### Name

**K** EY

**T** ERMS

These are key terms from this week’s rap. Each word or phrase connects to the week’s news in a

significant way. Complete the chart below by desrcibing how each term relates to the news.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Term** | **How it Relates to the Week’s News** |
| spring equinox | *Example: Friday is the spring equinox.* |
| Netanyahu | Answer: |
| wearable computers | Answer: |
| memories | Answer: |
| St. Patrick | Answer: |
| Ferguson | Answer: |
| water | Answer: |
| Secret Service | Answer: |

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**GENERAL**VOCABULARY

Some words from the lyrics are used to describe a specific news story, but you can also use them in lots of other places and contexts. Learning these words and their meanings will help you expand your vocabulary.

Guess what the meaning of the word is based on how it’s used in the rap, and then compare it with the actual definition. When you’re done, use each of the words in a sentence that doesn’t have anything to do with The Week in Rap.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Word** | **In Lyrics** | **Guess Meaning** | **Actual Meaning** |
| ***reinforce*** | *A study shows that they get weakened, If they’re not being reinforced* | Answer: | Answer: |
| ***theatrics*** | *Did you wear green and have some Irish theatrics?* | Answer: | Answer: |
| ***hype*** | *And how about the tech that we’re hype to consume* | Answer: | Answer: |
| ***stance*** | *Was his stance on Palestine how it got earned?* | Answer: | Answer: |

## Word

***reinforce***

## Answer: Sentence

***theatrics*** Answer:

***hype*** Answer:

***Stance*** Answer:



**Q**&**A**

THE **WEEK** IN **RAP** 3.20.2015

Read the info boxes from this week’s Week in Rap and answer the questions. To read more about

each story, follow the link to the newspaper article in the info box on flocabulary.com.

**“E**rin go Bragh” is the American version of an Irish phrase that means “Ireland forever.” In Ireland, it is spelled “Éirinn go Brách.” It’s a fitting phrase for St. Patrick’s Day, which has grown into a worldwide celebration of Irish life and culture. In Catholicism, St. Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland. St. Patrick’s Day takes place on March 17 because that is the day of his death. In Ireland, St. Patrick’s Day is a public holiday.

**O**n the moons of Saturn and Jupiter, scien- tists found evidence of water trapped under ice. This a big deal because water is one of the building blocks for life. By using the Hubble Space Telescope, sci- entists discovered that Saturn’s moon, Enceladus, might have hydrothermal vents. Hydrothermal vents occur when gasses rise through cracks in the sur- face of a planet and heat water. If this is confirmed, Enceladus would be the only place besides Earth where scientist have discovered this type of vent. This means Enceladus would be a great place to look for life.

### How did you celebrate St. Patrick’s Day?

### Answer:

**If there is life on Enceladus, what do you think it looks like?**

Answer:



**Q**&**A**

THE **WEEK** IN **RAP** 3.20.2015

**B**ack when cellphones were first coming out, people wondered if they could be harmful. Cellphones give off a small amount of radiation, which, in large amounts, can cause cancer and other health issues. Researchers are still unsure if cellphones are harmful to people. One study said cellphones might cause cancer, and could be as harmful as dry-cleaning chemicals and pesticides. That study also said cellphones are less harmful the farther away they are from a person’s head. Since new devices like the Apple Watch are meant to be worn all the time, some people wonder if the radiation from these devices is something to worry about. Others disagree. They say cellphones have been used for about 15 years, and any negative health effects they have should be clear by now.

**I**srael and Palestine have a long and com- plicated history of conflict. The tension between the two groups has lasted for decades and much of the fighting involves disputes over land. Israelis and Palestinians claim the same land. This week, Benjamin Netanyahu was re-elected Prime Minis- ter of Israel for a fourth term. His opponents had actually been leading the polls in the days before the election. But last-minute campaigning by Net- anyahu helped turn things around. His campaign was criticized for being racist and causing contro- versy between the different groups living in Israel. Netanyahu insulted Palestinian citizens and prom- ised that no Palestinian state would be created while he was in office.

### Are you concerned about cellphone radiation? Why or why not?

Answer:

**What qualities do you think make a good political candidate?**

Answer:

THE **WEEK** IN **RAP** 3.20.2015



**Q**&**A**

**S**cientists are still trying to find out what happens to old memories in the brain. Right now, there are two theories, or informed guesses, about what happens. One theory says old memories re- main strong in the mind, but are pushed aside by new memories. A second theory says old mem- ories actually become weaker. A new study sug- gests that the second theory might be right. It found that people have trouble remembering things when a competing memory becomes stronger. Studies like this can help psychologists find new ways to help people deal with traumatic memories, evalu- ate crime witnesses and help students study.

**L**ast week in Ferguson, MO, two police officers were shot during a protest outside Police Headquarters. Both police officers survived the shooting, but it added to the tension between po- lice and Ferguson’s citizens. Jeffrey Williams, 20, was arrested in connection with the police shoot- ings. Ferguson police believe Williams shot the two officers accidentally. Williams admitted to fir- ing the shots and said he had been fighting with people outside of the police station at the time.

### Do you have any old memories that are still very strong? Why do you think you’ve held on to them?

Answer:

**Why do you think this shooting has added to the tensions between police and Ferguson’s citi- zens?**

Answer:

THE **WEEK** IN **RAP** 3.20.2015



**Q**&**A**

**T**he Secret Service is the organization that protects the president. After facing criticism for se- curity mistakes made over the past year, the Secret Service is asking lawmakers to build a replica of the White House. They want to use the fake White House to train agents on how to better protect the real one. This fake White House would cost $8 mil- lion and be located in nearby Beltsville, Maryland. They say the replica would allow them to train in a more realistic environment.

### Should the US government spend $8 million on a fake White House? Why or why not?

Answer:

**T**hree celestial events, or events that have to do with the sky and outer space, will occur on March 20. This Friday there will be the vernal, or spring, equinox. This marks the first day of spring and means that the world will receive the same amount of daytime and nighttime. A supermoon will also happen on Friday. A supermoon is when a full moon occurs at the same time that the moon is clos- est to the Earth. The third celestial event will be a so- lar eclipse. A solar eclipse is when the moon passes between the Earth and the sun and casts a shadow over the Earth. Unfortunately, North America will not be able to see the solar eclipse. However, if you are in Europe, northern Asia or northern Africa, you’ll be lucky enough to watch the eclipse.

### What do you think the difference between a solar and lunar eclipse is?

### Answer:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Details about the event  that stand out  Click on the lyrics and article to learn more and record key ideas | What do you think about this event?  Answer the question from the related info box or record other thoughts. | **Thinking about your thinking** Why do you think you have this opinion? What or who has influenced your opinion? |
| Scientists found signs that there might be water on some of Jupiter’s and Saturn’s moons. If this is true, it means the moons might have life | Answer: | Answer: | Answer: |
| A study said memories don’t remain strong. Instead they get weaker. This happens when people focus on newer memories | Answer: | Answer: | Answer: |
| A suspect was arrested after two police officers were shot in Ferguson, MO. Police believe it was an accident | Answer: | Answer: | Answer: |