



Field Reporter

Grade Level: Grades 7–12

Objective: To use ABC World Culture to gather background information on a selected country, to learn how to use Google News to access current events information, and to practice synthesizing information and presenting the findings orally.

Duration: 3+ hours

Materials: Field Reporter instructions, individual access to ABC World Culture for all participating students, access to Google News, writing material

Instructions: Gather background information on a selected country; then research the country's latest news events and summarize your findings in a three-minute report.

Assignment 1: Select a country to visit.

- Go to ABC World Culture and look at the map or peruse the list of countries.
- Choose one country to virtually visit for this exercise.
- Read the following modules to gather background knowledge about your chosen country: Country Snapshot, Cultural Overview, The People, Language, Points of Interest, and National Cuisine.

Assignment 2: Research your country's news.

- Go to Google News (<http://news.google.com>) and enter your selected country's name in the search field to pull up articles. Read three articles that interest you.
- Write down the six main points of each article, specifically addressing questions of who, what, when, where, why, and how:
 - Who is the story about?
 - What are they doing that is newsworthy?
 - When did they do it, or when will they do it?
 - Where is the story taking place?
 - Why are these events unfolding?
 - How does this story impact you and your classmates?

Assignment 3: Present your findings.

- Prepare a three-minute report to present to a classmate or adult guardian on the key facts and current events of your chosen country. Write yourself a script in the form of a news report.
- Consider the following structure for your presentation:
 - Begin by providing background information. If your audience is not likely to be familiar with your chosen country, what are the first things they should know to understand it better? What information about your country impacts your audience most? Consider relevant issues having to do with location, climate, political situation, language(s) spoken, major religion(s), history, and more.
 - Then cover your major news items. Share the most crucial highlights of current events in the country you're reporting on. If possible, try to connect the news with your audience by noting how the events are relevant to their lives.
- Pretend you are a TV reporter for your favorite network, and present your report to a classmate or adult guardian in that role.