

Current Events Worksheet Answers 2018

Name: _____ Period: _____

Current Events

Due Date: _____

Directions: Find an article in the newspaper, online from a newspaper source, or any other reputable national or local news source. Some suggested news sources include, but are not limited to, the New York Times, NPR, USA Today, or CNN. Please do not select articles with an Entertainment, Gossip or Sports focus. Your article should focus on important issues in the world today, and should not be more one month old.

Read the article you have selected, and then answer the questions below.

Title of the Article: _____

Topic of the Article: _____

Source/URL: _____
(Example: The New York Times, or <https://www.nytimes.com>)

Who/What is this article about? _____

What is this story about? List four important facts from your article.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Current events worksheet answers 2018 provide a snapshot of significant occurrences and trends from that year, which shaped the socio-political landscape across the globe. Worksheets designed to facilitate discussions and assessments of current events are commonly used in educational settings, encouraging students to engage with and analyze real-world happenings. This article explores key events of 2018, providing context and answers that might typically accompany a current events worksheet.

Major Political Events

1. U.S. Midterm Elections

The U.S. midterm elections held on November 6, 2018, were pivotal, as they determined the composition of Congress. Voter turnout was notably high, with approximately 50% of the electorate participating, the highest for a midterm since 1914.

- Key Outcomes:

- The Democratic Party regained control of the House of Representatives, winning 235 seats compared to the Republicans' 199.

- The Republicans maintained control of the Senate, securing 53 seats.

- Several historic wins were recorded, including the election of the first Muslim women (Ilhan Omar and Rashida Tlaib) and the first Native American women (Deb Haaland and Sharice Davids) to Congress.

2. International Relations and Treaties

2018 also witnessed significant developments in international relations, particularly concerning North Korea and the United States.

- North Korea Summit:
 - In June 2018, President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong-un met in Singapore for a historic summit aimed at denuclearization.
 - The two leaders signed a joint statement, although specifics on denuclearization processes were sparse.
- NATO Tensions:
 - President Trump criticized NATO allies for not meeting defense spending commitments, leading to tensions within the alliance.
 - The summit included discussions on defense spending and commitments to mutual defense.

Social Movements and Cultural Events

1. MeToo Movement

The MeToo movement continued to gain momentum in 2018, as survivors of sexual harassment and assault shared their stories, leading to social and political repercussions.

- Key Events:
 - The movement resulted in the resignation of numerous high-profile figures across various industries including entertainment, politics, and media.
 - The Time's Up initiative, launched by Hollywood celebrities, aimed to address systemic inequality and harassment in the workplace.

2. March for Our Lives

In response to the Parkland school shooting in February 2018, students organized the March for Our Lives rally on March 24, advocating for gun control.

- Key Points:
 - The event drew hundreds of thousands of participants in Washington, D.C., and across many cities.
 - The movement called for legislative actions, including universal background checks and a ban on assault weapons.

Environmental Concerns

1. Climate Change Reports

2018 was marked by alarming reports on climate change, emphasizing the urgency for global action.

- Key Findings:
- The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released a report in October indicating that global warming could exceed 1.5 degrees Celsius by 2030 if drastic measures are not taken.
- Extreme weather events, including hurricanes, wildfires, and floods, were increasingly linked to climate change, prompting debates on sustainability and environmental policy.

2. Youth Climate Strikes

Inspired by Swedish activist Greta Thunberg, youth climate strikes began to gain traction worldwide in 2018, calling for immediate action on climate change.

- Key Actions:
- Students across various countries walked out of schools to protest and demand stronger climate policies from their governments.
- The strikes laid the groundwork for larger movements, culminating in the global climate strikes of 2019.

Technological Advancements and Issues

1. Data Privacy and Cambridge Analytica

The fallout from the Cambridge Analytica scandal, which involved the unauthorized harvesting of Facebook users' data for political advertising, dominated discussions on data privacy.

- Key Developments:
- Facebook faced intense scrutiny, leading to CEO Mark Zuckerberg testifying before Congress.
- The incident raised broader concerns over data privacy regulations and the ethical use of personal information by tech companies.

2. Advancements in AI and Automation

The rapid advancement of artificial intelligence (AI) and automation technologies continued to reshape industries and workforce dynamics.

- Key Trends:
- Companies increasingly adopted AI for various applications, from customer service to data analysis.
- Discussions around the implications of automation on employment and the economy became more pronounced, with calls for policies to address job displacement.

Health and Global Issues

1. Ebola Outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

An outbreak of Ebola in the Democratic Republic of the Congo began in mid-2018, marking one of the most severe epidemics since the West Africa outbreak in 2014-2016.

- Key Responses:
- The World Health Organization (WHO) deployed teams and resources to help contain the outbreak.
- Experimental vaccines were used in an unprecedented move, showcasing advancements in medical responses to infectious diseases.

2. Global Refugee Crisis

The refugee crisis continued to be a pressing global issue in 2018, with millions displaced due to conflict, persecution, and environmental changes.

- Key Statistics:
- According to the UNHCR, by mid-2018, there were over 68 million forcibly displaced people worldwide.
- Countries faced challenges in accommodating refugees, leading to debates over immigration policies and humanitarian responsibilities.

Conclusion

The current events worksheet answers for 2018 encapsulate a year of monumental political shifts, social movements, environmental crises, and technological advancements. As students engage with these topics, they not only gain an understanding of the events themselves but also develop critical thinking skills essential for analyzing the complexities of contemporary issues. The lessons drawn from 2018 continue to resonate, influencing ongoing discussions and shaping the future course of global affairs. By reflecting on these events, we can better prepare for and respond to the challenges that lie ahead.

Frequently Asked Questions

What major political event occurred in the United States in 2018?

The midterm elections took place, resulting in a shift in power in Congress with the Democrats gaining control of the House of Representatives.

Which international summit was held in 2018 involving North Korea?

The historic summit between North Korean leader Kim Jong-un and U.S. President Donald Trump was held in Singapore on June 12, 2018.

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