

This week we are learning how to talk about current events! You might notice that there is not a specific grammar item we are teaching, because this week we are focusing more on reading and vocabulary. For this week's class, do the following:

1. Watch the example newscast (the video is at the top right): <https://www.cbsnews.com/live-updates/hurricane-zeta-hits-louisiana-category-2-storm/>
2. Pick one of the articles below for this activity. Each page is a different article about a current event. Spend some time reading it carefully, highlighting any words you don't understand. Most of the harder words should be on the powerpoint, but if they are not, you can google what they mean!
3. Next, you are going to re-write the article in your own words. It does not have to be as long, and it should not just say everything the same way (word-for-word). Explain what happened in your own words.
4. Find a friend to practice this with, and act like you are the reporter telling the story. As they listen, your friend can write down questions to ask you about the story. Then have them read you one of the articles, and you ask them questions about it!

Coronavirus and Tourism

Before the coronavirus pandemic, many tourist destinations were full of tourists, which had a big impact on nature. Tourists left a lot of trash behind, and they affected wildlife.

The coronavirus made it very difficult to travel, and it was bad for local businesses. But there was a positive impact of the coronavirus, too. In Thailand, the beaches were much cleaner than before the pandemic. Some fish returned to Thai waters, and turtles laid eggs on beaches that were usually full of tourists.

The Thai government said that the country would close all its national parks for three months every year. The government wants to help nature recover from tourism.



A Boy Steals a Bus

An 11-year-old boy stole a school bus and he took it for a joyride in the streets of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on Sunday morning.

The boy was chased by the police for 45 minutes, and he drove about 13 miles before he crashed the vehicle into a tree. A witness at the scene said that she saw the child giggling behind the wheel as he drove past her.



The bus was privately owned, and it was not necessary to use keys, because it has a push-to-start button. Police said that the boy was probably too small to reach the pedals on the floor, and he had to stand while driving. Police chased the boy for 45 minutes before he crashed into a tree.

Police arrested the boy and took him into custody. They did not report any injuries.

Spider-Man Climbs Up a Tall Building

Alain Robert is a 58-year-old French urban climber. He has climbed many of the world's tallest buildings. People call him 'Spiderman' because he does not use ropes.

In 2018, Robert climbed the Heron Tower, which is a 755-foot tall skyscraper in London. Police arrested him shortly after the stunt, and later, a court banned Robert from climbing any building in the UK.

Last week, Robert climbed one of the tallest buildings in Frankfurt, Germany. The building was 545 feet tall, and Robert did not use ropes. He wore a silver suit and cowboy boots, and it took him only 30 minutes to get to the top. German rail company had offices in the building, and the company complained to the police because they did not give Robert permission to climb the building.



Coronavirus in Europe

Countries in Europe successfully slowed outbreaks of the coronavirus in spring this year. But most countries are declaring more new cases every day now than in spring.

Governments are imposing new stricter rules which makes many people angry and confused. The first wave of the coronavirus hurt many people economically and mentally too.



Now it seems that there will be even more problems, and people do not like it. All across Europe, governments are closing down pubs, bars or gyms. In Madrid, the capital of Spain, people can travel in and out of the city only if it is necessary.

Experts say that governments must think carefully about new rules. It is important to keep the virus under control; however, people must understand the rules and why it is necessary to follow them.

Migrants Protest

On September 9th, a refugee camp on the Greek island of Lesbos burned down. Around 13,000 people had to leave their temporary homes.

Some people started to build a new camp nearby. They were mostly people from

Afghanistan, and there were many children among them. Most people, however, did not want a new camp. They wanted to leave Greece and travel to mainland Europe. These people wandered around the place, and they were angry at the situation.

Last week, some migrants started to protest. Greek officials started to build a new camp; however, migrants do not want to move in.



Rapper Wants to be President

Kanye West is an American rapper and songwriter. Besides music, he is also a successful fashion designer.

This week, West announced that he would run for US president as an independent candidate. The election takes place this year, and West still could meet the deadline in some states. However, some people do not believe that West wants to become president. Some people think that West wants to make more people interested in his work. West has just released his latest single, and he will release a new album soon.

A candidate for US president must prepare many documents, and it is a long process. It is not clear if West is ready to become a candidate for US president.

