

# THIS THRESHOLD TODAY – THE MODERN REVOLUTION

## Purpose

In this activity, students will read news articles that reveal unexpected connections between today's world and the Modern Revolution. We are learning new things all the time related to what we know about Threshold 8. This activity will help students see the connection between this threshold and today.

## Process

The Modern Revolution is the eighth major threshold of increasing complexity in this course. The acceleration of change in the last 250 years has been fast and furious, and the impact of acceleration can be seen all around us. One important impact of this acceleration is the increasing fragility of the biosphere. New technologies have altered human society and transformed our relationship with the biosphere. Scientists and professionals of all types study contemporary life and search for answers about how life has changed and what the future may hold for us.

At this point, your students should be ready to conduct online research to find news stories about the Modern Revolution. If they aren't, feel free to use the links below! As you send them off to do their research, remind them to pay attention to authority, corroboration, and bias as they search for new information that they think contributes to a discussion of Threshold 8 today.

Research cards have been provided on the This Threshold Today: The Modern Revolution Worksheet. Have your students use these cards to record and evaluate their sources, as well as some of the details about what they discover. If they're working on a Little Big History Project, you might suggest they do some research that relates to their topics and Threshold 8.

Check out [Newsela.com](https://www.newsela.com) for great articles. You and your students can also look at these online articles to help you get started:

- [Climate Change Reshaping How Heat Moves Around Globe](#)
- [Climate Change Creates a New Migration Crisis for Bangladesh](#)
- [New Mathematical Model to Save Endangered Species](#)
- [Overpopulation Is an Existential Threat to Humanity](#)
- [Climate Concerns Are Pushing Oil Majors to Look Beyond Fossil Fuels](#)

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The Modern Revolution is the eighth major threshold of increasing complexity in this course. The acceleration of change in the last 250 years has been fast and furious, and the impact of acceleration can be seen all around us. One important impact of this acceleration is the increasing fragility of the biosphere. New technologies have altered human society and transformed our relationship with the biosphere. Scientists and professionals of all types study contemporary life and search for answers about how life has changed and what the future may hold for us.

At this point, your teacher may have you conduct online research to find news stories about the Modern Revolution. If not, feel free to use the links below as a starting point! Don't forget to pay attention to authority, corroboration, and bias as you search for new information that you think contributes to a discussion of Threshold 8 today.

- [Climate Change Reshaping How Heat Moves Around Globe](#)
- [Climate Change Creates a New Migration Crisis for Bangladesh](#)
- [New Mathematical Model to Save Endangered Species](#)
- [Overpopulation Is an Existential Threat to Humanity](#)
- [Climate Concerns Are Pushing Oil Majors to Look Beyond Fossil Fuels](#)

As you carry out research for this class and others, it is useful to document the sources that you come across and the information in them. Use the research cards provided to do just that. If you're working on a Little Big History Project, you might do some research that relates to your topic and Threshold 8.

# THIS THRESHOLD TODAY – THE MODERN REVOLUTION

Name: Date: 

**Directions:** Look online or in the links provided for current news articles related to Threshold 8: The Modern Revolution. Find at least three articles and complete the research cards below. If you are working on a Little Big History Project, you might gather sources to help you with your research for that project (as long as they relate to Threshold 8).

- Climate Change Reshaping How Heat Moves Around Globe  
<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2019/01/190128125334.htm>
- Climate Change Creates a New Migration Crisis for Bangladesh  
<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/2019/01/climate-change-drives-migration-crisis-in-bangladesh-from-dhaka-sundabans/>
- New Mathematical Model to Save Endangered Species  
<https://phys.org/news/2019-01-mathematical-endangered-species.html>
- Overpopulation Is an Existential Threat to Humanity  
<https://www.newsday.com/opinion/commentary/overpopulation-is-an-existential-threat-to-humanity-1.22481029>
- Climate Concerns Are Pushing Oil Majors to Look Beyond Fossil Fuels  
<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/climate-concerns-are-pushing-oil-majors-to-look-beyond-fossil-fuels/#googDisableSync>

Threshold 8: The Modern Revolution	
Headline/Title:	
Date of article:	
Name of website:	
Author:	
Authority	
What makes the author an authority on this topic?	

# THIS THRESHOLD TODAY – THE MODERN REVOLUTION

Name:

Date:

<p>What makes the website an authority on this topic?</p>	
<p><b>Relevance to This Threshold</b></p>	
<p>How does the information in the article support what you already know about Threshold 8?</p>	
<p>How does the information in the article extend what you already know about Threshold 8?</p>	
<p>How does the information in the article challenge what you already know about Threshold 8?</p>	

# THIS THRESHOLD TODAY – THE MODERN REVOLUTION

Name:

Date:

Threshold 8: The Modern Revolution	
Headline/Title:	
Date of article:	
Name of website:	
Author:	
Authority	
What makes the author an authority on this topic?	
What makes the website an authority on this topic?	
Relevance to This Threshold	
How does the information in the article support what you already know about Threshold 8?	

# THIS THRESHOLD TODAY – THE MODERN REVOLUTION

Name:

Date:

<p>How does the information in the article extend what you already know about Threshold 8?</p>	
<p>How does the information in the article challenge what you already know about Threshold 8?</p>	

Threshold 8: The Modern Revolution	
Headline/Title:	
Date of article:	
Name of website:	
Author:	

# THIS THRESHOLD TODAY – THE MODERN REVOLUTION

Name:

Date:

Authority	
What makes the author an authority on this topic?	
What makes the website an authority on this topic?	
Relevance to This Threshold	
How does the information in the article support what you already know about Threshold 8?	
How does the information in the article extend what you already know about Threshold 8?	
How does the information in the article challenge what you already know about Threshold 8?	