How to summarize an article:

**Before you do the task:**

1. Look for clues about what an article is about even before you start reading. For instance, look at the headline: What hints does it give you about what you’re going to read?
2. Next, look at the main photo or graphic that accompany the article. What kind of story do the images or graphics tell you?
3. Read the article with these questions in mind: What is this piece mainly about? What is the central message or idea? What details support that idea? As you go, underline the sentences or details you think are most important.
4. What ideas are repeated throughout the piece, or described in many different ways? Finding those will often help you zero in on the “main idea” of a piece.
5. Identify difficult words, technical phrases—the “lexicon” of the topic. Look them up and note their meaning in context.

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Format for the weekly article summaries:

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

MLA Citation Article # \_\_\_\_

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Summary: (4-6 sentences)

Vocabulary and Meaning

Questions that come from this article about the topic: