

AP Seminar Summer Assignment

Overview:

It is extremely important that you enter AP Seminar with an understanding of real-world issues that are happening locally, nationally, and globally. These real-world issues will drive your research and the problem solving that happens throughout the course. In order to expose you to these issues, this summer reading assignment will require you to visit several news outlets that cover local, national, and global issues. You will examine the context, credibility, importance, and implications of various **ARGUMENTS** to practice introductory skills that will be used throughout the course while also becoming more knowledgeable about relevant and timely issues in our world.

Directions:

1. You may choose any 5 weeks during the summer to complete this assignment; however, you must use the sources provided. The articles must be dated within the 5 different weeks that you select & the articles you choose **MUST TAKE A POSITION OR MAKE AN ARGUMENT**.
2. Once you find an article, read it in its entirety. Think about the **argument**, the author, who is involved, when and where the issue is occurring, and why the issue is important.
3. Complete the attached questions page for each article.
4. Print and attach the article to the questions page.
5. On the first day of school, you should have 5 separate articles each with a questions page completed and attached.

Week	Website
Week #1	National Public Radio https://www.npr.org/
Week #2	Local news sites/ local paper - Tampa Bay Times https://www.tampabay.com/ or Florida Today https://www.floridatoday.com/
Week #3	The Week https://theweek.com/
Week #4	National News site - USA Today https://www.usatoday.com/ or The Wall Street Journal https://www.wsj.com/
Week #5	All Sides https://www.allsides.com/

Important Terms:

1. **Lens** - filter through which an issue or topic is considered or examined (i.e., political and historical, environmental, economic, social and cultural, artistic, scientific, futuristic, ethical)
2. **Perspective** - a point of view conveyed through an argument
3. **Argument** - a claim or thesis that conveys a perspective developed through a line of reasoning and supported by evidence.
4. **Bias** - a personal opinion, belief, or value that may influence one's judgement, perspective, or claim
5. **Credibility** - the degree to which a source is believable and trustworthy
6. **Implication** - a possible future effect or result
7. **Limitation** - a boundary or point at which an argument or generalization is no longer valid

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Name: _____ Week: 1 2 3 4 5 Website: _____

Article Title: _____ **Author:** _____

1. What lens from the above list best describes the filter through which the topic/issue of your article is considered or examined? Explain.
2. Who is the author of the article? Discuss the credibility of the author including his or her reputation, credentials, and potential bias.
3. What is the argument presented in the article?
4. Explain the context of the article. For example: Who are the perspectives involved and/or affected? What is the main issue? When and where did the issue occur? Why is it important/relevant?
5. What are the limitations and/or implications of accepting the author's argument? Is there a change and/or solution suggested? What would happen as a result of the implementation of that solution?
6. Write the MLA citation for your article. [Author Last Name, First Name. Title of Source. Title of Website. Publisher. Publication Date. Location.]

***NOTE: Remember to print the current event article that you use and attach it to this assignment.**