

November 20, 2006

**In this issue:** With Democratic win, first woman Speaker of the House; Ortega Elected President of Nicaragua; Al Jazeera launches English language channel

---

### Topic 1: With Democratic win, first woman Speaker of the House

**Advanced Article:** [http://www.usatoday.com/news/politicselections/vote2006/CA/2006-11-08-pelosi-profile\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/politicselections/vote2006/CA/2006-11-08-pelosi-profile_x.htm)

**Intermediate Article:** <http://www.latimes.com/news/politics/la-na-pelosi8nov08.0,6794031.story?coll=la-home-headlines>

**Beginning Article:** <http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/74064.html>

**Video:** Internet clips with Pelosi from 60 Minutes:

[http://60minutes.yahoo.com/segment/16/nancy\\_pelosi](http://60minutes.yahoo.com/segment/16/nancy_pelosi)

**Related Article:** Women Break Gender Barrier in '06 Elections - <http://www.alternet.org/story/44064/>

#### Discussion Questions:

1. What was the main result of the elections on November 7, 2006?
2. Who is Nancy Pelosi and what position will she be taking over in the House of Representatives? What is the significance of this position?
3. Describe what you learn about Pelosi's background from the articles.
4. With Pelosi at the helm of the House, what issues will the Democrats try to push in Congress? How do you think this Democratic agenda will affect the White House?

#### Curriculum:

1. Exploring Issues and Outcomes Important to the 2006 Elections  
[http://www.nytimes.com/learning/teachers/lessons/20061108wednesday.html?searchpv=learning\\_lessons](http://www.nytimes.com/learning/teachers/lessons/20061108wednesday.html?searchpv=learning_lessons)
2. Women as Leaders in Politics and Business (lesson talks about Elizabeth Dole and Hilary Clinton, but could easily be adapted to analyze Pelosi and other new female leaders in Congress)  
<http://www.nytimes.com/learning/teachers/lessons/19990111monday.html>

#### California Standards:

**U.S. History:** Contemporary Domestic Issues

**Government:** Elections, Campaigns, Legislative Branch

**Language Arts:** Reading and Writing

---

### Topic 2: Ortega Elected President of Nicaragua

**Advanced Article:** <http://www.csmonitor.com/2005/0915/p01s04-woam.html>

**Intermediate Article:** [http://www.examiner.com/a-385273~Ortega\\_Elected\\_President\\_in\\_Nicaragua.html](http://www.examiner.com/a-385273~Ortega_Elected_President_in_Nicaragua.html)

**Beginning Article:** [http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20061108/ap\\_on\\_re\\_la\\_am\\_ca/nicaragua\\_elections](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20061108/ap_on_re_la_am_ca/nicaragua_elections)

#### Discussion Questions:

1. Who is Daniel Ortega?
2. What other Latin American leaders are Ortega's strongest supporters?
3. Who are the Sandanistas and what did they stand for during the civil war of the 1980s in Nicaragua?

4. Describe the Iran-Contra affair.
5. How is the U.S. expected to respond to Ortega's election? Do you think they will work together with him? Why or why not?

**Curriculum:**

1. Exploring 40 Years of U.S. Intervention in Foreign Affairs  
[http://www.nytimes.com/learning/teachers/lessons/20030407monday.html?searchpv=learning\\_lessons](http://www.nytimes.com/learning/teachers/lessons/20030407monday.html?searchpv=learning_lessons)
2. Election Day: A comparison of elections in the United States, Nicaragua, and the world  
[http://www.teachersonbikes.org/lessons/Election\\_Day.html](http://www.teachersonbikes.org/lessons/Election_Day.html)

**California Standards:**

**World History:** Contemporary Issues, Contemporary Latin America

**Language Arts:** Analyzing the Media, Reading and Writing

**Government:** Political Systems, New Democracies, Elections

---

**Topic 3: Al Jazeera launches English language channel**

**Advanced Article:** <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/c/a/2006/11/15/MNGE7MD5EP1.DTL>

**Intermediate Article:** <http://abcnews.go.com/WNT/International/story?id=2664644&page=1>

**Beginning Article:** <http://www.timesonline.co.uk/article/0,,251-1640725,00.html>

**Related Article:** [http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/features/jan-june03/media\\_4-3.html](http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/features/jan-june03/media_4-3.html)

**Discussion Questions:**

1. In addition to this new English language TV station, what else does Al Jazeera do? In what language do they normally broadcast?
2. Who is the intended audience of this new TV station?
3. What is unique about the al Jazeera English-language TV station?
4. What are the other two TV channels that are the largest in the global media market? Where are these two channels based?
5. What do you think could be some possible benefits and drawbacks to the English language version of Al Jazeera?

**Curriculum:**

1. World Media: Comparison of Iraq War Accounts  
[http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/teachers/lessonplans/iraq/arabmedia\\_4-3.html](http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/teachers/lessonplans/iraq/arabmedia_4-3.html)
2. Creating a New Media in the Arab World (Critical Analysis: Information or Propaganda?)  
[http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/teachers/lessonplans/iraq/newmedia\\_4-10.html](http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/teachers/lessonplans/iraq/newmedia_4-10.html)

**California Standards:**

**World History:** Contemporary Issues

**Language Arts:** Reading and Writing, Analyzing the Media

---

*The views expressed in the articles and resources listed above are not the views of World Savvy. They are listed here as resources for educators but do not necessarily reflect the opinions and priorities of World Savvy.*