

Quarter 3 CURRENT EVENT ASSIGNMENT

UPDATE: Please follow the DUE DATE information below. Make sure you follow the attached rubric when completing your Current Event.

The world around us changes constantly. It is important for us to be aware of things that are going on around us--locally, nationally, and globally. **Completing a CURRENT EVENT ASSIGNMENT is an extra credit opportunity.** You will have the option to complete this written assignment once a quarter (only) and you must present this during a Smart Block period as well.

The Current Event Assignment and presentation are due **SEPARATELY**:

- The **Current Event written assignment** (that follows the rubric below) is due on or before Friday, March 27th
- The **presentation on your written assignment** will be made during your Smart Block the week of Tuesday, March 31st

For the article you choose, you should write or type your summary in the following format:

Article Title: Write the title of the article at the top of your page.

Summary: Write a summary paragraph, *in your own words*, about the article. It needs to be at least SIX to EIGHT SENTENCES LONG. You can't copy verbatim from the article. Doing so will result in a grade of "0." Only two quotes may be used in your summary.

Significance: Write at least 3-4 sentences discussing why you chose the article *and* how it is important to society. Think about who this event impacts and how it impacts them. Explain why it is significant and provide your opinion about the topic.

Vocabulary: Identify 2-3 words in the article that you believe readers would need to understand the information in the article better.

Three Questions: You will need to write (3) relevant questions about the article (these are questions you would like answered or questions that you could ask students in the class).

Reference: Cite the article and include the following: Title article; author; source (where you got it from); date retrieved or published.

Attachment: Attach a copy of the article with your summary. (I only need the first page or a section of the article).

The article you choose **must not have been published more than 1 month ago** and be a *minimum* of five paragraphs (25-30 sentences.) You may choose your article from a number of sources. They may come from Newspapers (News and Observer, USA Today, etc.), weekly news magazines such as Time, History Magazines or professional news sources located on the internet. If you have Internet access, I have listed a number of sites to assist you.

* You may not use the same source that you used for the previous current event assignment.

Helpful websites:

[ABC News](#)

[CBS News](#)

[CNN](#)

[Fox News](#)

[Los Angeles Times](#)

[National Geographic News](#)

[NBC News](#)

[American History](#)

[AP](#)

“The Curse of Kicking, Sports Medicine: It’s bowlegs from soccer balls”

Summary: Belgian researchers, in a study of 550 soccer players ages 13 to 18 have discovered that soccer develops bowlegs, and that the gap between the knees, when the feet are together, increases with the more years they have played. The researchers believe that kicking the ball over-develops the muscles on the inside of the knee joints which pulls the leg outward with the child’s growth. Stretching these muscles and strengthening the knees outer muscles may keep bowlegs from developing.

Significance: My reason for choosing this article is because my soccer-playing son is very bowlegged, and my husband and I have always wondered where his bowlegs came from. Neither of us have bowlegged relatives. He has played soccer since preschool. This article may provide an explanation. This article is important to society because so many young people play soccer and the problem can be more than just appearance, since bowleggedness can increase the risk of arthritis later in life. The article suggests a solution to the problem may exist in special stretching exercises.

Vocabulary:

Bowleg – a leg with outward curvature

Joint – in anatomy, a place or part where two bones or corresponding structures are joined, usually so that he can move.

Ligament - in anatomy, a band of tough tissue serving to connect one bone to another, or to hold an organ in position: it is white, solid, inelastic, tendinous substance, softer than cartilage, but harder than membrane.

Questions: 1) Are bow legs hereditary? 2) Can bow-leggedness be corrected or cured? 3) How many kids are diagnosed with this condition?

Reference:

Franzen, H. (2002). *The Curse of Kicking, Sports Medicine: It’s bowlegs from balls*. Popular Science. September Issue, 2002.

(This article would be too old for our Current Event Assignment guidelines; however, it is a good example of our expectations.)

Name: _____

CURRENT EVENTS RUBRIC

	PROFICIENT 16 PTS	DEVELOPING 12 PTS	NEEDS WORK 8 PT
Summary	Captures and communicates the main points of the article	Captures some of the main points or does not stick to the main points and includes too much supportive information	Reflects little understanding of the main points of the article
Significance	Aptly expresses why the article is of significance to society and why, personally, he/she chose the article	Expresses either why the article was chosen or how the article is significant to society but not both	Does not express why the article was chosen or how the article is significant to society.
Vocabulary	Three difficult words chosen and defined	Words of questionable difficulty defined	Fewer than three words defined
Questions	Three meaningful questions are asked.	Two meaningful questions are asked.	Less than two questions are asked.
Format for Reference information	Cite the article and include the following: Title article; author; source (where you got it from); date retrieved or published. Article must be attached.	One of the four listed is missing. Article is attached.	Two of the four listed are missing...OR...article is not attached.
Writing	All statements are in students own words.	One phrase very similar to one in the original article	Two or three phrases very similar to ones in the original article

TOTAL from rubric: _____

4 points added for presentation

90 - 100 = 5 points added to your lowest major grade

80-89 = 4 points added to your lowest major grade

70- 79 = 3 points added to your lowest major grade

60 - 69 = 2 points added to your lowest major grade

Under 50 = 1 point added to your lowest major grade

TOTAL POINTS ADDED TO LOWEST MAJOR TEST SCORE: _____