**AP LANG Article of the Week**

One of the key elements of the AP Language and Composition course is being knowledgeable about the world around you AND being able to form a well-educated position about a topic. This assignment is intended to give you a foundation about topics that impact American society.

This assignment should not be done in one day, and it is pretty easy if you plan ahead. To complete the Article of the Week, you will be required to read closely, summarize the author’s main idea/argument, think about your position on a topic, and clearly convey, explain, and provide evidence for your ideas. The goals is not just to get you up to date, but to increase your knowledge of news media, expand your vocabulary, and provide background on some of the topics that will be covered during the school year.

I will be checking to see that you have a variety of dates of news articles. By Christmas, you must have at least ONE article for each topic. Put the date beside each category when you complete it.

* Education
* Economy
* Science and technology
* War / conflict
* Medicine / health
* Politics
* Gender
* Sports
* Entertainment
* Arts

**Directions:**

1. Find *and print* an article that could fit within one of the above categories.
2. Annotate the article. Close read using POPSTARS, and comment on the content and the form/style of it. Show your thought process while you read. What do you not get? What do you agree with? Disagree with? Do you see faults in the author’s logic? Counterpoints you could bring up? Do you like the way a certain part is worded? Did you learn any new words? How has this piece made you stop and think – or possible change your view on an issue?
3. Type an objective summary – 5-8 sentences, summarizing your article’s main information and details.
4. Type an analysis – 200-250 words, answering the POPSTARS in a well-flowing response.
5. Use correct MLA format – when typing your analysis, make sure to format your paper correctly.
6. Accurate MLA citation – cite the source of your article in MLA format, both in text and in a bibliographic entry.

**This assignment is due every Friday.**

I will sporadically collect and grade these using the standards in the rubric. Sometimes, I will collect everyone’s; sometimes, I will collect only certain class periods; sometimes, I will collect only portions of the class. And sometimes, we will work in groups with the articles. Always be prepared to receive a grade for your work!

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| **ARTICLE OF THE WEEK RUBRIC** | |
| Due date of article: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | Annotated: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_  20 points |
| MLA:  Heading, header, font, spacing | MLA: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_  10 points |
| Bibliographic Entry:  MLA, margins, font, punctuation | Bib. Entry: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_  10 points |
| Integrated Evidence:  Used direct quote, integrated into sentence | Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_  20 points |
| 200-250 word analysis | Analysis: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_  20 points |
| 5-8 sentence objective summary | Obj. Sum.: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_  20 points |
| TOTAL: |  |