

The News & Modern History

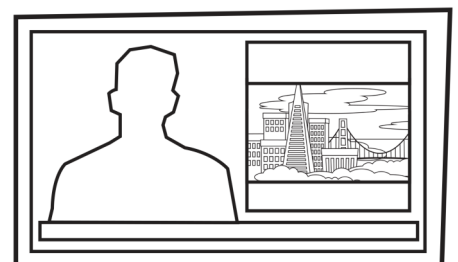
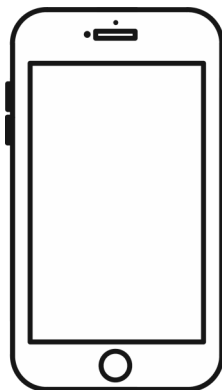
Many times when we think of history, we think of things that happened a long time ago, but the truth is, every moment becomes history as soon as it passes. What you did last year, where you were yesterday, and even what you ate for breakfast this morning is all part of history. It might not all get recorded in a textbook, but it's still history.

We live in an age where we have unprecedented access to news from around the world. You can just as easily find out who won a football game in the town down the road as you can find out what happened yesterday in a country thousands of miles or kilometers away. When you consider that in 1860 in the United States, it usually took at least ten days or more to get news across the country, or that the first long-distance telephone call wasn't made until 1876, you can see a lot has changed in a fairly short period of time.

Today, you can read the news in a newspaper or magazine, watch a video or read articles on the Internet, watch the news on television, hear it on the radio, or overhear two people talking about it.

In this project, you're going to take some of what you read, hear, or see in the news (to make it easy, the book will just refer to what you "saw" on the news, but you'll answer the questions in the same way regardless of how you learned about what happened) and make a record of it. You'll look at some questions about it and maybe learn more about what happened than you originally knew.

An important fact to remember is that every news source, no matter what it is, only presents part of a story. Just imagine something as simple as a football game. No news source could tell you what every single play looked like and felt like to every player on the field and what everyone in the audience thought about it. It would be impractical and even impossible. But what details news sources leave out can have a profound impact on what you know and think about what has happened. Always look for more sources and points of view, and always ask questions about what you are learning. There is always more to discover!



In the News

What happened?

Who was involved?

Where did it happen?

When did it happen?

Where did you first learn it had happened?

Why or how did it happen?

Why is this story important? If it is not important, why isn't it?

In the News

What happened?

Who was involved?

Where did it happen?

When did it happen?

Where did you first learn it had happened?

Why or how did it happen?

What are some other additional facts about what happened?

What quotes stood out to you from this story? Who said them, and why did they stand out?

Have there been any updates to the story since then or new developments? Have the updates impacted your understanding or opinion of what happened? If so, how?

Why is this important? If it is not important, why isn't it?

Draw or attach a map showing where this happened.

Find information about this story from additional news sources. List the sources used below.

What additional information or perspectives did you gain from these sources? Does any of the information appear to be biased in some way?

Is there more background information you can find that would help explain the context of the story? If so, what information is relevant, and where did you find it?

What personal impact does this story have on you? If there is no immediate impact, what potential impact do you think it could have?

Do you have any additional thoughts or opinions on what you have learned?

If you were reporting on this story, how would you have done so? What information would you have shared or not shared? Are there additional sources you would have cited or people you would have interviewed?

SAMPLE

