Final Independent Reading Project

We have spent a good deal of time working with non-fiction to prepare you for the many standardized tests coming up in your high school career. So it seems appropriate to finish out the semester with an activity that focuses on non-fiction connected to either a book you are currently reading or one you read this semester.

<u>**Assignment:**</u>

Select **four (4) current event articles** you think your character would be interested in.

For example, during Christmas break, I read a current best-seller called <u>Capitol Hell</u> by former West Central student Alicia Long. Alicia, a graduate of the University of St. Thomas School of Law, worked from 2002-2007 for Senators Norm Coleman (MN), John Thune (SD), and George Allen (VA) as a scheduler, caseworker, intern coordinator, legislative correspondent, and legislative aide. While the book is fiction, it is reported to be based on Alicia's experiences working for these senators!

Here is a brief description of her book:
When recent college graduate Allison Amundson, a small town girl from South Dakota, lands the highly sought-after job of scheduler to the newly-elected and rising star of the United States Senate, Senator Anders McDermott III, she initially thinks she is on the fast track to success. However, she quickly learns that crazy co-workers, a high maintenance boss, the boss's over-the-top demanding family, and an unexpected Presidential bid make Capitol Hill seem even more dysfunctional than it looks on TV. In fact, it is *Capitol Hell*.

This off-beat, hilarious novel captures what it is like to work in the United States Senate. Find out how it feels to be a hot young staffer on Capitol Hill when you step into Allison's hot pink high heels, and catch a glimpse of what life is really like "inside the beltway."

**I would look for current events articles about Minnesota senator Norm Coleman, about the current legislative session, about senate interns, etc.

Next step: Write a paragraph (at least 5 sentences) **explaining what the character would find interesting** about the articles you selected. Make sure you include copies of the articles in your project. Print them from online and staple them to the document you create.

Do this assignment on one document. Type your name in the header then label as follows:

Book this Assignment is based on:

Article #1 Title:
Connection:

Article #2 Title:
Connection: