

Conversation Café

Current Events

Current Events are those events and issues of interest currently found in the news. Years ago, people read a newspaper in the morning and watched the news on television at night. Today there is almost unlimited access to current events reported in the news. There are whole channels devoted to news, multiple television platforms and access to tons of news sites online. With mobile devices the news is available 24/7 in real time.



Current events help us better understand the world around us. Sometimes when we see what's going on in the world around us, it can change our entire perspective on life. We might even want to start volunteering with a local food bank, the Canadian Cancer Society or with a political or charitable group. Knowing how and why our world is functioning the way it is makes us more knowledgeable about how we might be able to change it.

Discussion Questions:

1. Are you interested in current events and news?
2. What stories have you been following recently?
3. What do you think about?
 - ❖ Global Warming
 - ❖ Political Issues
 - ❖ Global Conflicts
 - ❖ Canadian Economy
4. How much time a day do you spend reading about, watching or listening to news?
5. What is your favorite news source?
6. What is the latest news about your country?
7. Are you interested in news from other countries?
8. Which area of current events would you like to be more knowledgeable about?
9. What recent events are you fed up hearing about?
10. How often does the news greatly affect your feelings?
11. Which person in the news do you most like hearing or reading about?
12. When you think about current events are you positive or negative about the future?

Behind the Scenes of Current Events

“Look up into the heavens. Who created all the stars? He brings them out like an army, one after another, calling each by its name. Because of his great power and incomparable strength, not a single one is missing. Have you never heard? Have you never understood? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of all the earth. He never grows weak or weary. No one can measure the depths of his understanding.

He gives power to the weak and strength to the powerless. Even youths will become weak and tired, and young men will fall in exhaustion. But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint.”

Isaiah 40:26,27,28-31

When we look at negative news and current events there can be many things that can make us fearful.

- ❖ Are you afraid of the future?
- ❖ Who or what do you think controls your future? Give reasons for your answer.

Idioms about News:

the news

a television or radio news program (programme):
“Was there anything interesting **on the news**?”

be in the news

to be reported about:
“They’ve been **in the news** a lot recently because of their marital problems.”

break the news

to tell someone about something (bad) that has just happened:
“I was devastated when the doctor **broke the news to** me.”

be good/bad news

to be someone or something that will affect a person or situation well/badly:
“Stay away from him—he’s **bad news**.”

be news to someone

to be information that someone did not know before:
“The concert has been canceled? Well, that is **news to** me.”

have (got) news for someone

a definite and forceful statement that someone does not expect:
“You think you’re going to win? Well, I’ve **got news for** you: you’re not.”

