

IB BIOLOGY CURRENT EVENTS ASSIGNMENT

Find and read an article relating to course content. **Read the entire article.**

Print only – internet article, magazine, newspaper. **No TV or radio news.**

Acceptable: living organisms (plants, animals, microorganisms, fungi, bacteria), medicine, environment and ecology, any branch of biology, genetics, cells, anything related to a topic in the IB Biology Syllabus (see separate document)

Unacceptable: weather, astronomy, space, earthquakes, volcanoes, tsunamis, hurricanes, accidents, crimes, politics, fires, advertisements for science programs

Articles must be at least six paragraphs long.

Written Assignment

INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

A copy of the article – the entire article, not just the first page.

Heading which includes: Title, Author, Publication, Date

Summary – Describe the contents of the article in your own words.

Answers to the following questions:

1. What did you know about the subject of this article before reading it?
2. What was the most surprising or interesting thing you learned from reading this article?
3. How does the topic, discussed in the article, affect you personally? (This requires you to think and make connections)
4. How does the topic, discussed in the article, affect society? (This requires you to think and make connections)
5. Would you recommend this article to a friend or talk to a friend about what you read? Why or Why not?

6. Imagine that you are a scientist, what more would you like to learn about the subject presented in the article? Note: Scientists are curious and always have questions.
 - a. *How was the scientific method utilized in writing this article/ gathering information for the article?*
 - b. *How could the scientific method be used to learn more about this topic?*
7. What organization is responsible for writing or publishing the article? What might be the purpose for writing or publishing the article?
8. If an issue or controversy is described answer the following questions:
 - a. *Are both sides of the issue adequately represented? Explain.*
 - b. *What side do you agree with and why did you choose this side?*

NOTE: If the article mentions two conflicting interpretations of the data, a court case, legal action, protesters or scientists critical of the research, there is a controversy.

Instructions for Current Event Writing Assignment

1. Document should be completed and saved in One Drive or Google Drive so that your document can be retrieved from any computer.
2. Save document with the following name: lastname_firstname_currentevent
3. Document may use Arial or Times New Roman size 12 font.
4. Document must be double spaced.
5. Article summary must be a minimum of 3 paragraphs and paragraphs must be a minimum of 5 sentences each. Do not exceed 5 paragraphs.
6. Questions should be answered after the summary within the same document. Responses to questions should be in complete sentences.

Assignment will be due to Ms. Smith on the first day of class!

Websites for biology current event articles are listed below:

WEBSITES FOR BIOLOGY CURRENT EVENT ARTICLES

<p>Science news website</p> <p>CHOOSE THE NEWS TAB – TOP LEFT</p> <p>You can choose a section. As you skim articles, check the publication date. This site has a print button top right</p>	<p>www.sciencedaily.com</p>
<p>New York Times</p> <p>Choose an article that is about biology research or discovery. You can also scan the items under the Health tab at the top of the page.</p>	<p>http://www.nytimes.com/pages/science/index.html</p>
<p>This site has articles from many sources that are identified when you open up an article. You can select a topic under the science tab (dinos, animals & pets, environment). Be sure that your article is about research or discovery and that it is not more than 6-8 weeks old. There is a print page button under the article title to the right.</p>	<p>http://news.yahoo.com/science</p>
<p>This site publishes brief summaries of current science news. The site also publishes the peer reviewed journal <u>Science</u>.</p>	<p>http://sciencenow.sciencemag.org/</p>
<p>Science News Magazine site, You can choose a topic.</p> <p>Print link is at the bottom of the article.</p>	<p>http://www.sciencenews.org/</p>
<p>Online news organization</p> <p>Print button at the bottom</p>	<p>http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/3033055/ns/technology_and_science-science/</p>

<p>National Geographic Magazine news</p> <p>Under the DAILY NEWS title, you can choose a topic. DO NOT pick an article with Blog in the title.</p>	<p>http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/</p>
<p>Scientific American magazine</p> <p>Print button at top right of article</p>	<p>http://www.scientificamerican.com/</p>
<p>Time Magazine - Make sure the article is biology related</p> <p>Printer button is at the bottom</p>	<p>http://www.time.com/time/health</p>
<p>Newsweek Magazine -Choose Life and Health Tab at the top</p> <p>Pick articles listed under "Latest Newsweek" do not pick article under "The Take" next to the faces, these are editorials. Print button is near the top of the article.</p>	<p>http://www.newsweek.com/</p>
<p>Environmental news online</p> <p>Print button is at the top of the article</p>	<p>www.enn.com</p>
<p>Nature News site</p> <p>To Print, go to the share button to the top left, hover the cursor over the images to the right of the word share and a menu appears with the print link.</p>	<p>www.bioedonline.org/news/</p>
<p>Nature articles</p>	<p>http://www.nature.com/news/index.html</p>