

Current Events Guidelines

1. You will be assigned one of the following topics: World, United States, Local, Sports, Weather/Technology/Economy/Politics. You need to find a current news article (within one week) related to your topic. Your article can be from a newspaper, the Internet, or a magazine. You should then use the attached organizer to record information from your article.
2. Using the information from your organizer, write a summary of your current event article. The summary should include:
 - the article headline
 - the name of the source of the article
 - who the article is about
 - what the article is about
 - where the events take place and when the events take place
 - 2-3 important events or information that help the audience understand what your article is about
 - an explanation of why you chose the article – please do not say you selected it because it was interesting. Instead address why the information is important, how you feel about it, what action you think should be taken, or what you would do to solve the problem.
3. Neatly complete the Current Events Report form. You may type your final report if you prefer.
4. Staple your Current Events Report form, organizer, and article together to be turned in.
5. Be prepared to read your summary to the class and to answer any relevant questions.

Current Events Organizer

A good newspaper article always includes the 5 W's. When writing your summary, be sure to include the following:

- Article Headline: _____

- Name of your source; newspaper, website, magazine (underlined):

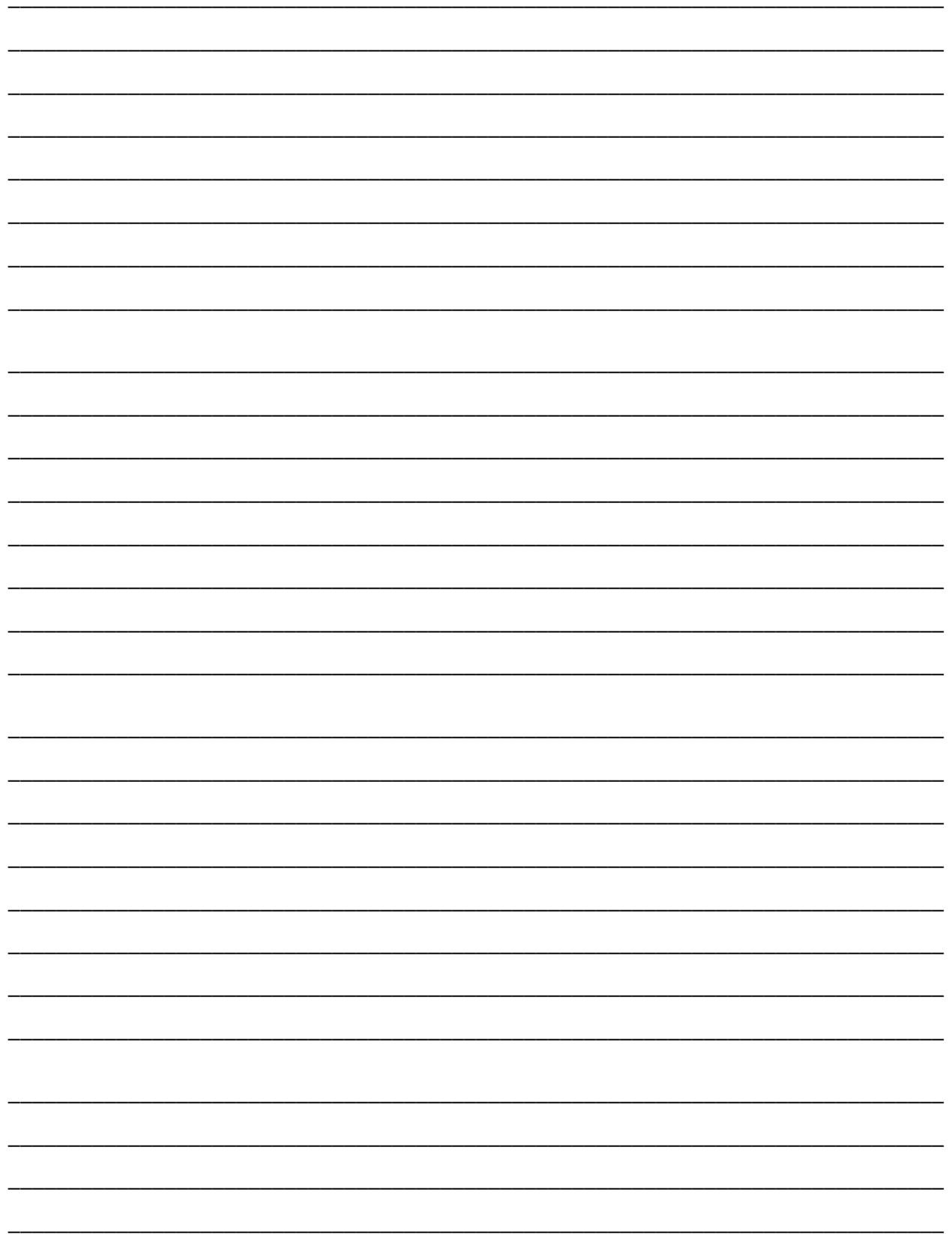
- What is the article about?:

- Where does it take place?: _____

- When does it take place?: _____

- Other important details:

- Why did you choose this article? (Do not say, "Because it was interesting."
Instead, address why the information is important, how you feel about it, what
action you think should be taken, or what you would do to solve the problem.)



Current Events Organizer

A good newspaper article always includes the 5 W's. When writing your summary, be sure to include the following:

- Article Headline: *6 Ton satellite falls to Earth, just don't ask NASA where*
- Name of your source; newspaper, website, magazine (underlined):

The Sunday Star-Ledger

- What is the article about?:
 - *A NASA satellite named Upper Atmosphere Research Satellite (UARS) ran out of fuel and died in 2005*
 - *it plummeted to Earth late Friday night into early Saturday morning*
 - *NASA officials cannot exactly say where the satellite landed*
 - *They believe that it missed land and fell into the Pacific Ocean*
 - *Some pieces of the satellite might have broken off and landed in parts of Alberta, Canada and Saskatchewan, and Portland, Oregon and Seattle, Washington*
 - *No reports of anyone being hurt by falling debris from the satellite*
- Where does it take place?:
 - *The UARS satellite is believed to have died and broken apart in space*
 - *It's parts landed in the Pacific Ocean and perhaps parts of Oregon, Washington state, and Canada.*
- When does it take place?:

- *The satellite died in 2005, but it hit Earth between 11:23 p.m. on Friday, September 23, 2011 and 1:09 a.m. on Saturday, September 24, 2011*

- Other important details:
 - *No person has ever been known to have been hit by falling debris from space*
 - *The satellite weighed 1,200 pounds*
 - *It broke apart into 26 pieces*
 - *If the satellite had fallen five minutes later than it had, it might have caused more damage*
 - *there was only a 1-in-3,200 chance that a person would be struck by any falling debris from UARS*

- Why did you choose this article? (Do not say, “Because it was interesting.” Instead, address why the information is important, how you feel about it, what action you think should be taken, or what you would do to solve the problem.)
 - *I chose this article because I have been hearing about this satellite for weeks on the radio and on television*
 - *I was curious to see where the satellite had landed and if it had done any damage*
 - *I am also very interested in learning about space and how satellites predict weather and study climate changes*
 - *NASA is very lucky that the UARS satellite did not seem to cause any harm to people and substantial damage to the Earth*
 - *NASA should continue to research ways in which satellite exploration will be safe for humans and our environment in case these satellites become destroyed*

Name _____

Date _____

Current Events Report

Article Title: *6 Ton satellite falls to Earth, just don't ask NASA where*

Source: *The Star Ledger*

Article Date: *September 25, 2011*

News Type: World *United States* Local Sports

Weather/Technology/Economy/Politics

Summary:

The article that I read for my current events report is called *6 Ton satellite falls to Earth, just don't ask NASA where*. This article is about a NASA satellite that ran out of fuel and died in 2005, but finally plummeted to Earth late Friday night into early Saturday morning. However, NASA officials cannot exactly say where the satellite called Upper Atmosphere Research Satellite (UARS) landed. They believe that it missed land and fell into the Pacific Ocean instead. There is a possibility that pieces of the satellite broke off and landed in parts of Alberta, Canada and Saskatchewan, as well as in Portland, Oregon and Seattle, Washington. Luckily, NASA officials have not had any reports of anyone being hurt by falling debris from the satellite.

The satellite weighed 1,200 pounds and when it died it is believed to have broken apart into twenty-six pieces. UARS actually died in 2005, but only hit Earth between 11:23 p.m. on Friday, September 23, 2011 and 1:09 a.m. on Saturday, September 24, 2011. If the satellite had fallen five minutes later than it had, it might have caused more damage.

I chose this article because I have been hearing about the UARS satellite for weeks on the radio and on television. When I opened the newspaper on Sunday morning, I was curious to see where the satellite had landed and if it had done any damage. I am also very interested in learning about space and understanding how satellites predict weather and study climate changes. Therefore, I thought this article would be informative and provide me with information about those topics.

According to the article, the UARS was a satellite that was launched into space before NASA and other international space agencies knew how to send up satellites that would not eventually crash to Earth. I am glad that newer technology has been developed, so that satellites can be tracked and controlled more easily. The article stated that there was only a 1-in-3,200 chance that a person would be struck by any falling debris from UARS. I think that NASA is very lucky that the UARS satellite did not seem to cause any harm to people and substantial damage to the Earth. NASA should continue to research ways in which satellite exploration will be safe for humans and our environment in case these satellites are destroyed in space.

Name _____

Current Events Rubric

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|---|---|---|--------|-------|
| Article Headline | Y | N | 2 pts | _____ |
| Name of Source | Y | N | 2 pts | _____ |
| Date of Article | Y | N | 2 pts | _____ |
| Complete Summary | Y | N | 10 pts | _____ |
| Reason for Choosing Article | Y | N | 5 pts | _____ |
| Oral Presentation Skills (eye contact, voice, posture) | Y | N | 4 pts | _____ |