

Article of the Week

Every other week, on a Monday, we will share with you an article we've chosen for that week's writing and discussion. You need to bring your Article of the Week notebook with your completed work on the Friday of that week. **Work must be in this notebook for credit and it must be completed by the time the bell rings.**

Purpose: To familiarize you with current world events, with different kinds of writing, and with vocabulary and concepts relevant to our class.

You will

- Read the article, marking it up in pen as demonstrated with close reading techniques as well as making right and left margin comments as we specify for that week (usually commentary on author's points, bias, use of evidence)
- Glue, tape or staple the article securely and neatly on the **left** side of the spiral notebook page, folding it in half, if necessary; edges should not extend beyond notebook
- Write in blue or black ink pen on the right-hand page or word-process (and attach neatly to the page) a one-page **minimum** or more response to the article (questions at bottom of article might prompt your reflection). If you type, type **at least** 350 words; and the writing needs to be in mult. paragraphs.
- Come to class on Friday with your writing; be ready to ask questions and participate in discussion

Assessment:

On a weekly basis, this is a full-, half-, or no- credit homework assignment. You do the above decently and receive full credit, do the assignment with some minor issues and receive half credit, or don't do it all or do it poorly and receive no credit. Your work needs to show **care, thought, and effort. No PROCRASTINATOR'S PASSES allowed for this assignment.** Occasionally, we will pick up the Article of the Week notebook for a writing grade in English and in history. Here is what you do then:

- Choose your best AofW (you may not have much choice towards the beginning of the year, so make every one of them great!) within the grading window.
- Attach a Post-It note (we will provide) and assess your own work using the scoring guide. Use specific examples to justify why you feel your work deserves the grade you suggest.
- If you do not have your notebook in class when we decide to pick up the notebook, you may use your Procrastinator's Pass.

Scoring Guide:

For a ✓+

- Article is marked up with questions and highlighting shows purposeful reading; vocabulary/terms beyond those underlined are defined
- Response is **at least** one page; reflective (not summarizing); and shows strong, specific, original thinking about the article
- Writing is neat and legible, showing great care

For a ✓

- Article may be marked up showing some careful reading; vocabulary is generally defined
- Response is at least one page and shows some reflection and thinking about the article
- Writing is legible and shows good care

For a ✓-

- Active, engaged reading is not evident through annotations of article
- Response may be short, surface-level; writing is a summary with little original thinking or connections being made

Writing may be illegible, work lacks care or seems hastily done

