

Current Events around the World: Presentation Details

This assignment is designed to help students build and practice presentation skills while at the same time providing students an opportunity to understand and learn about another culture. For this assignment, please find an event that is currently affecting a country and culture outside of the United States.

General Guidelines and Requirements:

1. **Slideshow Requirements**

Presentation should be in the form of a slideshow (Google Slides, Prezi, PowerPoint) and should contain at least 10 slides, including a bibliography of at least 3 sources consulted. Each slide should contain at least one image and between 3 and 5 informational bullet points. Slides should not contain extensive text – the purpose of the slide show text is to provide audience with basic, pointed information about your topic. Text should be able to be read and digested by the audience within moments.

Assessment: Based on the quality of slides, the distillation of information into basic, easy-to-understand points, and the clarity and aesthetic appeal of your presentation.

[10 points]

2. **Length**

Presentation should be 8-10 minutes. Please prepare carefully so that the presentation is not too long or too short; timing and meeting a specific time-frame is an important skill. If you are able to meet the time frame, you will receive full credit. In the case of audience participation extending presentations beyond 10 minutes, student will not be penalized.

[10 points]

3. **Understanding and Mastery of Topic**

Presentation should demonstrate a clear understanding and mastery of the specific event that is affecting a country. Oral presentation should enhance, explain, and inform others about the depths of the selected current event. Each presentation should demonstrate a strong working knowledge of the issue and culture you've read and learned a significant amount of detail about your topic. You will be evaluated on your ability to explain and enhance the images and information present in the slides you've created.

[10 points]

4. **Demonstrates Effective Public Speaking Skills**

Presenter should clearly and effectively engage audience. Presenter should demonstrate eye contact with all audience members / spaces equally. Presenter should speak clearly and enunciate; presentation should be an appropriate volume and not monotone. Presenter should exude energy and enthusiasm about the selected topic. Presenter should not stand by computer, but rather move around the space smoothly. Presenter should avoid repetitive and distracting movements. No gum chewing, avoid saying "like," and "um" and other common filler words.

[10 points]

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5. Demonstrates Ability to Interact / Engage with Audience

Presenter should demonstrate a comfortable rapport with audience members. Presenter should build in an interactive feature (Q & A, Map Identification, Survey, Personal Response, Quiz, Competition, Audience Participation / Volunteer, etc.) that allows audience members to participate, discuss, or interact with the speaker, even if very briefly. Enthusiastic and energetic presentations will engage audience members and earn full credit. Don't be boring!

[10 points]

Selection of World Event:

Please select an event that is recent and current; the event should be evolving and in the news within the past week or so. You may select an event from any news category (politics, science, sports, war, etc.) and it is often necessary to cross check different sources in order to garner enough information.

Websites that are in English and are especially user-friendly include:

The New York Times (World section)

The Guardian

The BBC

The Telegraph

NPR

Please see me with any questions and concerns; I am able to provide guidance and ideas if you are feeling stuck for a topic. Find something that is interesting to you and this project will be even more rewarding and educational!

Extra Credit Opportunity:

Bring food from the region you have researched for extra credit!