

News of Future ^{STUDENTS'} EDITION

Teacher's Guide

News of Future is a publication that visualizes what the future will look like in different areas like technology, society, environment and entertainment etc during the next 50 years.

Our Students' Edition is a project for students worldwide in the age of 13-19 years where we invite them to share their visions of the future as newspaper articles.

By visualizing the future we start to see where our current actions might lead us and it is also a way to start defining what kind of future we would like to live in.

Your class or group will get one page on the News of Future website with all their articles listed. We will choose articles to highlight in the Students' Edition on the front page (and elsewhere) of the site. To participate in the Students' Edition is of course free of any charges.



The mission and project

Each student in your class (or other group) should write 1 news article each (or more if they like and is relevant) describing a news event that has occurred in the future.

It could be run as a school project in most subjects. In Science to present a wishful breakthrough, in History to have the students understand how important history is for our present and future, or in English as a disruptive way to write an article.

The article

Why present the future as articles?

The reason for presenting a vision of the future as an article instead of a regular essay, is to make it feel more for real, that it actually is an event that has happened. That make it easier to absorb the information and see what steps that is needed to make it happen, or what we should do to avoid it from happen.

How to come up with and present a future event

To come up with an article can be done in several ways. The student can make a wish of what he/she would like to happen in the future, like the invention of a new medicine, improvements in the environment, new technology breakthrough to solve a problem etc.

They can also start from a topic, whether it is chosen by you or the students choose their own topic. What developments will we see in that area?

What is important when it comes to imagining future events is to look at the history. What has the development been to take us where we are today and how will it develop further?

For the presentation, have the students think about what would be needed for the event to occur. If it occurred, how would newspapers present it? Who or what people would be involved? Are there other events that have occurred in the future before the date of the article that are related?

Inspiration

One good way to get started to think about the future is for you and the students to read this article that gives a short overview of what the future could look like:

http://www.newsoffuture.com/about_the_future.html

To get inspired of other events in the future there are several articles at News of Future for the students to read, as well as any other future related material online.

Topics

You as a teacher can either choose the topic, depending on your project, or the students can choose the topic, either as a group or individually.

Good topics can be technology, science, society, education, health, sports, entertainment etc and the article can either refer to a global, national or local event.

Even though it is important to think about the future that is related to them personally, it is probably more interesting for this project, for others to read about general events that occur in the future.

Specifications

- The article should be between 100-800 words in English and cover an event that has occurred in the future
- The article should be written as a news story and each article should be dated on an exact day between 2020 and 2060
- You or teacher, or each individual student, can choose topic as they like
- Try to be detailed in the articles and don't hesitate to invent fictitious persons involved in the events of the article.



Down below you find a sample article from News of Future and more can be found at <http://www.newsoffuture.com>

If you haven't signed up your class for the Students' Edition yet, please just go to <http://www.newsoffuture.com/students/>

Questions or suggestions?

If you have questions or suggestions, please don't hesitate to contact Pontus Edenberg at [pontuse\(at\)newsoffuture.com](mailto:pontuse(at)newsoffuture.com)

Sample article

First Tourist Heading for Mars

September 21, 2050 - At a press conference today it was announced that the first tourist heading for Mars will be the 38-year-old US businessman Patrick Clifford. He will leave the earth in the launching window of June 2052 and set his foot on the surface of Mars in November, together with the other 6 astronauts assigned for the mission to further explore the planet.

Patrick has now two years of training ahead of him to get ready for the trip. Not only will he spend five months in getting to Mars, but another 600 days there before he can go back home. Patrick was of course very excited: "This has been my dream since I was four, and seeing the first man on Mars 20 years ago made me realize that it was possible."

To be able to pay the US\$ 1.3 billion for his ticket for the trip Patrick sold his majority stake in the business empire his father had built. "I know that my father would have been proud of me if he had still been alive today, he knew what this means to me", says Patrick. There is no risk though that you will find Patrick begging in your street corner when he comes back, rumors says that he was paid twice as much for his part of the company.

So, how is he going to spend his 600 days on the red planet? "Well, since I don't have a job when I get back after selling the company, I have plenty of time to come up with a new business idea", he says and laughs. If he brings a shovel he can start building the first hotel there, but maybe he shouldn't expect too many guests until someone can offer a lower transfer fare.
