CP United States History

“Issues of the 21st Century”

**Current Event Assignment**

In any history class, it is important to follow current events as they become tomorrow’s history. That being said, you will be required to keep up on current events throughout the year and will complete article reviews, which will document your learning.

The United States political system is a democracy and one of the freedoms we enjoy is that of free speech. Being an informed American will enable you to become a productive American, willing, and able, to participate in this democracy and take advantage of the rights that have been given to you.

**Requirements:**

There are many issues that the United States, and you as Americans, are faced with today. Throughout the school year, you will be required to read and review one article each month related one of the Issues of the 21st Century listed below.

**Instructions:**

1. Choose **one** current event article that relates to ***one*** unit listed below (no more than one article per unit). Articles can be taken from the Internet (i.e. msnbc.com), newspaper (i.e. Los Angeles Times, Ventura County Star) or magazines (i.e. Newsweek, Rolling Stone, WIRED) and you ***must*** use a different source for each issue. You may select the articles yourself, as long as they deal with significant current events (They may be political, social or economic in nature, but ***not*** opinion/blogs/letters to the editor). If choosing a newspaper or magazine, you will need to cut the article out and paste or tape the article to regular 8 ½ x 11 paper. If using the Internet, you simply need to print out the article (Copy/Paste if necessary; I don’t want 15 pages full of ads). You will be required to cite the source for your article, so make sure to write down newspaper and/or magazine title, date and page numbers and/or the complete Internet address (see Article Review Format Instructions). Articles must be from the month the current event is due!
2. **Highlight**/**annotate** the main points, or anything you find interesting, on the article itself. Your reading skills will improve by using this technique (This is also part of the grade!). Attach the highlighted/annotated article to the Article Review (5 points).
3. **Review** each article according to the **Article Review Format Instructions**. All Article Reviews must be computer-generated and may not be longer than one page. Each part of the Article Review must be written in complete sentences. (20 points)

**Note: DO NOT USE 1st Person anywhere in this assignment! (This includes we, us, our, I, my, etc.) You need to write in 3rd Person. This is a difficult task but you can find ways to discuss what you have learned and make an argument without doing this.**

**Issues of the 21st Century**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. *Foreign Policy* | 1. *Health Care/Medical Issues* | 9. *The Environment* |
| 1. Immigration | 1. *Poverty* | 10. *Civil Rights & Liberties* |
| 1. Public Safety | 7. Social Security/Retirement | 11. *The Economy* |
| 1. *Education* | 1. *Minority and/or Women’s   Issues* | 12. *Terrorism* |

## Article Review Format Instructions

Issue \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name:

Periodical/Complete Internet Address:

Periodical/Internet Date:

Article Title:

Page number(s): **(5 points \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)**

Highlighted/annotated article attached **(5 points \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)**

Summary of the article. Summarize the main points of the article in one paragraph of at least five sentences. Please write in complete sentences and in your own words. **(5 points \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)**

Discussion of the article (thoughts, feelings, etc.). Do you agree/disagree with the issues the article raises? Why? Engage actively! Take a side! \*\*\*This is an opinion piece! Explain in one paragraph of at least fivecompletesentences. **(5 points \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)**

How this article specifically relates to the issue. This must be specific. Explain, in one paragraph of at least five complete sentences, which “Issue of the 21st Century” the article relates to and why. Also discuss why it is an issue. **(5 points \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)**