

Weekly Presentations and Discussions

What should you do, and how to prepare?

1. Find a current event (news articles) on the internet, or an academic article on the topic of the week (region, field, politics, study, languages, etc.) that you'd like to talk about.

The current event must be something that we can discuss, and shouldn't be related to random events (fashion, random terrorism, suicide, affairs, etc.) about which not much can be said other than that the event took place.

Example of acceptable topics:

<https://www.spectator.co.uk/2020/02/the-death-of-the-centre-in-european-politics/>

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-51526784>

<https://www.politico.eu/article/european-defense-plans-what-could-possibly-go-wrong-security-nato/>

<https://www.politico.eu/article/council-president-michel-tells-african-leaders-a-changed-europe-wants-new-ties/>

Examples of unacceptable topics:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-51524278>

<https://www.bbc.com/sport/athletics/51514981>

<https://www.bbc.com/news/business-51525673>

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-51523875>

2. Read the articles (for web articles, have a minimum of 2-3 different sources on the event) or sources and be able to summarize the main points within 2-3 minutes (you may take notes for yourself, but it should be considered a very informal summary presentation). Examine how the article is written:

- Tell the class why the article and this topic is interesting for both your group, and why it should be interesting for them as well.
- Prepare at least 4-6 discussion questions (2 questions per article) prepare a **very basic, simple** powerpoint to display your discussion questions to guide the class while you are facilitating the discussion.

- Are there any very interesting words or phrases, or even words or phrases that were unclear to you? Is the language very complex and formal, or is it simple and informal? Teach **5 words/phrases** to your classmates from your articles.
- Is any of the language used quite interesting and worth discussing the meaning? *For example "Europe is sleepwalking into oblivion."*
- Is there a video? Is it worth watching, or does it just repeat the same information in the text?
- Who would be the audience for the article (e.g. the international public, average citizens, scholars, politicians, students of Political studies, etc.)?
- And lastly:
 - If you brought academic article(s), what type of ideological ideas does the author follow (conservative, liberal, ...socially democratic, etc.) – this is often more difficult than assessing a current event article from the internet.
 - If you brought internet articles: what type of news about the topic does the website usually publish? Examine the media-framing in the article: is it neutral, or maybe more subjective?

3. Upload your article sources as URLs/links to **the "Weekly Presentation Articles"** folder in the IS.

4. Each week, all students are expected to participate in the discussion led by their peers as facilitators!

Every week, last 10- 15 minutes of our lesson will be allocated for going over the following week's presentation and discussion. You are expected to come up with some ideas on articles, vocabulary to teach, questions to ask and a rough outline of your facilitations.