Your impact analysis is explaining what kind of change may occur and the effect this change may have on society**