Part One: Complete a Current Event Summary for an event that occurred recently in one of the countries we will be studying. The countries are the United Kingdom, the Russian Federation, Nigeria, Mexico, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and China. The current event should cover a major political development in that country, or that country’s involvement on the world stage. You should not simply find an event that occurred in a given country, but how it impacts that country’s political environment or foreign policy. American newspapers often feature an American perspective which is fine, but if the article is about the United States it should involve the United State vis-à-vis one of the countries studied. This should be relatively easy to do for Russia, China, or Mexico but perhaps more difficult for other countries. Your article should come from a reputable PRINT (avoid CNN, Fox, and MSNBC for this assignment) news source such as the NYTimes, Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, the Economist. Some of these websites charge for more than a few articles, so if you do not have access to them you can find free articles on Politico, the BBC, USA Today and the British newspaper the Guardian. Periodicals such as the Atlantic, the New Yorker, and the New Republic often have in-depth articles. You can also find English versions of the French newspaper, Le Monde, and the German Der Spiegel, online. A word of caution about news sources from less than democratic regimes, such as Russia or China, often these new sources are not reliable and serve as state propaganda.

Name: ______________________________ Date: ____________

Source: _____________________________________ attach article

Article Title: ____________________________________________________________________

Article date: ______________________

Who was involved? (Identify the people, groups, or organizations)
__________________________________________________________________________________

Where did this event happen? (U.K., Russia, Iran, Nigeria, Mexico, China)
__________________________________________________________________________________

When did this event happen? (Date, month, time frame, and/or year)
__________________________________________________________________________________
What happened? (Include sequence of events in complete sentences)
___________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________

Why is this event relevant? (Why did the author write the article now?)
___________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________

How does this event explain the country’s internal politics?
___________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________

How does this event explain the country’s actions on the world stage?
___________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________

**Part 2:** Identify the following terms and concepts using index cards (not a quizlet). Please make sure you not only define the terms but have examples of the concepts on the backs of each card. There will be a vocabulary quiz on these terms the second week of school.

- Sovereignty
- Legitimacy
- Authority
- Power
- Communist Checks and Balances
- Public Policy Constitution
- Federalism
- Regime
- Democratization
- Judicial Review
- State
- Globalization
Separation of Powers
Totalitarianism
Government Two-party system
Politics
Imperialism
Unitary State
Political Party
Nation
Government

*It will not hurt you to start watching the news and reading articles and editorials from: Foreign Affairs, The Economist, Newsweek, U.S. News and World Reports, The New York Times, and our Local Newspapers.

**Part 3:** using either the BBC website or the CIA world Fact Book complete the following chart.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Leader</th>
<th>United States</th>
<th>United Kingdom</th>
<th>Russia</th>
<th>China</th>
<th>Nigeria</th>
<th>Iran</th>
<th>Mexico</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Type of Government</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area (Sq km)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life expectancy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural resources</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Religions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Languages Spoken</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnic Groups</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital City</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GDP</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>