

Article of the Week (AoW)

On-going throughout the year

This assignment is taken from Kelly Gallagher's *Write Like This: Teaching Real-World Writing Through Modeling and Mentor Texts*.

Rationale:

"Part of the reason [why] students have such a hard time reading is because they bring little prior knowledge and background to the written page. They can decode the words, but the words remain meaningless without a foundation of knowledge."

To help build prior knowledge, students will receive an Article of the Week every Monday or Tuesday morning. By the end of the school year students will have read 30 to 40 articles about what is going on in the world. In order for students to succeed in all classes, "they must broaden their reading experiences into real-world text." – *Kelly Gallagher*.

Expectations:

Students will receive an AoW every Monday or Tuesday morning. They will be given the opportunity to read and respond to it in class.

The directions are simple:

1. Highlight any confusion.
2. Demonstrate evidence of a close reading.
3. Write a 1+ page reflection.

Each article will be accompanied by a set of "Possible Response Questions" to help students fuel their 1+ page reflection.

The reflections are due no later than the following **Sunday @ Midnight**.

After 3 or 4 AoW's students will choose their favorite article and write a "Why should we care" piece that will be published on their blog.

Criteria:

Reflections are to be typed, DOUBLE SPACED using 12 pt. font, 1" margins, and either: Cambria, Times New Roman, Arial, or Georgia font.

Students may hand in their reflections in class, or via the "submit online" option on the class Weebly.

Refer to the Grading Rubric for more details.

