

# news {..BYTES..}

for eEditions

grades 9-12

## 1 Thailand

Last week anti-government protestors in the Southeast Asian country of Thailand splashed blood on the gates of the Government House. The protestors are angry over a 2006 military coup that forced out the prime minister. They say that the former prime minister fought for the country's poor, while the leader who replaced him favors the rich. Find an example in the eEdition of a person or group protesting or demonstrating. Or find an example online. Write a summary of who the protestors are and what message they're trying to get across. Include your opinion on whether or not you agree with their tactics.

Learning Standard: Composing coherent written essays that express a position on a public issue and justifying the position with reasoned arguments.

## 2 Sierra Club

Conservationist Edgar Wayburn died earlier this month at age 103. Wayburn had been the president of the Sierra Club, an environmental group, and the recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom for his work preserving wilderness areas in the United States. Read articles about the environment, conservation or being "green" in the eEdition. Then pretend you write for a kids' newspaper, eEdition or magazine and write your own news story about an environmental issue. Make sure it's on a level that younger kids can understand, while still being interesting and informational.

Learning Standards: Describing the environmental consequences of major world processes and events; explaining how parts of an ecosystem are related and how they interact; analyzing how humans and the environment interact.

## 3 Grade Your Food

Last week the New York City Board of Health voted to rate the cleanliness of city restaurants with letter grades. The grades will be posted in highly visible places in the restaurant, so patrons can easily see them. In groups, pick five foods mentioned in the eEdition. Research the foods in books or online. Then pick a grade for each based on how healthy it is. Create a poster that shows the foods and grades, and a short explanation of why you picked each grade.

Learning Standards: Developing and applying critical standards for individual use; communicating information accurately and effectively and demonstrating expressive abilities by creating oral, written and visual texts that enlighten and engage an audience.

## 4 iPad

Apple's newest product, the iPad, hasn't even come out yet, and it's already generated 120,000 pre-orders – in one day! Apple has had success creating buzz for many of its products through intense marketing and advertising campaigns. Pick an ad in the eEdition for a product you might consider purchasing, and write a short paper evaluating its effectiveness. What message is the advertiser trying to convey in the ad? Does it come across as sincere? Does the ad make you want to buy the product?

Learning Standards: Demonstrating how language usage is related to successful communication in different spoken, written and visual communication contexts, such as job interviews, public speeches, debates and advertising; writing fluently for multiple purposes.

## 5 eEdition Prefixes

Electronic editions allow you to search their content for stories or topics that interest you. This ability to search also can help you build vocabulary and word skills. You can search, for example, to see how many times a word appears in the paper. Or you can search to see how many times a prefix appears. As a

class, review how prefixes are added to the front of words to change their meaning. Then search today's eEdition to see how often the prefixes "over" or "under" appear. Remember to leave a space before the "over" or "under" when you type them into the search window so that you only get the beginning of words!

Learning Standards: Using technology tools to enhance learning; understanding the operations and functions of technology systems and becoming proficient in the use of technology.

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