CLU3M

 **Law in the News** 

Part of being an informed citizen requires keeping up-to-date on civic, political, legal, environmental, and world issues, surrounding your local, provincial, and national areas. In order to know what is going on in the world around you, and develop an informed opinion, you must read newspapers and watch the news. This assignment will force you into this practice!

**It will also help you to apply the concepts from this course to events that happen around us.**

Task: ***Every Monday or Tuesday, depending on what day you have class there will be one “Law in the News” presentation.***

You will only present **ONCE** during the school year.

Working alone, or in a pair, students will **put together a presentation, and lead a discussion** based on an issue in the media that has to do with a “current” event in **CANADIAN** law. The article should be one that you have read recently, although you may use an older article if it’s really interesting, and if you discuss it with me beforehand.

You are expected to:

1. Summarize the article (choose a Canadian news story)
2. Describe the issue and any different viewpoints discussed in the article
3. Identify why you have selected this article, and how it pertains to the course
4. State your position as to how the issue in the article should be resolved, and WHY? or, if it has been resolved, whether or not you agree with the resolution, and WHY?
5. Be prepared to define any terms in the article with which you or your classmates might be unfamiliar
6. You must be sure to relate the article to Canadian Law, and explain what type of law the story deals with (criminal, administrative, constitutional (including Charter), human rights, tort, employment, family, contract, property)
7. Ask a question(s) of your audience with a view to encouraging discussion/debate. Feel free to “plant”

questions/comments among your classmates to make your presentation better! Make reasonable efforts

to answer any and all questions posed by your classmates about the article

1. Do not pick an article that really has no “issues”. Some articles are amusing, but are not very

thought-provoking. Try to choose something that will engage people in a debate. The best presentations

are often quite brief in themselves, but stir such vigorous debate that other items on the class agenda

must be postponed

1. **Format:** your presentation must be accompanied by a PowerPoint that includes the article, so that it can be projected behind you while you present the information above, but you cannot look at the article as you present. You may also include images, point form 5ws to help audience, etc
2. **Written Portion:** The written portion must be submitted the day you present. Each presenter MUST SUBMIT HIS/HER OWN WRITTEN PORTION!

Refer to the marking scheme for requirements. You must write in full sentences and proper paragraph form. You must also identify the source (including date) of your current event, and cite it in MLA format. **You must also include a copy of your article (not just a link).**

# Example:

# Gallant, Jaques. “Marco Muzzo bail hearing in crash which killed family delayed.” *TheStar.com*. Toronto Star,19 Oct. 2015. Web. 20 Oct. 2015.

# Name of reporter Headline/ title of article Website name Publication name Date of pub. Meth. of access Date of access

Marking Scheme:

Oral Presentation

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Knowledge:  Summary and choice of article  -Summary of 5ws is clear and in own words, revealing the most important details of the article  -Identifies connection to the course and the type of law the article pertains to  -Article chosen is highly relevant to law and shows thought in selection  /10 | Thinking & Application:  Analysis of Article  -Reasons to support your position regarding resolution of issue  Questions are posed to audience that spark discussion and/or debate.  -Answers are given to all questions asked by the audience; quality of answers reflects thought and insight  /10 | Communication:  Delivery of content  -Speaks clearly and loudly  -Good eye contact (rarely referred to notes)  -Good posture, no fidgeting  /10 |

Failure to find and present an article on your designated day will result in a mark of zero for this assignment!

Written Component

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| --- | --- |
| Knowledge/ Thinking/ Application  Content:  -Written submission contains accurate account of chosen article, covering the 5ws in your own words!  -Details how the situation should be resolved, or if it has been resolved, your opinion of the resolution supported by facts  -Connection to Canadian legal system, type of law involved, connection to the course    /10 | Communication:  Clear, coherent, spelling & grammar  -Submission is written in appropriate format, with few (if any) spelling, grammar, punctuation, or other communication errors.  -Ideas are clear and well-supported/ explained in detail  -MLA citation of source included  /10 |

Failure to provide the written component of the Current Events Assignment the same day as the oral presentation will result in a mark of zero for the written portion of the assignment!