Current Event Rubric

Step 1: Choose Your Article

First of all, you need to select a scientific article from a reliable source. The article can come from an online database or a magazine but it must be scientific and credible in nature. An excellent place to check for articles is on my website under the tab entitled science news because these are all from reputable science sites. Please come and see me if you have questions. I will help you find a suitable article if you are struggling.

Step 2: Choose Your Project

1). Practical/Analytical:

* Essay
* Role Play: Letter to Scientific Peers
* Letter to a friend explaining the article

2). Creative:

* Create a Song
* Construct a Poem

Step 3: Begin Creating Your Product (Possible 20 Points)

Guidelines:

Regardless of final product choice, students will address all of the following objectives:

Summary Paragraph

1). Information from the article is summarized properly; not copied directly from the source.

2). All of the main points are addressed.

3). The main thesis of the article has been accurately presented.

4). Any foreign vocabulary encountered is addressed and explained.

5). It is clear that the student understands the article that he/she has chosen.

6). A link to the source your article came from must be provided.

Impact Paragraph

1). The importance of the article is discussed.

2). The student has referenced how this will influence the rest of the scientific community.

3). The impact of this piece beyond the scientific community, such as in the local community, the USA, or the world, has been addressed. The changes this article will cause in other areas such as business, education, etc. have been covered. (Be creative)

4). The student has discussed how this article could impact his/her life.

5). The student has incorporated his/her opinion in the impact portion of this paper.

Step 4: Posting and Peer Discussion

1). You must post your product on Google docs as well as a link to the source you obtained the information from.

2). Place this document in the Earth Science folder you have shared with me.

3). I will provide you with the names of two students you need to add as editors to your paper.

4). Check back and you will see that at least two people have asked you questions about your article by a set deadline; one week after current events are posted.

* Simply asking relevant questions is worth 10 points

5). You must answer these questions respectfully and completely before the deadline in order to receive complete credit for this portion of the project. If you do not know the answer to a question, you are required to look it up or ask me. I do not know will not be accepted as an answer to any question.

* Answering questions respectfully within the deadline, one week after questions are asked, is worth 10 points.

Students will earn all of these points if they post their article before the deadline, answer peers questions respectfully, and ask questions of their peers.

\*All points are forfeit by students if he/she fails to post his/her current event before the deadline unless the student has made pre-existing arrangements; absences due to chance or sickness are exceptions to this policy. In the event of a planned absence, such as a vacation, sports event, etc., it is the students’ responsibility to turn in the project before they leave or email it within the deadline parameters.

\*All points are forfeit by students if plagiarism occurs.

Total Points Possible 40