

THE WEEK

**The Week
at a
Glance**



4	Defying U.S., Israel edges closer to Rafah invasion	News	Israel launched a limited military operation in the southern Gazan city of Rafah and signaled that a larger offensive may be imminent, even as the U.S. expressed optimism that a cease-fire deal could be struck at Israel-Hamas talks in Cairo.	World Studies Civics Government Legal Studies
6	Campus protests: A threat to Biden's re-election bid?	News	Going back to 1968, when anti-Vietnam War protests helped drive voters into the arms of Richard Nixon, civil unrest has always boosted Republican presidential candidates. And Trump—pitching himself as the law-and-order candidate—has seen a 1- to 2-percentage point bounce in the polls since students began setting up pro-Palestinian encampments.	Politics Civics American History
16	Florida: The new abortion battleground	News	Florida's strict new abortion law offers "a grim preview of the future that 'pro-lifers' want for women," said Moira Donegan in <i>The Guardian</i> : "one of freedom being taken away."	Government Legal Studies
16	Anti-semitism bill: A threat to free speech?	News	The Anti-semitism Awareness Act, approved in a bipartisan 320-91 vote, would require the Education Department to use the definition of anti-semitism laid out by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance when enforcing anti-discrimination laws.	Civics Government
17	Trump 2.0: A preview of what to expect	Tech	Donald Trump has "a blueprint for a potential second term," said Stephen Collinson in <i>CNN.com</i> , and it's been called "chilling."	Politics Government

BRIEFLY: Quick Questions & Ideas To Engage Students

Washington, D.C.:
Failed rebellion
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1. What do you think this article is about, based on the headline?
2. What is the rebellion referenced in the headline?
3. According to the article, why did Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene try to oust Speaker Mike Johnson? What was the response?
4. Do you agree that her move was symbolic? If so, how?

The power
of appearing
dominant
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1. What claim does the author make in this article?
2. What evidence does he use to support his claim?
3. Are you more or less likely to vote for a candidate that practices "high-dominant leadership"? Explain your answer.
4. Who do you predict will win the 2024 presidential election, and why?

Weed: A major
change in federal
policy
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1. According to the article, what "misstep" is the Justice Department finally correcting?
2. What could be the short- and long-term positive and negative impacts of legalizing marijuana?
3. How could the reclassification of marijuana impact the 2024 political race? What about the US economy?

FEATURE OF THE WEEK: The Cover

Invite students to look at this week's cover and answer the questions.

1. Describe the illustration on this week's cover.
2. What story from this week's issue does the cover image represent?
3. How is the political leader on the cover illustrated?
4. If you were asked to describe the illustration, what would you say?
5. What do you think the illustrator's point of view is about this news story?
6. What techniques does the illustrator use to represent their point of view?

MAIN ACTIVITY OF THE WEEK #1: Based on articles of students' choice from the issue	
VOCABULARY	1. Do you think America is headed in a positive or negative direction, and why? 2. What do you think is the most important issue facing our nation? 3. Why do you think there are not more bipartisan efforts to address important issues facing our nation
DISCUSSION	1. Do you think America is headed in a positive or negative direction, and why? 2. What do you think is the most important issue facing our nation as we head into the 2024 presidential election? 3. Why do you think there are not more bipartisan efforts to address important issues facing our nation
DO	<p>1. Hang 10 signs around the room, and write one of the following issues on each of the signs: immigration, the economy, climate change, reproductive rights, threats to democracy, foreign policy, discrimination, terrorism, crime, and gun violence. Direct students to stand by the sign that reflects the issue that they think is the most important one currently facing our nation. Tally the results. Then, invite students to stand by the sign that is likely to impact the 2024 election most. Tally those results. Finally, ask students to stand by the sign that reflects the issue that is most important to them personally. Tally those results. Identify the issues that ranked highest in all three categories. Respectfully discuss students' positions on these issues and why they think they are important.</p> <p>2. Direct student groups to create a four-column chart, and list each issue in the first column; their thoughts/positions about each issue in the second column; the Biden administration's positions in the third, and former President Trump's positions in the fourth. They can research each candidate's positions on issues here, here, and here.</p> <p>3. Divide students into 10 issue groups, and assign each group one of the issues. Challenge each group to conduct research to complete their chart related to their issue and to find and annotate an article about their issue from this week's issue. They can research each candidate's positions on issues here, here, and here. Invite groups to report out their research to the rest of the class. As each group reports out, direct students to record whether President Biden or former President Trump's positions most align with theirs.</p> <p>4. Repeat the introductory exercise, and challenge students to complete this sentence: The issue on which I am most aligned with President Biden/former President Trump's position is _____. The issue on which I am least aligned is _____.</p>
EXTEND	Encourage students to track how the issues are impacting the 2024 presidential election .

MAIN ACTIVITY OF THE WEEK #2: Based on articles of students' choice from the issue	
VOCABULARY	Constitution, amendment, right, preamble, law, amendment, founder
DISCUSS	1. Why was the U.S. Constitution amended after it was written? 2. Which amendment do you most value, and why? How would your life be different if that amendment had not been ratified?
DO	<p>1. Write the word, "amendment," and ask students if they know what it means. Explain that an amendment is a change to a document. Ask students if they know how many amendments there have been added to the U.S. Constitution. Explain that there were 10 original amendments in the Bill of Rights. There have since been 17 additional amendments.</p> <p>2. Ask students why they think our nation needed to amend the Constitution. Explain that the Founders knew that, as our country grew and times changed, it would need a mechanism in place to stay relevant to the needs of the U.S. citizens. So they provided that mechanism in Article V of the Constitution. The Constitution provides two methods for making amendments. The U.S. Congress can pass a bill setting out a proposed amendment by a vote of two thirds in each body. Or a constitutional convention can be convened by a vote of two thirds of the state legislatures, which will propose one or more amendments. (This has never happened.) The amendments only become effective after being ratified by 3/4 of the states.</p> <p>3. Invite student groups to review all 27 amendments and to summarize each one into 10 words or less. Then, challenge them to explain why, if at all, each amendment is important and still relevant.</p> <p>4. Challenge the groups to identify five amendments they think impact their lives the most and the five that are most significant to our nation as a whole.</p> <p>5. Finally, challenge students to identify articles from this week's issue that represent or relate to as many amendments as possible.</p>
EXTEND	invite students to imagine that they have been asked to write a 28th amendment, based on our nation's current needs. What would they select, and why?

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