

## THE WHY

In all endeavors of life, change occurs, and keeping up with the change is an ongoing learning process. Without being knowledgeable about the current state of the world, a person cannot make intelligent decisions with regards to voting, traveling, and perhaps even choosing the proper type of spaghetti. Further, many occupations now have ongoing requirements of education in their area to keep the industry modern and safe. If a person does not keep up with the changes in their job sector, they may find themselves without employment.

These Current Events are designed to encourage a regular reading habit, in this case, in their field of study for their course. The work load is not extensive for this requirement. Just a read short article relating to the course as outlined below. Then write a brief summary, and give me your opinion on what the article had to say. Opinions are neither right nor wrong, but a reason must be given. Think. What is it that you read that made you feel that way, and tell me.

## THE HOW

The article must relate to the class for which it is being submitted:

Course	Topic(s)
<b>Computer Programming</b> <b>AP Computers</b> <b>ECS</b>	Articles about any programming language: changes, theories, problems, history, etc. It must be from a recent periodical publication. Articles relating to video games will be acceptable if the majority of the article relates to a programming aspect such as logic, programming, etc. (NO game play reviews.)
<b>Digital Imaging</b>	Relates to photographic exhibits, techniques, software, and cameras. Articles that are reviews from a buying service (such as mysimon.com) or the vendor's own material (such as a review of a Sony camera from Sony's own sources) are not acceptable.
<b>Health</b> <b>New Media</b> <b>Intro to Computers</b> <b>Information Processing</b>	Topic will vary with each assignment. Please read the individual assignment listing for the class to check for the correct topic that week.
<b>Government</b>	Articles must relate to some aspect of government operation within the U.S., dealings with foreign governments, or political problems in other countries. Additional topics that are acceptable include: human rights, personal responsibility, and challenges to authorities.
<b>History</b>	Topic will vary with each assignment. Please read the individual assignment listing for the class to check for the correct topic that week.
<b>Economics</b>	Must relate to some aspect of the economy/Economics: changes in inflation, bank/loan rates, new regulations that affect production, prices, industry practices.

In all cases, a copy of the source material must accompany the student's work. A web link is acceptable for grading purposes (it must be a full link, copied out of the browser's address bar and NOT just the root site address - i.e. [www.yahoo.com](http://www.yahoo.com) is a root link), or a copy of the article.

The article itself must be at least four paragraphs in length.

A brief summary must be written, one paragraph in length, and cannot be a direct copy or paraphrase of the original article.

The opinion section must be one paragraph, and include a reason for the opinion. Don't say that you like the new Alienware computer because it's cool. Tell me what makes it cool to you.

Remember, poor spelling and grammar will cause the loss of points.

Use actual news websites. If you are not sure if a site is a news site, ask.

Example of news sites:

- [www.cnn.com](http://www.cnn.com)
- [www.latimes.com](http://www.latimes.com)
- [www.msnbc.com](http://www.msnbc.com)
- [www.cnet.com](http://www.cnet.com)
- [www.dpreview.com](http://www.dpreview.com)

Examples of sites that are **not** news related:

- [www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org) (reference site, they report history, not the news)
- [www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com) (corporate site, they sell make/sell products, not review them)
- [www.lacma.org](http://www.lacma.org) (non-profit site, they promote their own work, not report on others)

**File Formats:** If you are turning in a file online, which is the preferred method, the following formats are acceptable: odt, doc, docx, rtf, pdf, txt (if images are not required). Do not use any format other than what is listed: This includes Apple's pages format! Unauthorized file formats may earn an initial zero.

**NOTE FOR NEW MEDIA & INTRO CLASSES:** Specific formatting may be specified and thereby becomes a part of the Grading Guide.

### Grading Guide:

- **Major (up to 20% each)** – Missing: article/web link, summary, opinion. Off topic subjects. (multiple instances may increase penalty to more than 20%)
- **Minor (up to 10% each)** - Spelling / grammar errors, incomplete web link (multiple instances may increase penalty to more than 10%)



Example of Current Event using link:

Addams, Wednesday  
Period 5

Current Event #4

<http://www.theartnewspaper.com/articles/Billionaire+art+collector+set+to+be+next+Georgian+prime+minister/27232>

The political coalition party led by Bidzina Ivanishvili, the billionaire businessman and art collector, has won the Georgian parliamentary election. The country's president Mikheil Saakashvili conceded defeat October 2<sup>nd</sup>, saying that the opposition Georgian Dream coalition had won the country's parliamentary election. Ivanishvili is expected to be nominated to become the new prime minister, the first to be democratically elected to the post.

This finally proves that the more money you have the more power you have. Of course I do not know if this man truly is politically savvy but I suppose he is in order to win a parliamentary election. Perhaps his large art collection will be made into a museum when he becomes the prime minister.

Example of Current Event w/ copy of article:

Pugsley Addams  
Period 13

#### Current Event # 4

Originally introducing a Fisheye camera back in 2005, Lomography's Fisheye No 2 brings with it a number of upgrades, most notably in the form of a bulb mode – which enables you to capture longer exposures – and an 'MX' switch, which enables you to set multiple exposures on the same section of film.

Like its predecessor, the Lomo Fisheye No 2 features an almost 180 degree field of view, and takes 35mm film. This is still relatively easy to come by in many supermarkets, chemists and so on. Lomography also produces its own range of films, which we used during this test. Processing on the high street is also relatively easy to find, but again you can use Lomography's own lab, which we used here.

For those not in the know, Lomography is the company that has brought back many incarnations of [analogue photography](#). It is proving extremely popular with its unique designs in many different styles.

<http://www.techradar.com/us/reviews/cameras-and-camcorders/cameras/compact-cameras/lomography-fisheye-no-2-1089874/review>

*This article talks about lomography and one of its most newly introduced cameras. The Lomographys Fish eye No2 has a bulb mode that enables you to capture longer exposure and a switch known as the MX switch that allows you to set multiple exposures on the same section of film. This camera and the Lomography Company have helped bring back many incarnations of analogue photography. Sort of that old school looks to picture taking.*

*I think that this camera is going to bring back an old trend of photography that is very cool and stylish. This camera does exactly what an old school camera would do and other cool features. Not only does the camera have awesome features but it also has a stylish look. I would probably purchase one of these cameras, especially since there not to expensive.*

Example of written Current Event:

Morticia Addams

Aug. 23, 2002

Period 0

Current Event of 8/23/02

**Summary:**

IBM is reviving punch cards, but at the microscopic level. The new technology melts pits into the surface of a plastic strip with an equivalent density of 25 DVDs in the area of a postage stamp. The new "millipede" technology is 20 times denser than current magnetic storage. IBM expects it to reach mobile devices in about two years.

**Opinion:**

The density of this storage medium would allow tremendous capacity not only for small devices but others as well. The main question not addressed in the article is that of access speed, which could be a major drawback. Overall, if it has reasonable speed, this could be a tremendous gain in a transportable data media.

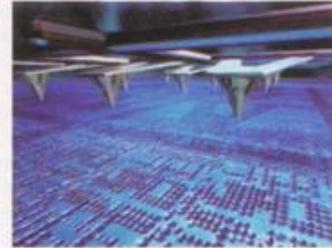
PC Magazine, August 2002 Page 29

## Nano Punch Cards

IBM has retooled punch cards for the coming nanotechnology age. Code-named Millipede, IBM's new prototype of a nanomechanical storage device uses thousands of tips (see photo) to punch indentations into a plastic strip, with each indentation representing 1 bit. IBM researchers claim that the plastic strip can fit the storage equivalent of 25 DVD discs onto an area no bigger than a postage stamp.

Millipede can write, read, erase, and rewrite data to the thin plastic strips. To write data, a tip is heated to 400 degrees Celsius and sunk into a thin layer of plexiglass atop a silicon chip, creating an indentation; to read data, the same tip is heated to 300 degrees Celsius, which does not affect the strip as the tip passes along and notes the indents. Erasing data involves creating offset indents that fill the old ones.

With the Millipede prototype, IBM researchers have achieved a storage density of 1 trillion bits per square inch, which is 20 times that of



today's densest magnetic storage capabilities. Millipede won't be manufactured in volume for another two years. The technology promises to store data in spaces smaller than electrical and magnetic storage formats can reliably function in, given their physical limits.

Millipede project leader Peter Vettiger says that "the Millipede project could bring tremendous data capacity to mobile devices, such as personal digital assistants, cellular phones, and multifunction watches."—Jon Halpin

The article does not have to be on the actual page with your summary and opinion, but instead is usually stapled to the article