

How To: Context Article Assignment

Contextualization is an integral part of understanding history. On the AP exam, both the DBQ and the LEQ give points based on accurately tying together historical context to the prompt provided. For this assignment, we will practice how to contextualize using what we've read in the textbook and what you will read from various news sources.

Rubric

<u>Valid News Article</u> - SPICE Connection & Explanation - Correct MLA Format	2
<u>Summary of Article (3-5 sentences)</u> - Clear, understandable, in your own words	2
<u>Contextualization (3-5 sentences)</u> - Connection between article and historical topic(s) in textbook - Clear, understandable, in your own words	2

Directions:

1. Review textbook chapter and outline of topics to contextualize
2. Find and read an article related to a topic or topics from the textbook chapter. Use the following links for various articles
 - a. *(if you wish to use other sources, consult me first)*

Associated Press	https://www.ap.org/en-us/
Reuters	https://www.reuters.com/
NPR News	https://www.npr.org/
BBC News	http://www.bbc.com/
Al Jazeera	https://www.aljazeera.com
Pew Research Center	http://www.pewresearch.org/
Ars Technica	https://arstechnica.com/
National Geographic	https://www.nationalgeographic.com/
New York Times	https://www.nytimes.com/
Washington Post	https://www.washingtonpost.com
The Economist	https://www.economist.com/
ProPublica	https://www.propublica.org/

3. Complete the Context Article Assignment Worksheet (preview below)
4. Submit to TurnItIn.com

AP Context Article (Sample 1)

1. **Article Citation** – Cite the news article you plan to use in MLA format. It should follow this format:

Author Last Name, Author First Name. “Title of Article” *Title of News Website in Italics*, Date Published, Website URL.

Greshko, Michael. “China just landed on the far side of the moon: What comes next?” *National Geographic*, 2 Jan. 2019, <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/science/2019/01/china-change-4-historic-landing-moon-far-side-explained/>.

2. **Chapter Topic** - Mark the chapter, topic, and SPICE connection

Context Chapter #	12
Context Chapter Topic(s)	Ming Dynasty’s Maritime Explorations
SPICE Connection	Politics/Culture/Economics

3. **Article Summary** – Write a 3-5 sentence summary of what was discussed in the news article

China’s space program, CNSA, landed a space rover on the far side of the moon, which hasn’t yet been charted or explored. The Chang’e-4 mission was a success as it landed on January 2nd with a number of scientific tools. The hope is that the next mission, the Chang’e-5, will collect the 4’s samples and bring it back to earth. The hope is that this will help Chinese researchers with its ideas in creating a base on the moon and continue technological research relationships with other countries.

4. **Contextualization** – In 3-5 sentences, discuss the connection between what is discussed in the textbook and what is discussed in the article

During the early Ming Dynasty, the Chinese sent many naval expeditions into Southeast Asia but also towards India and East Africa. The move was both to establish diplomatic relationships, trade, and show the power of Ming China. Much like the Ming period, China continues to explore today, but instead of the sea, space is being explored. It also continues to establish diplomatic relationships through the sharing of space technologies with other countries. Unlike the Ming, though, the hope for the recent lunar landing is to establish a colony or at least a jumping off point and there seems to be a future in this exploration.

AP Context Article (Sample 2)

1. **Article Citation** – Cite the news article you plan to use in MLA format. It should follow this format:

Author Last Name, Author First Name. “Title of Article” *Title of News Website in Italics*, Date Published, Website URL

Fredrick, James. “An Ancient Ballgame Makes a Comeback in Mexico” *NPR*, 16 Sept. 2018, www.npr.org/2018/09/16/646756260/an-ancient-ballgame-makes-a-comeback-in-mex.

2. **Chapter Topic** - Mark the chapter, topic, and SPICE connection

Context Chapter #	12
Context Chapter Topic(s)	Mesoamerican civilizations in the 15 th century
SPICE Connection	Culture

3. **Article Summary** – Write a 3-5 sentence summary of what was discussed in the news article

In Mexico City, a sports game called Ulama is being revived from early Mesoamerican culture. The sport involves a solid rubber ball being hit with only the hip between two opposing sides. The game was historically significant because Mesoamerican cultures like the Aztecs used it to decide the winner and losers of war. The hope is that the new generation of Mexican peoples who learn to play will also learn about the traditions of their Mesoamerican ancestors.

4. **Contextualization** – In 3-5 sentences, discuss the connection between what is discussed in the textbook and what is discussed in the article

The Aztec civilization had an advanced culture prior to the arrival of the Europeans. As described in the textbook, even the Europeans who arrived at the Aztec empire saw their capital city as something to behold. A testament of the Mesoamerican culture’s persistence even after they were conquered by the Spanish is shown through the willingness of the descendants of the native Americans to learn about their past culture, including reviving sports games like Ulama and the traditional languages.