

Current Events Curriculum

Steps

1. Find a grade appropriate article from NewsELA (R10)
2. Annotate the article. (R1, R2, R4, L4)
3. Discuss the article. (R1, R2, SL1)
4. Look at the structure, write a summary of each section, analyze the effectiveness of the structure. (R2, R5)
5. Research more information about the topic. (W7)
6. Share your research with the class. (SL1, SL4)
7. Show a video clip of the same topic. (R7)
8. Compare the video clip to the written article. Analyze the effectiveness of each. (R9, SL2)
9. Analyze the point of view of at least two of the authors and experts on the topic. (R6, SL3)
10. Assess Learning

Assessments

Short Answer (R1)

Answer the following questions in complete sentences. Be sure to cite direct evidence from the text in each answer.

1. What is the structure of the article? Is it effective? Why or why not?
2. Compare and contrast the article and the video. Which is more effective? Which is more credible? Why?
3. What is the point of view of the journalist and expert in the video? How do you know?

Argumentative Writing (W1, W4, W5, W6, W8, W9, W10, L1, L2)

Write an argumentative paragraph stating your point of view on the topic and persuading your reader why your point of view is correct. Begin with a one sentence claim summarizing the topic and clearly stating your opinion on it. Then, support that claim with at least two pieces of evidence from the articles and research discussed in class.

Informative Writing (W2, W4, W5, W6, W8, W9, W10, L1, L2)

Write an informative paragraph about the current events topic we discussed in class. Begin with a one sentence claim summarizing the topic. Then, support that claim with at least two pieces of evidence from the articles and research to provide the reader with as much information as possible. Maintain an objective point of view.

Performance Based (W6, W7, W8, W9, SL4, SL5)

Create a blog that is a one-stop go-to resource on this topic. Include links to at least five different credible sources that cover the topic. Include at least 3 images on the page, with captions stating where you got the images and describing the images. Include a brief summary paragraph of the topic as well as an editorial paragraph giving your opinion on the topic.