

Article Discussions/Responses

"To know stuff you have to read stuff." ~ Kelly Gallagher – teacher & author

PURPOSE

-To build foundational knowledge of events and issues going on around our world so students can be informed and educated citizens.

-To work on skills in the various strands of English Language Arts:

- Speaking & Listening
- Reading & Viewing
- Writing & Representing

INSTRUCTIONS

1. I will give you an article to read at the beginning of the week (not every week but often). By the end of the week you must:
 - Do a close reading of the article.
 - Come up with three things that you will bring up in a group discussion about the article. These could be things the article made you think about, questions you have, or statements you want to make. Have these written down to bring with you to class by the end of the week.
2. We will then have group discussions about the questions/statements/thoughts that you came up with during your close reading. This will be followed by a full class discussion.
3. You will then write a response to the article, incorporating your points of interest plus anything that the discussion made you think about/question/realize. This response should be roughly one page written in good copy (typed or in blue/black pen). This response is due the following Monday.

ASSESSMENT

You will be assessed in the 3 strands of English Language Arts for this activity.

- Formative Assessment – I will be checking to see who is prepared each time we do this activity and will record this information. I will observe your speaking and listening skills, look at your close reading skills, and read your written responses. On occasion I will provide feedback in these areas so you can improve (if needed) and prepare for a more formal assessment.
- Summative Assessment – I will inform you when I will be doing a formal assessment. You will then use the skills you have practiced and improved upon to show me your best work in all of the areas being assessed. I will provide you with feedback and a mark on your skills.

Name: _____

Article Discussions/Responses Rubric

SPEAKING & LISTENING						
Outcomes addressed	Score					Comments
SCO 1.4 – Present a personal viewpoint to a group of listeners	1	2	3	4	5	
SCO 1.5 – Listen critically to analyse and evaluate ideas and information in order to refine your opinion and ideas	1	2	3	4	5	
SCO 2.2 – Adapt your message, language, and delivery using your awareness of the connections between the speaker and listener	1	2	3	4	5	
SCO 3.1 – Demonstrate active listening and respect for the needs, rights, and feelings of others; analyse the positions of others	1	2	3	4	5	
READING & VIEWING						
Outcomes addressed	Score					Comments
SCO 4.4 – use strategies to clear up confusing parts of a text and adjust reading according to purpose	1	2	3	4	5	
SCO 6.1 – articulate personal responses to texts by expressing and supporting a point of view about the issues in the text	1	2	3	4	5	
SCO 6.2 – respond to the texts you are reading by questioning, connecting, evaluating, and extending	1	2	3	4	5	
SCO 6.4 – demonstrate a willingness to consider more than one interpretation of the text	1	2	3	4	5	
WRITING & REPRESENTING						
Outcomes addressed	Score					Comments
SCO 8.1 – use writing to extend your idea, reflect on your feelings, values, and attitudes	1	2	3	4	5	
SCO 10.4 – demonstrate commitment to crafting your writing piece	1	2	3	4	5	