

# **HISTORY SUMMER ASSIGNMENT**

## **Summer Assignment: Current Events News Journal**

**DUE DATE: FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 9, 2016**

- 1. Your assignment for the summer is to find ONE news article each week for 8 weeks that deals with U.S. government/history, summarize the main ideas from the articles in your own words, discuss at least four supporting details from the article, and describe how the article shows government interaction between officials, or with the people or business OR how the article connects to history.**
- 2. Here are the requirements for your journal entries:**
  - ✓ **Minimum of 8 news articles about U.S. Government (from online sources, The New York Times, The Guardian, The Washington Post or an online newspaper or news magazine).**
  - ✓ **At least 10 sentences journal for EACH article.**
  - ✓ **A summary of the main ideas from each article in your own words.**
  - ✓ **Discussion of at least FOUR supporting details from EACH article.**
  - ✓ **Description of how the article shows government interaction between officials, or with people or business OR how the article connects to history.**
  - ✓ **Proper citation of your sources is required: include the author, title, name of the publication, place of publication, date of publication, and page numbers. If a website include a working URL as well as the date you accessed it.**
- 3. Here are some suggestions for what to look for in the articles you choose:**
  - **Ones that deal with the branches of government: executive (President, Vice President, the Cabinet, or other officials), legislative (Congress—Senate and House of Representatives), or judicial (Supreme Court and other lower courts).**
  - **Ones that discuss interest groups trying to influence government (such as a labor union, political action committee, or nonprofit organization that has a goal it's trying to accomplish).**
  - **Ones that deal with political parties: Democrats; Republicans; Libertarians; Progressives; Greens; Independents, or political ideology—conservatives and liberals.**
  - **Anything on the Democratic or Republican Conventions, election process, etc.**
  - **How is the event connected to history? Or how could the event itself be historical?**
- 4. Please refer to the attached rubric for how your assignment will be scored.**

## Summer Assignment Rubric

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Period: \_\_\_\_\_

<i>Criteria</i>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Points earned</b>
<i>Number of news articles: 8</i>	Has only a couple articles	Has 3 to 5 articles	Has 6 to 7 articles	Has at least 8 articles	_____
<i>Length of the journal entries: 10 sentences each</i>	All journal entries are under the 10 sentence minimum	Most journal entries are under the 10 sentence minimum	Some journal entries are under the 10 sentence minimum	All journal entries are at least 10 sentences long	_____
<i>Summary of the main ideas of the articles in the student's own words</i>	Summaries are pretty weak—and rarely use the student's own words	Summaries are somewhat weak—and somewhat written in the student's own words	Summaries are almost all good—with most in the student's own words	Summaries are all strong—with the student's own words present throughout	_____
<i>Discussion of at least 4 supporting details from each article</i>	All journal entries have fewer than 4 supporting details	Most journal entries have fewer than 4 supporting details	Some journal entries have fewer than 4 supporting details	All journal entries have at least 4 supporting details	_____
<i>Description of how the article discusses government interaction between elected officials—or with people or business</i>	Journal entries have limited to no discussion of this element	Journal entries have some discussion of this element	Journal entries mostly discuss this element—may need to be clearer on some	Journal entries all discuss this element—in a clear and concise manner	_____
<i>Proper citation of sources—including URL and date accessed, author, title, publication date, and page numbers</i>	No citations are present	Has some citations for the articles	Has proper citations for most of the articles—but not all	Has proper citations for all articles used	_____

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

X 8 = \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_