

## NEWS BREAK

Article: **Hospitals say that mandates are working**

Section: **MAIN, A3**

Sunday's News Break selects an article from **Sunday, October 17, 2021** of The Seattle Times print replica for an in-depth reading of the news. Read the selected article and answer the attached study questions.

You are encouraged to modify this lesson to fit the needs of your students. For example, some teachers might use this as a take-home assignment and others might read and answer the questions in a small group or larger, class discussion.

***\*Please be sure to preview all NIE content before using it in your classroom to ensure it is appropriate for your students.***

### **Standards:**

#### **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.4.1**

- Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

#### **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.4.2**

- Determine the main idea of a text and explain how it is supported by key details; summarize the text.

### **Objectives:**

***Students will discuss the role of vaccinations and whether they should be mandated. Students will talk about the COVID-19 vaccination and whether their families have chosen to get it, or not. They'll discuss other required immunizations and why the COVID vaccine is controversial. Students will discuss clinical and real-world evidence surrounding the shot and whether they believe it protects themselves and those around them, if they choose to get it. Students will also debate whether those that lose their jobs (due to not getting the shot) should receive unemployment benefits or not.***

## **Pre-Reading Discussion:**

### ***Hospitals say that mandates are working***

- What do you think the article will be about, using only the title of the article?
- Are there any clues?
- What can you infer?

## **Vocabulary Building:**

Read this sentence, what do you think the highlighted words mean using *context clues*? A **context clue** is a word or words that are hints and refers to the sources of information outside of words that readers may use to predict the identities and meanings of unknown words.

Percentage of people quitting or getting fired is **minuscule**.

### ***Minuscule Guess:***

### ***Minuscule Definition:***

## **Comprehension Questions:**

1. At Houston Methodist — one of the first American health care institutions to require workers to get vaccinated against the coronavirus — the backlash was short-lived. More than \_\_\_\_\_ employees were fired.
2. There were legal battles and protests. But president and CEO Marc Boom has no regrets: \_\_\_\_\_% of staff have been vaccinated, and they and patients are safer as a result, he said. “I can unequivocally say [it was] the best decision we ever made,” Boom said in an interview.
3. About \_\_\_\_\_% of hospitals nationwide — roughly \_\_\_\_\_ facilities — have some sort of vaccine mandate, according to data collected by the American Hospital Association, a trade group.
4. What announcement did President Biden make last month?
5. Espino is searching for employment elsewhere and is considering seeking a license in Florida, where vaccination requirements are \_\_\_\_\_.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ was not available to those who lost their jobs because they declined to get vaccinated.

## **Discussion Questions (small/large groups), Journal Prompts or Essay Questions:**

- ***What surprised (or stood out to) you in the article?***
- ***At first I thought \_\_\_\_\_, but now I think \_\_\_\_\_?***
- ***What things did you already know from prior experience?***

- ***What are your thoughts on the Covid vaccination? Did you and your family get the vaccinations? Why or why not?***
- ***Should vaccinations be mandated? Why or why not?***
- ***Other immunizations are required, why do you think the Covid vaccination is so controversial?***
- ***What is a mandate?***
- ***Should people that choose not to get the Covid shot, and lose their jobs, receive unemployment benefits? Why or why not?***

***“Despite the clinical and real-world evidence that vaccination not only protects the people who get their shots but those around them.”***

- Do you agree or disagree with the above statement? Why or why not?

News Break is posted to the Web on Monday. Please share this NIE News Break program with other teachers. To sign-up for the print replica for your class, please [register online](#) or call 206/652-6290 or toll-free 1-888/775-2655.  
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