Oil Prices Plummet

COVID-19 in the U.S.

Summer Games Postponed

Happy Anniversary, Hubble!

Routing Slip: (please circulate)

2019/2020: Issue 8

A monthly current events resource for Canadian classrooms
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Imagine this. Every week last summer, you bought your favourite sundae for four dollars. Predictable customers like you help ice cream manufacturers determine how much of the treat to make. This season, creameries are expecting similar customer behaviour. So, they have cranked out the same amount of product.

For some reason, though, no one is buying ice cream right now. As freezers fill up, the surplus ice cream is melting. So instead of charging you four dollars for a sundae, your local ice cream stand wants to pay you two dollars just to take one.

**Take a barrel – please!**

On a much larger scale, that’s what happened in the global crude oil industry last month. Just a year earlier, oil producers were charging about $70 for one barrel of the commodity. Yet on April 20, 2020, these same companies couldn’t give away their oil. Storage facilities were filled to capacity, and the excess had nowhere to go.

So oil producers offered to pay about $38 for every barrel someone took off their hands. It was the first time that oil prices went into what economists call ‘negative territory’. The next day, prices recovered slightly, but it’s been a rocky ride.

What’s going on?

**The COVID-19 factor**

The current COVID-19 pandemic is largely to blame. Here’s why. As with other global commodities, supply and demand determine the price of crude. If there is a shortage of oil and many customers want to buy it, the price goes up. But if there is a glut of oil on the world market, the price drops.

Producers increase or reduce the oil supply for political and economic reasons. But global demand for the product has been more or less steady for 35 years. After all, oil runs our cars, fuels our airplanes, and helps operate our factories.

**Demand dries up**

To meet that demand, companies have been pumping near-record levels of their product into the global market. They’re extracting about 100 million barrels a day from fields,
National Oil Prices Plummet – And Alberta Suffers the Fallout

Oceans, and sands. That’s nearly 16 billion litres every 24 hours.

Before COVID-19, we were guzzling it all up. Refineries turned that oil into gasoline and other products people and industries used daily. Now, however, much of the world is locked down. Highways are empty. Planes are parked. Factories are silent. As a result, the need for oil is plummeting.

Canada Feels the Pain

COVID-19 is badly hurting economies around the world. Canada is no exception. But Alberta, our largest oil producer, will suffer the most of all the provinces. Why? Because in 2019, Alberta produced nearly four million barrels of oil a day. Now, that output could plunge by 1.7 million barrels a day. That’s one-third of Canada’s total. So some oil sands projects will likely shut down. Tens of thousands of people could lose their jobs.

What’s more, crude oil producers delivered hundreds of millions of dollars in royalties to the Alberta government. With oil sales at a near standstill, the province won’t have that money to invest in education, health care, and other social programs.

Canada as a whole profits from Alberta’s oil sales, too, through taxes. But the federal government will take in billions less in oil revenues next year. So it will also have less to spend on programs and services. That affects everyone.

A Little Good News

At the end of April, there were some hopeful signs for oil producers, however. Oil prices jumped more than 20 percent. The reason: Supply was lower than expected and some stay-at-home rules were lifted. But will production ever bounce back to pre-pandemic standards? Or will new habits mean we fly, drive, and buy less? Stay tuned.

Definitions

Cartel: a group of suppliers who work together to keep prices high and restrict competition
Oil Sands: a mixture of sand, water, clay, and a type of oil called bitumen, found in northeastern Alberta
Price War: a fierce competition in which businesses cut prices in an attempt to increase market share
Royalty: a share of the profit paid to the government for the right to extract oil

OPEC, COVID-19, and the Oil Supply

The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is a group of 13 major oil-exporting countries. The top six are Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Iran, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, and Venezuela. Saudi Arabia is seen as the leader of the group. The U.S., Russia, China, and Canada are also top oil producers. However, they aren’t members.

OPEC controls about 79 percent of the world’s total crude reserves. Formed in 1960, it is a cartel. To get the best price, its members decide how much oil to produce and what to charge for it.

In March, as COVID-19 spread, major OPEC customers like China were slashing oil imports as factories shut down. OPEC and Russia met to consider options. Although not part of OPEC, three years ago Russia agreed to match its oil production levels to that of OPEC.

To keep prices high as demand fell, Saudi Arabia wanted to cut oil production. Russia refused; it wanted to keep prices low. Saudi Arabia responded by slashing prices. That flooded the market and started a price war with Russia, just when the world was using less and less oil.

When oil prices plunge, the global economy suffers. So on April 12, Saudi Arabia and Russia struck a deal to cut production by 9.7 million barrels a day in May and June (about ten percent of the world’s normal oil supply). That would stabilize global oil prices. However, the cost of a barrel of oil plunged into negative territory a week later. Critics say that’s because the deal fell short and came too late.
ON THE LINES

Answer the following in complete sentences:

1. What usually happens to prices if a product is in short supply and many people want to buy?

2. What usually happens if large amounts of a product are available and not many people want to buy?

3. Describe the global demand for oil over the past few decades. How much oil was being produced daily?

4. What happened to the demand for oil in recent months? Explain why this occurred.

5. How much did a barrel of oil cost in April 2019?

6. What happened to oil prices in April? Describe why the price entered ‘negative territory’.

7. Which province produces most of Canada’s oil? How much oil is produced here?

8. What do some projections estimate Alberta’s oil production will fall to?

9. How will the drop in oil revenue affect the Alberta economy?
BETWEEN THE LINES

An inference is a conclusion drawn from evidence. A plausible inference is supported by evidence in the article and is consistent with known facts outside of the article.

What inferences can you draw from the fact that about 100 million barrels (or 16 billion litres) of oil a day are extracted from fields, oceans, and sands worldwide?

JUST TALK ABOUT IT

1. What is your understanding of the reasons for falling oil prices? Explain.

2. As you see it, what are some of the benefits of lower oil prices? What are some of the drawbacks? Overall, do you believe that lower oil prices are more of a benefit or more of a drawback? Explain.

ONLINE

Note: The links below are listed at www.lesplan.com/en/links for easy access.

1. Read more about the day oil prices turned negative and see a chart of historical oil prices at https://www.bbc.com/news/business-52350082

2. Watch 'Negative Oil Prices, Explained' at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YGDQzORZ4NM [19:06]


**Oil’s wild ride over global storage**

The price of U.S. crude oil for June delivery has recovered to just above $11 per barrel while Brent – the international benchmark – dropped below $20 per barrel for the first time since 1999.

**Supertankers**: Oil traders have booked 100 of the world’s 815 very large crude carriers (VLCCs), each of which can hold around 2 million barrels. VLCC-rates have hit $150,000 a day, up from $10,000 a day in April 2019.

- **Mar 8, price war**: Alliance between OPEC+ cartel collapses after Russia rejects cuts in oil supplies to boost prices.
- **Apr 2: Saudi Arabia** calls emergency meeting of OPEC+.
- **Apr 3**: OPEC+ agrees to cut 9.7 million barrels of daily oil output from May 1.
- **Apr 12**: OPEC+ agrees to cut 9.7 million barrels of daily oil output from May 1.
- **Apr 22**: $17.39, $11.11. Covid-19 pandemic cuts consumption by as much as 30% – global storage reaches near capacity.

**Key Points**

- **Brent Crude** and West Texas Intermediate dominate the oil market, and both dictate pricing in their respective markets.
- OPEC, a group of 13 of the most powerful oil exporting countries, use Brent as their pricing benchmark.

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**Brent Crude vs. West Texas Intermediate: An Overview**

**Brent Crude** comes from oil fields in the North Sea, while **West Texas Intermediate** (WTI) comes from the U.S. Both are light and sweet, making them ideal for refining into gasoline.

About two-thirds of all oil is priced using the Brent Crude benchmark. Brent Crude is produced near the sea, so transportation costs are much lower. West Texas Intermediate is produced in landlocked areas, and transportation costs are more expensive.

In the United States, West Texas Intermediate is the preferred measure and pricing model. It is also slightly "sweeter" and "lighter" than Brent.
Mapping Assignment

Oil Prices Plummet
– And Alberta Suffers the Fallout

Complete this map assignment to better understand the article Oil Prices Plummet.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Obtain the required resources and read all the instructions before starting.

2. Colour your map **after** all labelling is completed.

3. Print in pencil only first, then go over the printing in black ink.

4. Work carefully and neatly.

**Resources Required:** pencil, black pen, pencil crayons, ruler, eraser and an atlas.

**Part A** Locate and label the following provinces and territory and in CAPITAL letters and shade each as indicated:

- Alberta (yellow)
- Saskatchewan (green)
- British Columbia (pink)
- Northwest Territories (purple)

**Part B** Locate and label the United States and colour it orange.

**Part C** Locate and label the capital of Alberta and underline.

**Part D** Locate and label the following cities in Alberta:

- Calgary
- Lethbridge
- Medicine Hat
- Red Deer
- St. Albert
- Grande Prairie

**Part E** Locate and label the following cities in B.C. and Saskatchewan:

- Kelowna
- Kamloops
- Dawson Creek
- North Battleford

**Part F** Locate and label the following lakes and shade them light blue:

- Lesser Slave Lake
- Lake Athabasca

**Part G** Locate and label the following rivers and shade them light blue:

- Athabasca River
- Peace River
- Slave River
- North Saskatchewan River
- South Saskatchewan River
- Red Deer River
- Bow River
- Fraser River

**Part H** Locate and label the following three large oil sands deposits and shade them grey:

- Peace River Oil Sands
- Athabasca Oil Sands
- Cold Lake Oil Sands

**Part I** Locate and label the following lines of latitude:  49° N  60° N

**Part J** Complete your map with a frame, title and compass. ★
QUIZ

A. Write the letter that corresponds to the best answer on the line beside each question:

_____ 1. What was the price of oil in April 2019?
   a) $25 per barrel
   b) $38 per barrel
   c) $70 per barrel
   d) $130 per barrel

_____ 2. Which province is Canada’s largest oil producer?
   a) Alberta
   b) British Columbia
   c) Ontario
   d) Newfoundland and Labrador

_____ 3. A share of profits paid to the government for the right to extract oil is called a(n):
   a) excise tax
   b) duty
   c) income tax
   d) royalty

B. Mark the statements T (True) or F (False). If a statement is True, write one important fact to support it on the line below. If a statement is False, write the words that make it true on the line below.

_____ 4. True or False? Over the past 35 years the demand for oil had steadily dropped.

_____ 5. True or False? Canada and the U.S. are not members of OPEC.

_____ 6. True or False? The oil sands are located in southern Alberta.

C. Fill in the blanks to complete each sentence.

7. When the supply of a product is greater than demand, prices usually ____________________ .

8. OPEC is a ____________________ that controls nearly 80 percent of all crude oil reserves.

9. Russia refused to ____________________ oil production.

D. Respond to the following question in paragraph form. (Use a separate sheet of paper if necessary.)
What is your understanding of the reasons for falling oil prices? Explain.
Throughout April, COVID-19 continued to spread worldwide. By mid-May, 187 countries reported some four million confirmed cases. About 270,000 people had lost their lives. The United States alone had more than 1.3 million cases. That’s five times as many as any other country.

Worse, almost every day, doctors were finding at least 25,000 new cases in the U.S. That means the total number of cases was increasing by between two and four percent every 24 hours.

**IMPROVEMENTS AND SPIKES**

The good news is that the spread of the disease has been easing up in some places that have been hard hit. New York City, the site of the nation’s worst outbreak, is one example. On April 5, America’s largest city reported 6000 new cases per day. But by May 5, thanks to self-isolation and social distancing rules, that number dropped to about 500.

The bad news? Incidents of the disease were spiking elsewhere. "If you include New York, it looks like a plateau moving down,” said public health expert Andrew Noymer, describing the line on a COVID-19 graph. “If you exclude New York, it’s a plateau slowly moving up.”

In rural towns that have been virus-free, for example, there has been a scary increase in cases. And in many places, long-term care homes and prisons are just now starting to feel the impact. Food production facilities have become hotbeds of outbreaks as well. So many new cases have occurred in meat packing plants that some of these facilities have shut down. As a result, the U.S. may soon face a shortage of beef, pork, and chicken.

**TESTING AND SUPPLY PROBLEMS**

How is it that the U.S., usually a leader in disease prevention, finds itself in this grave dilemma? Many observers say officials didn’t act quickly enough to stop the spread of the coronavirus.

Inadequate testing was one culprit. Testing is vital because people found to be infected can be quickly isolated to prevent spreading the virus. And the sooner people are treated, the more likely they are to recover.
Early testing also helps with contact tracing. Contact tracing involves finding those who interacted with an infected person so they can be tested and treated, too.

Yet back in February, the U.S.’s first tests for the virus proved unreliable. Scientists developed new ones, but faced red tape to get them approved. Meanwhile, the disease was tightening its grip across the nation.

As well, the U.S. federal government quarreled with some states over who would carry out tests. So the roll-out of testing was disorganized. By early May, when the U.S. should have been testing about 500,000 people a day, it was only screening about half that number.

How else was the U.S. unprepared? Front-line workers began to run out of masks and other personal protective equipment (PPE) in the early spring. That meant many doctors, nurses, and other health care workers could not safeguard their own health or protect patients properly.

This situation arose because the U.S. federal government waited until mid-March before beginning to order a stockpile of these supplies. By that time, many states were trying to track down their own equipment. That meant states were forced to compete with each other and Washington for the PPE they needed.

**AN ECONOMIC TAILSPIN**

In March, U.S. President Donald Trump issued social distancing and shelter-in-place guidelines to try to stop the virus’s spread. Frightened Americans listened, and stayed home.

It was the right move, but the economy suffered severely. Without customers and employees, restaurants, nail parlours, sports facilities, clothing stores, and more, closed. Many big firms weren’t selling goods or services. Commercial activity plunged.

As a result, by early May the U.S. economy had lost over 20 million jobs. That caused the unemployment rate to rise to 14.7 percent – the highest since the Great Depression. Black and Hispanic-American minority communities were hardest hit.

To ease the economic crisis, U.S. leaders voted to enact about $3 trillion in assistance programs. That’s the largest economic stimulus package in U.S. history. The money will help people and businesses of all sizes weather the storm. Still, people were desperate to get back to work.

**OPEN UP OR ELSE!**

Now some are getting the chance.

Mr. Trump’s shelter in place advisories were just guidelines. Under U.S. law, only state governors can actually order people to stay home. Some governors didn’t want to shut their economies. In other places, angry residents insisted that states reopen for business.

Many health officials warned that reopening too quickly would be a serious mistake. Still, by early May, about half of U.S. states were partially reopening. Among them were states like Montana, which had fewer than 500 known cases. But so were states like Indiana, which had over 20,000 cases.

“The math is unfortunately pretty simple. It’s not a matter of whether infections will increase but by how much,” said epidemiologist Jeffrey Shaman. ★
ON THE LINES

Answer the following in complete sentences:

1. How many COVID-19 cases were reported worldwide in mid-May?

2. How many COVID-19 cases were reported in the United States by mid-May?

3. Which U.S. city has been most affected by COVID-19?

4. Describe the latest developments in this densely-populated city.

5. List at least two reasons why testing is so important in trying to slow the spread of COVID-19.

6. What problems occurred in the U.S. with COVID-19 testing in February?

7. Why did the U.S. federal government and some states argue about COVID-19 testing?

8. What directives did the U.S. president give in March to try and contain the virus?

9. Describe the impact this directive had on the U.S. economy.

10. How many jobs were lost by early May?
An inference is a conclusion drawn from evidence. A plausible inference is supported by evidence in the article and is consistent with known facts outside of the article.

What inferences can you draw from the fact that by mid-May, the United States had more than 1.3 million confirmed cases of COVID-19 – five times as many as any other country?

A sociogram is a diagram that uses pictures instead of words to pass on information (although sometimes, single words may be used to label parts of the sociogram).

Sketch a sociogram to show the spread and impact of COVID-19 in the United States. A good sociogram is clear, contains all relevant facts, and is visually appealing.

Then, make a prediction: What do you suppose might happen next in this situation? Why?

1. What is your understanding of the reasons for the rapid spread of COVID-19 throughout the United States? Explain.
2. As you see it, what is the significance of this story? Explain.

Note: The links below are listed at www.lesplan.com/en/links for easy access.

2. Find out more about the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at https://www.cdc.gov/
Imagine that you are an investigative reporter interviewing the person in this scene. Generate two powerful questions to ask in your interview. (A powerful question is not easy to answer, is specific to the situation, is open-ended and requires further research.) Then, record plausible answers – those that are most likely to be given, believable, and supported by evidence in the image.

U.S. Vice President Mike Pence, centre, visits a patient on April 28, 2020 who survived the coronavirus. The visit was part of a tour of the Mayo Clinic facilities in Minnesota that are supporting COVID-19 research and treatment. (AP Photo/Jim Mone)
1. Complete the graph below to show the number of COVID-19 cases on three days for each country in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>April 1</th>
<th>April 15</th>
<th>May 13</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States (U.S.)</td>
<td>220,300</td>
<td>634,000</td>
<td>1,430,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>104,100</td>
<td>188,000</td>
<td>271,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>2700</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>242,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom (UK)</td>
<td>29,400</td>
<td>178,000</td>
<td>230,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>110,500</td>
<td>165,000</td>
<td>222,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: [https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/#countries](https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/#countries)  

2. Colour the bars for each date yellow, orange and red as indicated.

3. Complete your bar graph with a proper title.

4. After completing your bar graph, what observations can you make and what conclusions can you draw? Explain. What predictions can you make about the number of cases in each country on May 30? Give reasons to support your predictions. ★
Mapping Assignment
COVID-19 in the United States
– The Government Reacts as the Death Toll Rises

Complete this map assignment to better understand the article COVID-19 in the United States.

Instructions

1. Obtain the required resources and read all the instructions before starting.
2. Colour your map after all labelling is completed.
3. Print in pencil only first, then go over the printing in black ink.
4. Work carefully and neatly.

Resources Required: pencil, black pen, pencil crayons, ruler, eraser and an atlas.


Part A Locate and label all U.S. states with over 300,000 COVID-19 cases in CAPITAL letters and shade them purple.

Part B Locate and label states with over 100,000 cases in CAPITAL letters and shade them red.

Part C Locate and label states with over 50,000 cases in CAPITAL letters and shade them orange.

Part D Locate and label states with over 30,000 cases in CAPITAL letters and shade them pink.

Part E Locate and label states with over 15,000 cases in CAPITAL letters and shade them yellow.

Part F Shade all remaining U.S. states light green.

Part G Locate and label the capital of the United States and underline this city name.

Part H Locate and label the following in CAPITAL letters and shade each country as indicated:

Canada (grey) Mexico (brown)
Cuba (grey) The Bahamas (brown)

Part I Locate and label the Great Lakes and shade them light blue.

Part J Locate and label the following and shade all ocean water dark blue:

Atlantic Ocean Gulf of Mexico
Pacific Ocean

Part K Colour the key on your map.

Part L Complete your map with a frame, title and compass. ★

New York New Jersey United States
A. Write the letter that corresponds to the best answer on the line beside each question:

_____ 1. How many cases of COVID-19 did the U.S. report in mid-May?
   a) 450,000  
   b) 750,000  
   c) 1.3 million  
   d) 4 million

_____ 2. Which American city has been most affected by the coronavirus?
   a) Miami  
   b) New York  
   c) Los Angeles  
   d) Chicago

_____ 3. PPE = Personal _____ Equipment
   a) Preventative  
   b) Protective  
   c) Pandemic  
   d) Patient

B. Mark the statements T (True) or F (False). If a statement is True, write one important fact to support it on the line below. If a statement is False, write the words that make it true on the line below.

_____ 4. True or False? In mid-May the number of COVID-19 cases worldwide was four million.

_____ 5. True or False? Washington and most U.S. states worked together to purchase PPE supplies.

_____ 6. True or False? The earlier people are tested for COVID-19, the better their chances of recovery.

C. Fill in the blanks to complete each sentence.

7. Early _______________________ for COVID-19 helps with contact tracing.

8. By early May, the U.S. economy had lost over 20 million _______________________.

9. The U.S. Constitution allows state _______________________ to decide whether to shut down.

D. Respond to the following question in paragraph form. (Use a separate sheet of paper if necessary.)

What reasons can you suggest to explain why COVID-19 is spreading so quickly throughout the United States? Explain.
For hours, days, months, and years, Canada’s best athletes have been practising their swim strokes, training on beams, and pushing hard to beat their best times in track and field.

Their one goal? To win medals for Canada at the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo, Japan.

Then, a tiny microbe named COVID-19 changed everything.

As the coronavirus sickened and killed people around the globe, Japanese and Olympic officials conceded that they had no choice. The risk of the disease infecting athletes, their families, and stadiums full of fans was great enough. The risk of the same people returning home to spread the disease was even greater.

**Postponed!**

So on March 24, just four months before the start of the Olympics, the word came down. The Games would be postponed. Some 11,000 athletes from 206 nations would be staying home.

The globe’s biggest sporting event is now scheduled to take place in Tokyo exactly one year late. If all goes well, it will run from July 23 to August 8, 2021. Despite the date change, however, it will still be known as the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

“It’s a weird mindset,” said Taylor Ruck, a Team Canada swimmer who won two Olympic bronze medals in 2016. “You worked four years – or at least this whole year – grinding every day trying to do what you can to get ready for this summer.

“But it is definitely the right decision. It’s better... just to focus on what we can do to stop the virus from spreading.”

‘A Difficult Jigsaw Puzzle’

Now, sports federations around the world are scrambling to adjust their global calendars to the new dates. Qualifying events will have to be rearranged. International meets will have to be coordinated all over again.

“There are a lot of pieces of a huge and very difficult jigsaw puzzle,” said Thomas Bach, president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

A worst case scenario

Still, everyone is prepared to adjust. After all, a delay is not so bad. We can wait a year,
right? The problem: The Games may not take place even then. Decision-makers say they will make that call down the road.

What’s the hang-up? It could take as long as 18 months to develop and circulate a COVID-19 vaccine. If one isn’t ready by July 2021 and the disease is still taking its deadly toll, the 2020 Olympics will be scrapped altogether, says Tokyo 2020 President Yoshiro Mori.

That would make it the fourth cancellation in the 124-year history of the Games. Olympics didn’t take place in 1916 during World War I, or in 1940 and 1944 during World War II.

**EXPENSES AND COMPLICATIONS!**

Problems would escalate if the Games are finally cancelled. Thousands of tickets have been sold to people around the world. They’ll want refunds for those, and for plane tickets and hotels. Fans and businesses alike will feel the pinch.

As well, Japan has invested at least $10 billion in the Games. A delay could add as much as $6 billion to the price tag. But a cancellation would be worse. Leases on sports venues and contracts with employees would have to be ended – all at a cost.

Yet there would be no tourist dollars to ease the pain.

**WAITING AND WONDERING**

Meanwhile, athletes who quit jobs or put school on hold to train are losing out on sponsorships and scholarships. For now, their biggest competitor is a nasty microbe.

“This is a gamble for mankind,” said Mr. Mori. “If the world triumphs over the virus and we can hold the Olympics, our Games will be many times more valuable than past Olympics.”

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**THE GAMES, THEN AND NOW – AND THE DIMMING OF A FLAME**

The Olympics originated some 3500 years ago in Greece, but were abolished by the Roman Emperor in 394 A.D. Over 1500 years later, 24-year-old Baron Pierre de Coubertin of France reintroduced the Games. He believed that sport encourages peace among nations.

The first modern Summer Olympics were held in 1896. The first Winter Games took place in 1924. Summer and Winter Games now alternate on even-numbered years.

The Olympic rings are the official symbol of the Olympic movement. The five interlacing blue, yellow, black, green, and red rings set upon a white background represent the union of five continents – Australia, Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Americas – and the meeting of athletes throughout the world. The colours were chosen because at least one of these shades is found on the flag of every country.

The most revered symbol of the competition is the Olympic flame. According to Greek mythology, Prometheus stole the sacred fire from the gods and brought it to Earth, where it became the symbol of human reason, freedom, and creativity. For each Olympics, a new flame is started in the ancient Olympic stadium in Olympia, Greece, using a parabolic mirror to focus the rays of the sun. The flame is used to light a torch that is passed from runner to runner in a relay.

The flame arrived in Japan on March 25, the day after the Games were postponed. Japan and the IOC decided to keep it on display in hopes that the Games will resume next year. They called it a “light at the end of the tunnel” – a reference to better times after the coronavirus.

Unfortunately, the light can’t be seen now. A state of emergency was declared in Tokyo and other regions due to a spike in COVID-19 cases, forcing the flame to be removed from public viewing.

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**DEFINITIONS**

**ABOLISH**: to officially get rid of a law, system, practice, etc.

**REVERED**: respected or admired
Answer the following in complete sentences:

1. When and where did the Olympics originate?

2. What happened to the Olympic Games in 394 A.D.?

3. Explain who Baron Pierre de Coubertin was. What he did do some 120 years ago?

4. Where and when did the first modern Summer Olympic Games take place?

5. Which organization is responsible for organizing the Olympics? Where is this organization based?

6. Where were the XXXII Summer Olympic Games scheduled to take place?

7. How many athletes were expecting to participate?

8. Where and when are these Summer Olympics now scheduled to take place?

9. What reasons did organizers give for this postponement?

10. List at least two financial impacts that would result if the Tokyo Games were completely cancelled.
An inference is a conclusion drawn from evidence. A plausible inference is supported by evidence in the article and is consistent with known facts outside of the article.

What inferences can you draw from the fact that the 2020 Summer Olympic Games have been postponed due to COVID-19? Explain.

A tableau is a role play that presents an event or issue from various viewpoints.

In groups of four or five, create a tableau to show different perspectives on the postponement of the Olympics. Possible characters could be:

• an Olympic athlete;
• a ticket-holder to an event;
• the head of the International Olympic Committee;
• Japan’s prime minister;
• a construction worker at a planned Olympic venue;
• a Japanese taxpayer.

Decide on one sentence that summarizes each character’s point-of-view. Then, assemble a frozen or statue-like scene, without using props. During the performance, unfreeze one by one and say your line, using appropriate facial expressions and body language.

After viewing the tableaux, consider: Which perspective most closely matches your own? Why? Explain.

A good tableau is well-rehearsed, believable (appropriate voice and facial expression), and easy to understand (clear speech and appropriate volume). It clearly and concisely communicates different viewpoints of a single event or on a single issue and shows evidence of thought.

1. As you see it, what is the significance of this article? Explain.

2. What is your understanding of the reasons for the postponement of the 2020 Summer Games? For what reasons do you agree with the postponement? For what reasons do you disagree? Explain.

Note: The links below are listed at www.lesplan.com/en/links for easy access.

1. Read more about Olympic history on the International Olympic Committee website at https://www.olympic.org/ancient-olympic-games/history


3. Learn more about the Olympic Games by watching ‘All About the Olympics for Kids’ at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uSf7-LsmU3Y [5:44].★
YOUR TASK:

Examine the editorial cartoon, then answer the following questions on a separate piece of paper:

1. What do you already know about the 2020 Summer Olympics?

2. What is the motto of the Olympic Games? If you’re unsure, conduct research to find out.

3. Describe what you see and read in the cartoon.

4. As you see it, what might the cartoonist be saying about the postponement of the 2020 Summer Olympics? Explain.

5. For what reasons do you agree with the cartoonist’s perspective? For what reasons do you disagree?
THE 2020 SUMMER OLYMPICS
– COVID-19 PUTS THE GAMES ON HOLD

Complete this map assignment to better understand the article The 2020 Summer Olympics.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Obtain the required resources and read all the instructions before starting.
2. Colour your map after all labelling is completed.
3. Print in pencil only first, then go over the printing in black ink.
4. Work carefully and neatly.

Resources Required: pencil, black pen, pencil crayons, ruler, eraser, and an atlas.

Part A Locate and label the following countries in CAPITAL letters and shade each as indicated:
- China (green)
- North Korea (purple)
- South Korea (yellow)
- Japan (red)

Part B Locate and label the capital cities of these countries and underline each city name.

Part C Locate and label the following countries in CAPITAL letters and shade each as indicated:
- Russia (orange)
- Mongolia (brown)
- Taiwan* (pink)

Part D Locate and label the following Japanese islands:
- Kyushu
- Shikoku
- Honshu
- Hokkaido

Part E Locate and label the Kuril Islands (Russia) and Sakhalin Island (Russia).

Part F Locate and label the following Japanese cities:
- Yokohama
- Osaka
- Nagoya
- Sapporo

Part G Locate and label the following and shade all salt water dark blue:
- Sea of Japan
- Korea Strait
- Yellow Sea
- East China Sea
- Pacific Ocean

Part H Complete your map with a frame, title and compass. ★

*Note: Taiwan is an island that has for all practical purposes been independent since 1950. However, China regards the island as a rebel region that is part of the People’s Republic of China and must be reunited with the mainland.
A. Write the letter that corresponds to the best answer on the line beside each question:

_____ 1. Where did the Olympics originate some 3400 years ago?
   a) United Kingdom  
   b) Greece  
   c) China  
   d) Turkey

_____ 2. How many times have the Olympic Games been cancelled?
   a) never  
   b) once  
   c) twice  
   d) three times

_____ 3. How much money did Japan spend to host the Tokyo Summer Olympics?
   a) $800 million  
   b) $3 billion  
   c) $10 billion  
   d) $3 trillion

B. Mark the statements T (True) or F (False). If a statement is True, write one important fact to support it on the line below. If a statement is False, write the words that make it true on the line below.

_____ 4. True or False? The most revered symbol of the Olympic Games are the medals.

_____ 5. True or False? Baron Pierre de Coubertin is the head of the IOC.

_____ 6. True or False? The Olympic flame is no longer on public display in Tokyo.

C. Fill in the blanks to complete each sentence.

7. The Olympics were abolished by the _______________________ Emperor in 394 A.D.

8. This summer’s Tokyo Olympic Games are _______________________ until July 2021.

9. IOC = _______________________ Olympic Committee

D. Respond to the following question in paragraph form. (Use a separate sheet of paper if necessary.)

Do you agree or disagree with Japanese and Olympic officials’ decision to postpone the Olympics? Give reasons to support your response.
Look up, way up. On a clear night, the stars are spectacular. But with the naked eye, you can’t see the details of our universe.

That’s why, in 1610, Italian astronomer Galileo built a telescope. It gave stargazers a clearer view of objects in space. They learned that Saturn had rings, for example. And the Milky Way was not a cloud, but a collection of countless stars.

Over the years, telescopes became more sophisticated. So did our understanding of space. However, there’s a problem with ground-based telescopes. The Earth’s atmosphere blurs their view of space. The atmosphere is a fluid, chaotic soup of gas and dust. So it blocks certain wavelengths of light from reaching our world. (On a positive note, that shifting air makes the stars twinkle!)

The solution? Put the telescope in space, above the Earth’s atmosphere.

By 1975, the European Space Agency and NASA were drafting plans for this space telescope. And in April 1990, the Hubble Space Telescope hitched a ride aboard the Space Shuttle Discovery to low-Earth orbit. The school bus-sized observatory has been circling the globe ever since, 568 kilometres above our heads. It travels at about 27,000 kilometres per hour. It completes one orbit in 97 minutes.

**HOW HUBBLE WORKS**

Like any telescope, Hubble has a long tube that is open at one end to let in light. As well, it has mirrors to focus the light. Its primary mirror is 2.4 metres across. It needs to be large to collect as much light as possible to see faint objects in space.

Celestial objects emit light in a wide variety of wavelengths, from ultraviolet (UV) through visible to near infrared. Hubble can detect all these wavelengths. The incoming light bounces off the primary mirror to a secondary mirror and eventually to a focal point – Hubble’s “eye.” Scientific instruments turn this light into digital signals that are stored in onboard computers and transmitted to Earth. The signals are then transformed into amazing images.

In some cases Hubble captures a ‘snapshot.’ In others, it captures light coming from thousands of galaxies. This ‘deep field’ view lets scientists probe the distant...
universe’s mysteries. Hubble’s deepest, widest view of the universe took over 250 days of telescope time. It was stitched together from nearly 7500 individual exposures.

**AMAZING DISCOVERIES**

Hubble casts its gaze both near and far. It has revealed new details about the solar system around our Sun. But it can also detect faint light from galaxies trillions of kilometres away.

Distances in space are vast. So it takes the light a long time to reach Hubble. When it snaps a picture of a galaxy 100 million light years away, it shows the galaxy as it looked 100 million years ago. Hubble is not only seeing through vast distances, it is seeing far back in time.

This gives excited astronomers a ringside seat to the evolution of galaxies and stars. We see stars coming to life in the glowing gas of a **nebula**. We see galaxies collide with other galaxies.

Dying stars collapse inward, leaving behind dense **neutron stars** or **black holes**. Or they expand, shedding outer layers. Some explode in **supernovas**.

Thanks to Hubble, scientists have pinned down the age of the universe. It is about 13.8 billion years old. They’ve learned it has at least 100 billion galaxies.

Another revelation? There are thousands of **exoplanets** orbiting stars in space. Hubble has even analyzed a few and found water vapour on them. The data could help in our search for extraterrestrial life.

**THE DARK SIDE**

Hubble taught us that black holes exist. Black holes are fascinating. They suck in everything around them, including light. We’ve learned that supermassive black holes are common in the dense core of galaxies.

Then there’s dark matter. This odd material radiates no light. Yet its gravity holds galaxies and galaxy clusters together.

Perhaps the biggest surprise is dark energy. Scientists once thought that the universe started slowing down after the **Big Bang**. But Hubble has shown us distant supernovas. From their light, we’ve learned that distant galaxies are flying away from ours at ever higher speeds.

That can only mean that a mysterious force works against gravity and contributes to this expansion. Scientists call this anti-gravity force “dark energy.”

Dark energy makes up about 68 percent of everything in the universe. The objects that we can see, such as galaxies? Just five percent. Dark matter accounts for the remaining 27 percent.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

NASA is working on two new telescopes, the James Webb Space Telescope and the Wide Field Infrared Survey Telescope.

**THE VIEW IS FINE!**

Hubble is a window into the **enigmas** of deep space. It has helped redefine our universe. It has answered questions that plagued astronomers for decades. It is revealing strange new mysteries. It’s a handy tool!

In 30 years, it has captured more than 1.4 million pictures. It has been upgraded five times and is still going strong. But no more upgrades are planned. Hubble will eventually crash to Earth.

Until then, enjoy the light show. ★

---

**DEFINITIONS**

**BIG BANG**: the cosmic explosion that is hypothesized to have marked the origin of the universe

**BLACK HOLE**: a region of space resulting from the collapse of a star; extremely high gravitational field

**ENIGMA**: something mysterious and difficult to understand

**EXOPLANET**: a planet that orbits a star outside the solar system

**NEBULA**: a very large cloud of dust and gas in outer space

**NEUTRON STAR**: a dense celestial object that consists mainly of closely packed neutrons and that results from the collapse of a much larger star

**SUPERNova**: an exploding star that produces an extremely bright light
Answer the following in complete sentences:

1. What are telescopes used for?

2. Who built the first space telescope?

3. What problem do ground-based telescopes have when observing space?

4. When and how was the first space-based telescope launched into space?

5. Explain how this telescope captures light emitted by distant objects.

6. Explain why some images from the Hubble telescope are reflections of the distant past.

7. What has Hubble revealed about the expansion of the universe?

8. List at least two other important discoveries that Hubble has helped astronomers find.
BETWEEN THE LINES

An inference is a conclusion drawn from evidence. A plausible inference is supported by evidence in the article and is consistent with known facts outside of the article.

What inference(s) can you draw from the fact that NASA has two new telescopes, the James Webb Space Telescope and the Wide Field Infrared Survey Telescope, in the works?

JUST TALK ABOUT IT


2. As you see it, what is the importance of this story? Explain.

3. What reasons can you suggest to explain why many people are interested in astronomy? Are you curious about the universe? Why or why not?

ONLINE

Note: The links below are listed at www.lesplan.com/en/links for easy access.


2. Find out what the Hubble Telescope saw on your birthday. Enter the month and date to see images: https://www.nasa.gov/content/goddard/what-did-hubble-see-on-your-birthday

3. Read more about the Hubble Space Telescope and why it's important at https://www.bbc.co.uk/newspround/52365257


6. Read an explanation of how the Hubble Space Telescope works at https://science.howstuffworks.com/hubble.htm ★
Science, Technology, and the Environment

The Hubble Telescope
— Window Into a Hidden Universe

ACROSS

4) NASA = National Aeronautics and _____ Administration
5) instrument used to look at far away objects
8) the universe is still _____
10) a collection of star systems
11) all of space and everything in it including stars, planets, galaxies, etc.
13) Hubble's primary _____ is 2.4 metres across

DOWN

1) Space Shuttle that launched Hubble
2) _____ matter
3) huge cloud of dust and gas in space
6) a planet that orbits a star outside our solar system
7) huge cosmic explosion = Big _____
9) Italian astronomer
12) black holes suck in everything, including _____

https://www.nasa.gov/content/hubble/grand-swirls-from-nasas-hubble
A. Write the letter that corresponds to the best answer on the line beside each question:

1. Which 17th century astronomer constructed a telescope to observe objects in space?
   - a) Copernicus
   - b) Newton
   - c) Galileo
   - d) Kepler

2. What blocks certain light wavelengths from reaching ground-based telescopes?
   - a) the jet stream
   - b) air pollution
   - c) supernovas
   - d) the atmosphere

3. When was the Hubble telescope launched into orbit?
   - a) 1968
   - b) 1975
   - c) 1990
   - d) 2001

B. Mark the statements T (True) or F (False). If a statement is True, write one important fact to support it on the line below. If a statement is False, write the words that make it true on the line below.

4. True or False? The Hubble telescope can observe objects well beyond our own galaxy.

5. True or False? Since distance in space is so vast, Hubble can capture images from the past.

6. True or False? NASA is not planning to replace the Hubble telescope when it crashes.

C. Fill in the blanks to complete each sentence.

7. Scientists calculate that the universe is about 13.8 _______________________ years old.

8. Hubble confirmed that _______________________ holes, which suck in everything, exist.

9. Hubble revealed that “dark energy” is causing the universe to _______________________.

D. Respond to the following question in paragraph form. (Use a separate sheet of paper if necessary.)

As you see it, what is the significance of the Hubble space telescope? Give reasons to support your response.

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
What in the world? • Level 1

OIL PRICES PLUMMET

1. What usually happens to prices if a product is in short supply and many people want to buy?
The price will usually go up if there is a big demand and low supply.

2. What usually happens if large amounts of a product are available and not many people want to buy?
The price will usually go down if supply is high and demand is low.

3. Describe the global demand for oil over the past few decades. How much oil was being produced daily?
Global demand for oil has been fairly steady for the last 35 years. About 100 million barrels were being produced daily – about 16 billion litres every day. (Before COVID-19, refineries turned large amounts of crude oil into gasoline to satisfy high demand.)

4. What happened to the demand for oil in recent months? Explain why this occurred.
Demand for oil plummeted. With much of the world locked down, highways have emptied, planes are parked, and factories are silent. (Trade has also declined.)

5. How much did a barrel of oil cost in April 2019?
A barrel sold for about $70 last spring.

6. What happened to oil prices in April? Describe why the price entered 'negative territory'.
The price fell sharply. Storage facilities were filled and producers were desperate to offload the excess. On April 20, oil producers offered to pay customers $38 for each barrel they agreed to ‘buy’. The next day, prices recovered slightly. (This only happened in North America. Oil producers in Europe and elsewhere did not offer to pay customers to take their oil.)

7. Which province produces most of Canada’s oil? How much oil is produced here?
Alberta produces nearly four million barrels of oil a day. (Canada is the fourth largest producer and fourth largest exporter of oil in the world. 96 percent of Canada’s oil exports go to the U.S. In 2015 Alberta produced 79 percent of Canada’s oil.)

8. What do some projections estimate Alberta’s oil production will fall to?
Alberta’s output could plunge by 1.7 million barrels a day – almost half of the previous four million-barrel total.

9. How will the drop in oil revenue affect the Alberta economy? Some oil sands projects will likely close and tens of thousands of jobs could disappear. Royalties will fall and Alberta won’t have much money to invest in health care and other social programs. (Analysts predict that Canada’s economy will slow dramatically and the federal government will collect billions less in taxes next year. That also means less spending on services and projects.)

QUESTIONS
1. How many COVID-19 cases were reported worldwide in mid-May? By mid-May, there were some four million confirmed cases in 187 countries. (The ‘real’ number of cases was probably higher since many people with mild symptoms were not tested and counted. About 270,000 people had lost their lives due to the virus.)

2. How many COVID-19 cases were reported in the United States by mid-May? The United States reported over 1.3 million cases – five times as many as any other country. (About 25,000 new cases were being identified every day.)

3. Which U.S. city has been most affected by COVID-19? New York City suffered the worst outbreak. (The population of the largest American city is 8.4 million and about 190,000 residents had become infected. By mid-May, New York State had reported over 330,000 cases.)

4. Describe the latest developments in this densely-populated city. By mid-May, the rate of spread had slowed (but other regions in the U.S reported large increases). On April 5, New York reported 6,000 new cases per day. By May 5, after self-isolation and social distancing rules were imposed, the number had dropped to about 500.

5. List at least two reasons why testing is so important in trying to slow the spread of COVID-19. Testing is important because: 1) Infected people can be quickly isolated to prevent spreading the virus. 2) Early testing helps with contact tracing – finding those who interacted with an infected person so they too can be treated. 3) The sooner people are treated, the more likely they are to recover (and the less likely they are to infect others.)

6. What problems occurred in the U.S. with COVID-19 testing in February? The first tests proved unreliable - not many people were tested. (Scientists and health labs worked to develop new tests, but they faced red tape to get these approved.)

7. Why did the U.S. federal government and some states argue about COVID-19 testing? Washington and some states quarreled over who was responsible for carrying out tests so testing was disorganized. (In early May, when the U.S. should have been testing about 500,000 people a day, it was only testing about half that number.)

8. What directives did the U.S. president give in March to try and contain the virus? President Trump issued social distancing guidelines. (Many Americans listened and stayed home.)

9. Describe the impact this directive had on the U.S. economy. The economy suffered severely as days stretched into weeks. Many businesses closed and commercial activity plunged. (By early May about half of U.S. states had started to reopen their economies)

10. How many jobs were lost by early May? Over 20 million jobs disappeared and the unemployment rate rose to 14.7 percent – the highest since the Great Depression. (U.S. politicians enacted various assistance programs totalling about $3 trillion – the largest economic stimulus package ever in the U.S.)

QUIZ QUESTIONS

**THE 2020 SUMMER OLYMPICS**

1. **When and where did the Olympics originate?**
   The Olympics originated about 3500 years ago in Greece.

2. **What happened to the Olympic Games in 394 A.D.?**
   The Olympics were abolished by the Roman Emperor.

3. **Explain who Baron Pierre de Coubertin was. What he did do some 120 years ago?**
   Baron Pierre de Coubertin was a young French aristocrat who reintroduced the Olympic Games.

4. **Where and when did the first modern Summer Olympic Games take place?**
   The modern Summer Olympics were first held in 1896 (in Athens, Greece.)

5. **Which organization is responsible for organizing the Olympics? Where is this organization based?**
   The International Olympic Committee (IOC). It is a non-governmental sports organization based in Switzerland. (Founded in 1894, the IOC is responsible for organizing the Summer and Winter Olympics.)

6. **Where were the XXXII Summer Olympic Games scheduled to take place?**
   The XXXII Summer Olympic Games were scheduled to take place in Tokyo, Japan.

7. **How many athletes were expecting to participate?**
   Some 11,000 top athletes (and thousands of coaches) from 206 nations had hoped to attend.

8. **Where and when are these Summer Olympics now scheduled to take place?**
   The Games are rescheduled for Tokyo from July 23 to August 8, 2021. (The Games were postponed one year because of the COVID-19 pandemic. They will still be known as the Tokyo 2020 Olympics.)

9. **What reasons did organizers give for this postponement?**
   Officials feared that athletes, their families, and fans could catch COVID-19. The risk that these people would return home and spread the virus was an even greater concern.

10. **List at least two financial impacts that would result if the Tokyo Games were completely cancelled.**
    1) Thousands of event tickets, plane tickets, and hotel reservations would have to be refunded. 2) The $10 billion that Japan invested to host the Games would be lost. (The delay is pushing up this cost by an estimated $2 to $6 billion.) 3) Leases on many venues would have to be cancelled and employee contracts would end – all at a cost.

**EDITORIAL CARTOON**

1. On March 24, Japanese and Olympic officials announced that the 2020 Summer Olympic Games, scheduled to be held in Tokyo, Japan this summer, were being postponed and would be held one year later if the COVID-19 pandemic is brought under control by then. The risk of the virus infecting athletes, their families, and stadiums full of fans – and then being spread when participants and spectators returned home after the Games – was too great.

2. The motto of the Olympic Games is ‘Citius, Altius, Fortius’ – meaning ‘Faster, Higher, Stronger.’

3. The cartoon shows three athletes – a sprinter, labelled ‘faster’; a weightlifter, labelled ‘stronger’; and a pole vaulter, labelled ‘higher.’ It also shows a secondary image contained in a panel, like a sidebar, consisting of an official-looking Japanese man holding a sign that reads ‘Tokyo Olympics Postponed: COVID-19 Pandemic.’ This image is labelled ‘Safer, Smarter, Later.’

4. The cartoon is a parody of the Olympic motto. The cartoonist may be suggesting that officials’ decision to postpone the 2020 Summer Olympics is the right one. It puts health ahead of the Games, which can be held later – at a safer time. It’s a smart decision, and the right one.

5. *Answers will vary.*

**QUIZ QUESTIONS**

1. b  
2. d  
3. c  
4. False  
5. False  
6. True  
7. The Olympics were abolished by the Roman Emperor in 394 A.D.  
8. This summer’s Tokyo Olympic Games are delayed/postponed until July 2021.  
9. IOC = International Olympic Committee
Summary:

1. **What are telescopes used for?**
   - Telescopes are used by astronomers and others to get a clearer view of objects in space.

2. **Who built the first space telescope?**
   - In 1610, Italian astronomer Galileo constructed a telescope to view objects in space.

3. **What problem do ground-based telescopes have when observing space?**
   - The atmosphere blurs our view of space. The atmosphere is a chaotic soup of gas and dust, and it blocks some wavelengths of light from reaching the Earth—but it does make the stars 'twinkle'.

4. **When and how was the first space-based telescope launched into space?**
   - In 1990, a Space Shuttle launched the Hubble Space Telescope into low-Earth orbit. The school-bus-sized observatory has circled the globe ever since. It is 568 kilometres above the Earth, it travels at 27,000 kilometres per hour, and it completes an orbit in 97 minutes.

5. **Explain how this telescope captures light emitted by distant objects.**
   - Hubble has a long tube that is open at one end to let in light, as well as large mirrors to focus the light so the telescope can see faint objects in space. The incoming light bounces off the primary mirror to a secondary mirror and then to a focal point — Hubble’s “eye.” Hubble can detect various wavelengths—from UV to infrared. Scientific instruments turn the detected light into digital signals that are transmitted to Earth and printed as amazing images.

6. **Explain why some images from the Hubble telescope are reflections of the distant past.**
   - Since space is so vast, it takes a long time for light from a distant galaxy to reach Hubble. The image Hubble receives shows the galaxy as it looked a long time ago. (This allows astronomers to ‘see’ the evolution of galaxies and stars.)

7. **What has Hubble revealed about the expansion of the universe?**
   - Hubble has shown that distant galaxies are moving away from ours—and that this expansion is accelerating. Scientists believe that the universe would slow down after the Big Bang. This expansion makes sense only if there is some mysterious unknown force in space that works against gravity. Scientists call this anti-gravity force “dark energy.”

8. **List at least two other important discoveries that Hubble has helped astronomers find.**
   - The Hubble telescope has helped scientists determine:
     1) That our universe is about 13.8 billion years old.
     2) That the universe contains over 100 billion galaxies.
     3) That there are thousands of exoplanets orbiting other stars.
     4) That black holes exist.

---

**PUZZLE**

```
DIS
SPACE
XO
KUL
EXPANDING
EL
GALAXY
UNIVERSE
L
LT
E
MIRROR
G
HT
```
Answer Key
1. Complete the graph below to show the number of COVID-19 cases on three days for each country in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>April 1</th>
<th>April 15</th>
<th>May 13</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States (U.S.)</td>
<td>220,300</td>
<td>634,000</td>
<td>1,430,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>104,100</td>
<td>188,000</td>
<td>271,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>2700</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>242,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom (UK)</td>
<td>29,400</td>
<td>178,000</td>
<td>230,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>110,500</td>
<td>165,000</td>
<td>222,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: [https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/#countries](https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/#countries)

2. Colour the bars for each date yellow, orange and red as indicated.

3. Complete your bar graph with a proper title.

4. After completing your bar graph, what observations can you make and what conclusions can you draw? Explain. What predictions can you make about the number of cases in each country on May 30? Give reasons to support your predictions. ★
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COVID-19 in the U.S.

Summer Games Postponed

Happy Anniversary, Hubble!

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**CURRENTS4KIDS** Online Weekly (Grades 3 and up) Sept. 2020 – June 2021

| English (38 issues) | Français (38 numéros) | x $148.50 | $5,747.00 |

**Subtotal**

**NB, NL, NS and PEI add 15% HST**

**ON add 13% HST**

**all others add 5% GST**

**Total**

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**Name**

**School**

**Address**

**City**

**Province**

**Postal Code**

**Email**

* Email required for password notification

**Bill School**

**PO#**

**Mastercard**

**Visa**

**Card Number**

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**Name on Card**

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