

Name _____

KEY TERMS

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 describing how each term relates to the news.

Term	How it Relates to the Week's News
UConn and Duke	<i>Example: UConn and Duke are the NCAA basketball champions</i>
Walter Scott	
death row	
talks with Iran	
NASA	
freedom of religion laws	
company-owned Mickey D's	
President Obama	

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
graphic	<i>It was all caught on tape, too graphic to watch</i>		
exonerated	<i>New evidence exonerated him</i>		
expense	<i>He got a good chuckle at their expense</i>		
colossal	<i>But no matter the size, that news will be colossal</i>		

Word	Sentence
graphic	
exonerated	
expense	
colossal	

Q&A

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.

Two basketball teams ended up on top as March Madness came to an end this week. In the men's tournament, Duke defeated Wisconsin 68-63. This is the fifth national championship win for Duke's coach, Mike Krzyzewski. In the women's tournament, the University of Connecticut won its third-straight title, beating Notre Dame 63-53. This is the 10th championship win for UConn coach, Geno Auriemma

If you won something this big, what would you do to celebrate?

Recently, people have been paying more attention to police in the US. Over the past months there has been a lot of outrage over the multiple instances of police officers killing unarmed black men. This past week another unarmed black male was killed by a police officer. In North Charleston, SC, Walter Scott was pulled over for having a broken taillight. After a confrontation, the officer shot at Mr. Scott eight times. The police officer originally said he feared for his life because Scott had taken his taser. But a video taken by a bystander, or someone nearby, shows a different story. The video shows the officer firing his gun eight times as Scott runs away. The police officer has been fired from his job and charged with murder.

How do you think the popularity of cell phones with recording devices has affected criminal investigations?

Q&A

Anthony Ray Hinton was 29 years old when he was imprisoned for killing two restaurant managers in Alabama. That was in 1985, and he was sentenced to death. Hinton had an alibi—which means he could prove he wasn't at the scene of the murder. There also wasn't any evidence to prove that the bullets used in the murder came from a gun that belonged to Hinton's mother. But he was put in jail. Thirty years later, new testing of the bullets proved that he was innocent, so he was released from prison. Hinton and his lawyers blame racism for his arrest and prison sentence. Hinton said, "I think if I'd have been white they would have tested the gun and said it [didn't] match, and I would have been released, but when you're poor and black in America, you stand a higher chance of going to prison for something you didn't do."

What do you think are some of the obstacles of entering mainstream society after 30 years in prison?

Even though Iran says it's using its nuclear technology for energy, other nations are worried that they are making weapons. This week, the US and Iran reached an agreement that would limit Iran's ability to build nuclear weapons. The agreement is preliminary, which means the details are still being worked out. According to the plan, Iran has agreed to lower its stockpile of nuclear ingredients and re-design a nuclear power plant so that it would produce a less powerful form of plutonium, one that's too weak to use in weapons. Iran also agreed to allow inspectors into the country to make sure they're holding up their end of the agreement. In exchange, the US agreed to end its economic sanctions against Iran. Economic sanctions are trading bans that put pressure on a country to do something by taking away sources of income.

What do you know about the type of destruction nuclear weapons cause?

Q&A

Scientists at NASA say they're getting closer to finding life on other planets. They believe they'll find evidence of extraterrestrial life within the next 10 to 20 years. But this wouldn't be like the aliens you see in movies. NASA expects to find microbes and fossils of microbes, much like the tiny creatures that were the first organisms to appear on Earth. One place they're looking at is Mars. There's no life on it now, but evidence shows the planet once had vast oceans for more than a billion years—water is one of the building blocks of life. Besides planets, they're also looking at the moons of planets in our solar system. They've found evidence of oceans on some of these moons.

Where do you think the first alien life will be found? Why?

In response to all the people who spoke out about Indiana's and Arkansas' religious freedom laws, both state governments agreed to change them. The changes that they will make will prevent discrimination against gay people. Arkansas made their law nearly identical to a federal religious freedom law that already exists. Conservatives said that the changes were a blow to their religious rights. Gay leaders welcomed the changes but called for more further changes to ensure no one is discriminated against. To learn more about this story, watch last weeks Week in Rap.

Can you think of another example of a time when something changed because enough people voiced their opinion?

Q&A

McDonald's has been criticized for paying its workers low wages. In response, McDonald's said it would give everyone who works in company-owned restaurants a raise. Workers will now get \$1 above the local minimum wage. This increases the average pay that a worker receives to \$9.90 an hour. Employees will also get more benefits, like more paid time off and help paying for education. But critics say that even with this raise, McDonald's employees will still not earn enough to make ends meet. Furthermore, the increase only applies to McDonald's employees working at company-owned stores, and not those working at franchises, or restaurants that are privately-owned. That means that less than 10% of McDonald's employees will get the new benefits. These changes do put pressure on franchise owners to raise their employee's wages, too.

Do you think the owners of McDonald's franchises will also raise their wages? Why?

Each year, the President invites children onto the White House lawn for the Easter Egg Roll. It's held on the Monday after Easter. This year while reading *Where the Wild Things Are*, President Obama faced a unique challenge: to calm a group of screaming children who were scared of bees. Just so you know, the Mayo Clinic says the best thing to do when dealing with bees is stay calm and walk away. Swatting at a bee might make it sting you.

What do you do when there's a bee buzzing near you?

Name _____

Two Truths and a Lie

Sometimes the truth is stranger than fiction. Each set of three headlines contains two events that actually happened and one that is completely made up. Can you tell the true stories from the lies?

Check the story in each group that DID NOT happen.

CELEBRATION TIME

- Obama celebrated Easter with children on the White House lawn.
- UConn and Duke won basketball championships.
- Iranians celebrated after a final deal was reached about nuclear power.

A CHANGE OF PACE

- Religious freedom laws were changed in Indiana and Arkansas.
- New laws require raises for all McDonald's employees.
- A man was exonerated after 30 years on death row.

THE BURDEN OF PROOF

- Video evidence showed a police officer shoot and kill a man.
- NASA is confident they will find evidence of alien life in the next decades.
- Video evidence exonerated a man who was sentenced to death.

Never Fear

- Microbes were found in McDonald's french fries.
- Bees frightened children while President Obama read to them.
- NASA said alien life will likely be extremely small.