

# Summarization Task: Structured Solution Report

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# 1 Q1: Task Definition and Motivation

## 1.1 Task Description

**Task:** Automated Summarization of News Articles.

**Specific Subtask:** Generate concise and accurate summaries of news articles using multiple prompt styles and evaluate their performance.

**Inputs:** News articles sourced from the CNN/Daily Mail dataset, each accompanied by a corresponding reference summary for comparison.

**Outputs:** For each of the 10 selected articles, three summaries are generated using:

- a. Basic Zero-shot Prompt
- b. Few-shot Prompt
- c. Advanced Prompt (Chain-of-thought)

## 1.2 Evaluation Metric

**Selected Metric:** ROUGE (Recall-Oriented Understudy for Gisting Evaluation).

**Description:** ROUGE measures the overlap between the generated and reference summaries using ROUGE-1 (unigrams for relevance), ROUGE-2 (bigrams for coherence), and ROUGE-L (longest common subsequence for structural alignment).

**Justification:** ROUGE is a widely accepted metric for summarization tasks, offering quantitative evaluation of content overlap while capturing relevance, coherence, and structural fidelity of the generated summaries.

## 1.3 Motivation

**Importance of Task:** The task of automated summarization is vital for processing vast amounts of information across domains, enabling efficient comprehension and decision-making.

**Real-world Examples:**

- **News Aggregation Platforms:** Websites like Google News and Flipboard use summarization to present concise news snippets.
- **Content Overload Management:** Professionals use summaries to stay updated without reading full articles, enhancing productivity.

## 2 Q2: Data Curation

### 2.1 Example Listing

No.	Article Excerpt (Complete content in Appendix)	Reference Summary
1	The Palestinian Authority officially became the 123rd member of the International Criminal Court on Wednesday, a step that gives the court jurisdiction over alleged crimes in Palestinian territories...	Membership gives the ICC jurisdiction over alleged crimes committed in Palestinian territories since last June. Israel and the United States opposed the move, which could open the door to war crimes investigations against Israelis.
2	Never mind cats having nine lives. A stray pooch in Washington State has used up at least three of her own after being hit by a car, apparently whacked on the head with a hammer in a misguided mercy killing...	Theia, a bully breed mix, was apparently hit by a car, whacked with a hammer, and buried in a field. "She's a true miracle dog and she deserves a good life," says Sara Mellado, who is looking for a home for Theia.
3	If you've been following the news lately, there are certain things you doubtless know about Mohammad Javad Zarif. He is, of course, the Iranian foreign minister...	Mohammad Javad Zarif has spent more time with John Kerry than any other foreign minister. He once participated in a takeover of the Iranian Consulate in San Francisco. The Iranian foreign minister tweets in English.
4	Five Americans who were monitored for three weeks at an Omaha, Nebraska, hospital after being exposed to Ebola in West Africa have been released...	17 Americans were exposed to the Ebola virus while in Sierra Leone in March. Another person was diagnosed with the disease and taken to a hospital in Maryland. National Institutes of Health says the patient is in fair condition after weeks of treatment.
5	A Duke student has admitted to hanging a noose made of rope from a tree near a student union, university officials said Thursday...	Student is no longer on Duke University campus and will face disciplinary review. School officials identified the student during investigation and the person admitted to hanging the noose, Duke says. The noose, made of rope, was discovered on campus about 2 a.m.

### 2.2 Process Description

Dataset Selection:

Utilized the CNN/Daily Mail dataset (abisee/cnn.dailymail), which provides news articles along with their corresponding reference summaries.

#### **Data Extraction:**

Selected the first 10 articles from the dataset’s test split, ensuring a variety of topics and high-quality content.

#### **Reference Summaries:**

Retrieved the accompanying reference summaries (highlights) for each article to serve as the ground truth for evaluation.

## **3 Q3: Prompt Styles**

### **3.1 Prompt Documentation and Description**

#### **3.1.1 1. Basic Zero-shot Prompt**

**Description:** A minimal prompt without additional instructions or examples.

**Prompt Template:**

```
Summarize the following article:  
{Article}
```

**Input Placeholder:** {Article} is replaced with the full text of the article.

#### **3.1.2 2. Few-shot Prompt**

**Description:** Provides examples to guide the model’s understanding of the task.

**Prompt Template:**

```
Example 1: {Full Article 1}  
Summary 1: {Ground Truth Summary 1}  
Example 2: {Full Article 2}  
Summary 2: {Ground Truth Summary 2}  
Example 3: {Full Article 3}  
Summary 3: {Ground Truth Summary 3}  
Now summarize this article based on the above examples:  
{Article}
```

**Input Placeholder:** {Article} is the new article to be summarized.

### 3.1.3 3. Advanced Prompt (Chain-of-thought)

**Description:** Encourages the model to think through the summarization process step by step.

**Prompt Template:**

```
Summarize this article step-by-step:
1. Identify the main topic.
2. Extract supporting details.
Combine the above into a single or at most two concise sentences.
{Article}
```

**Input Placeholder:** {Article} is replaced with the article text.

## 4 Q4: Results and Discussion

### 4.1 Aggregated Results

Prompt Style	Average ROUGE-1	Average ROUGE-2	Average ROUGE-L
Basic	0.4350	0.1973	0.3246
Few-shot	<b>0.4649</b>	<b>0.1885</b>	<b>0.3465</b>
Advanced	0.4000	0.1538	0.2947

Table 2: Average ROUGE Scores for Each Prompt Style

**Observations:**

- **Few-shot Prompt Style:**

- Demonstrates the highest average performance across all three ROUGE metrics.
- Excels in capturing content relevance (ROUGE-1), coherence (ROUGE-2), and structural alignment (ROUGE-L).
- Reflects the benefit of providing examples to guide the generation process.

- **Basic Prompt Style:**

- Performs moderately well, particularly in ROUGE-1, effectively identifying relevant content.

- Lacks the depth and coherence seen in Few-shot prompts, as reflected in lower ROUGE-2 and ROUGE-L scores.

- **Advanced Prompt Style:**

- Scores the lowest on average across the ROUGE metrics.
- Designed for deeper reasoning and structured summaries but may dilute precision and coherence in concise summarization.

## 4.2 Examples of Success and Failure

### Successful Examples

#### 4.2.1 Example 1

**ROUGE Scores:** ROUGE-1: 0.5867, ROUGE-2: 0.3014, ROUGE-L: 0.5067

**Generated Summary:**

The Palestinian Authority became the 123rd member of the International Criminal Court, granting the court jurisdiction over alleged crimes in Palestinian territories, despite opposition from Israel and the U.S.

**Why it Succeeded:**

The article’s structured legal content allowed the model to focus on key points, leading to high relevance and structural alignment with the reference summary.

#### 4.2.2 Example 2

**ROUGE Scores:** ROUGE-1: 0.4835, ROUGE-2: 0.2247, ROUGE-L: 0.4615

**Generated Summary:**

Theia, a dog from Washington State, survived being hit by a car, struck with a hammer, and buried, and now seeks a loving home.

**Why it Succeeded:**

A clear narrative enabled the model to extract essential details, resulting in a coherent and emotionally resonant summary.

### Failure Examples

### 4.2.3 Example 5

**ROUGE Scores:** ROUGE-1: 0.4359, ROUGE-2: 0.1316, ROUGE-L: 0.2564

**Generated Summary:**

A Duke student admitted to hanging a noose on campus and faces disciplinary action; the incident sparked protests.

**Why it Failed:**

The model missed critical contextual details, leading to reduced coherence and alignment with the reference summary.

**Observations**

- **Success Factors:**

- Articles with clear, structured content facilitate better summarization.
- High ROUGE scores reflect strong relevance and structural alignment.

- **Failure Factors:**

- Complex or sensitive topics challenge the model’s summarization capabilities.
- Missing details lead to lower coherence and alignment scores.

## 5 Q5: Limitations

### 5.1 Deployment Issues

#### 5.1.1 Issue 1: Inconsistent Summary Quality

**Problem:**

The model may produce summaries of varying quality, occasionally omitting critical information or including irrelevant details.

**Mitigation:**

- Implement a review process involving human editors to validate and correct summaries before deployment.
- Fine-tune the model on a domain-specific summarization dataset to improve consistency.

### 5.1.2 Issue 2: Potential Bias and Ethical Concerns

#### Problem:

The model may inadvertently introduce biases or insensitive language, especially in summaries of sensitive topics.

#### Mitigation:

- Employ content filtering and bias detection algorithms to monitor generated summaries.
- Establish ethical guidelines and incorporate them into the model's training data.

## 6 Conclusion

This report evaluated the performance of a Large Language Model on the task of summarizing news articles using three different prompt styles: Basic Zero-shot, Few-shot, and Advanced Chain-of-thought prompts. The CNN/Daily Mail dataset was used for testing, and ROUGE scores were calculated to assess the quality of the generated summaries.

#### Key Findings:

- **Few-shot Prompts:** Provided the highest average ROUGE scores, indicating better performance due to the guidance offered by examples.
- **Basic Prompts:** Showed reasonable performance but lacked the enhanced structure provided by examples.
- **Advanced Prompts:** Did not outperform the other styles, possibly due to the added complexity not aligning well with the reference summaries.



# Appendix

## Dataset Citation

## References

[Hermann et al.(2015)] K. M. Hermann, T. Kočiský, E. Grefenstette, L. Espeholt, W. Kay, M. Suleyman, and P. Blunsom. “Teaching Machines to Read and Comprehend.” *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, 2015. Available at: [https://huggingface.co/datasets/abisee/cnn\\_dailymail?row=38](https://huggingface.co/datasets/abisee/cnn_dailymail?row=38)

## Sample Examples for Few-shot Prompt

### Example 11

#### Article:

*London (CNN) A 19-year-old man was charged Wednesday with terror offenses after he was arrested as he returned to Britain from Turkey, London’s Metropolitan Police said. Yahya Rashid, a UK national from northwest London, was detained at Luton airport on Tuesday after he arrived on a flight from Istanbul, police said. He’s been charged with engaging in conduct in preparation of acts of terrorism, and with engaging in conduct with the intention of assisting others to commit acts of terrorism. Both charges relate to the period between November 1 and March 31. Rashid is due to appear in Westminster Magistrates’ Court on Wednesday, police said. CNN’s Lindsay Isaac contributed to this report.*

#### Summary 11:

London’s Metropolitan Police say the man was arrested at Luton airport after landing on a flight from Istanbul. He’s been charged with terror offenses allegedly committed since the start of November.

### Example 12

#### Article:

*(CNN)Paul Walker is hardly the first actor to die during a production. But Walker’s death in November 2013 at the age of 40 after a car crash was especially eerie given his rise to fame in the “Fast and Furious” film franchise. The release of “Furious 7” on Friday offers the opportunity for fans to remember – and possibly grieve again – the man that so many have praised as one of the nicest guys in Hollywood. “He was a person of humility, integrity, and compassion,” military veteran Kyle Upham said in an email to CNN. Walker secretly paid for the engagement ring Upham shopped for with his bride.*

*"We didn't know him personally but this was apparent in the short time we spent with him. I know that we will never forget him and he will always be someone very special to us," said Upham. The actor was on break from filming "Furious 7" at the time of the fiery accident, which also claimed the life of the car's driver, Roger Rodas. Producers said early on that they would not kill off Walker's character, Brian O'Connor, a former cop turned road racer. Instead, the script was rewritten and special effects were used to finish scenes, with Walker's brothers, Cody and Caleb, serving as body doubles. There are scenes that will resonate with the audience – including the ending, in which the filmmakers figured out a touching way to pay tribute to Walker while "retiring" his character. At the premiere Wednesday night in Hollywood, Walker's co-star and close friend Vin Diesel gave a tearful speech before the screening, saying "This movie is more than a movie." "You'll feel it when you see it," Diesel said. "There's something emotional that happens to you, where you walk out of this movie and you appreciate everyone you love because you just never know when the last day is you're gonna see them." There have been multiple tributes to Walker leading up to the release. Diesel revealed in an interview with the "Today" show that he had named his newborn daughter after Walker. Social media has also been paying homage to the late actor. A week after Walker's death, about 5,000 people attended an outdoor memorial to him in Los Angeles. Most had never met him. Marcus Coleman told CNN he spent almost \$1,000 to truck in a banner from Bakersfield for people to sign at the memorial. "It's like losing a friend or a really close family member ... even though he is an actor and we never really met face to face," Coleman said. "Sitting there, bringing his movies into your house or watching on TV, it's like getting to know somebody. It really, really hurts." Walker's younger brother Cody told People magazine that he was initially nervous about how "Furious 7" would turn out, but he is happy with the film. "It's bittersweet, but I think Paul would be proud," he said. CNN's Paul Vercammen contributed to this report.*

## **Summary 12:**

"Furious 7" pays tribute to star Paul Walker, who died during filming. Vin Diesel: "This movie is more than a movie." "Furious 7" opens Friday.

## **Example 13**

### **Article:**

*(CNN) Seventy years ago, Anne Frank died of typhus in a Nazi concentration camp at the age of 15. Just two weeks after her supposed death on March 31, 1945, the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp where she had been imprisoned was liberated – timing that showed how close the Jewish diarist had been to surviving the Holocaust. But new research released by the Anne Frank House shows that Anne and her older sister, Margot Frank, died at least a month earlier than previously thought. Researchers re-examined archives of the Red Cross, the International Training Service and the Bergen-Belsen Memorial, along with testimonies of survivors. They concluded that Anne and Margot probably did not survive to March 1945 – contradicting the date of death which had previously been determined by Dutch authorities. In 1944, Anne and seven others hiding in the Amsterdam secret annex were arrested and sent to the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp. Anne Frank's final*

entry . That same year, Anne and Margot were separated from their mother and sent away to work as slave labor at the Bergen-Belsen camp in Germany. Days at the camp were filled with terror and dread, witnesses said. The sisters stayed in a section of the overcrowded camp with no lighting, little water and no latrine. They slept on lice-ridden straw and violent storms shredded the tents, according to the researchers. Like the other prisoners, the sisters endured long hours at roll call. Her classmate, Nannette Blitz, recalled seeing Anne there in December 1944: "She was no more than a skeleton by then. She was wrapped in a blanket; she couldn't bear to wear her clothes anymore because they were crawling with lice." Listen to Anne Frank's friends describe her concentration camp experience . As the Russians advanced further, the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp became even more crowded, bringing more disease. A deadly typhus outbreak caused thousands to die each day. Typhus is an infectious disease caused by lice that breaks out in places with poor hygiene. The disease causes high fever, chills and skin eruptions. "Because of the lice infesting the bedstraw and her clothes, Anne was exposed to the main carrier of epidemic typhus for an extended period," museum researchers wrote. They concluded that it's unlikely the sisters survived until March, because witnesses at the camp said the sisters both had symptoms before February 7. "Most deaths caused by typhus occur around twelve days after the first symptoms appear," wrote authors Erika Prins and Gertjan Broek. The exact dates of death for Anne and Margot remain unclear. Margot died before Anne. "Anne never gave up hope," said Blitz, her friend. "She was absolutely convinced she would survive." Her diary endures as one of the world's most popular books. Read more about Anne Frank's cousin, a keeper of her legacy.

### **Summary 13:**

Museum: Anne Frank died earlier than previously believed . Researchers re-examined archives and testimonies of survivors . Anne and older sister Margot Frank are believed to have died in February 1945.

## **List of All 10 Examples with Corresponding Summaries**

### **Example 1**

#### **Article:**

(CNN)The Palestinian Authority officially became the 123rd member of the International Criminal Court on Wednesday, a step that gives the court jurisdiction over alleged crimes in Palestinian territories. The formal accession was marked with a ceremony at The Hague, in the Netherlands, where the court is based. The Palestinians signed the ICC's founding Rome Statute in January, when they also accepted its jurisdiction over alleged crimes committed "in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, since June 13, 2014." Later that month, the ICC opened a preliminary examination into the situation in Palestinian territories, paving the way for possible war crimes investigations against Israelis. As members of the court, Palestinians may be subject to counter-charges as well. Israel and the United States, neither of which is an ICC member, opposed the Palestinians' efforts to join the body. But Palestinian Foreign Minister Riad al-Malki, speaking at Wednesday's ceremony, said it was a move toward greater justice. "As Pales-

tine formally becomes a State Party to the Rome Statute today, the world is also a step closer to ending a long era of impunity and injustice,” he said, according to an ICC news release. “Indeed, today brings us closer to our shared goals of justice and peace.” Judge Kuniko Ozaki, a vice president of the ICC, said acceding to the treaty was just the first step for the Palestinians. “As the Rome Statute today enters into force for the State of Palestine, Palestine acquires all the rights as well as responsibilities that come with being a State Party to the Statute. These are substantive commitments, which cannot be taken lightly,” she said. Rights group Human Rights Watch welcomed the development. “Governments seeking to penalize Palestine for joining the ICC should immediately end their pressure, and countries that support universal acceptance of the court’s treaty should speak out to welcome its membership,” said Balkees Jarrah, international justice counsel for the group. “What’s objectionable is the attempts to undermine international justice, not Palestine’s decision to join a treaty to which over 100 countries around the world are members.” In January, when the preliminary ICC examination was opened, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu described it as an outrage, saying the court was overstepping its boundaries. The United States also said it “strongly” disagreed with the court’s decision. “As we have said repeatedly, we do not believe that Palestine is a state and therefore we do not believe that it is eligible to join the ICC,” the State Department said in a statement. It urged the warring sides to resolve their differences through direct negotiations. “We will continue to oppose actions against Israel at the ICC as counter-productive to the cause of peace,” it said. But the ICC begs to differ with the definition of a state for its purposes and refers to the territories as “Palestine.” While a preliminary examination is not a formal investigation, it allows the court to review evidence and determine whether to investigate suspects on both sides. Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda said her office would “conduct its analysis in full independence and impartiality.” The war between Israel and Hamas militants in Gaza last summer left more than 2,000 people dead. The inquiry will include alleged war crimes committed since June. The International Criminal Court was set up in 2002 to prosecute genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes. CNN’s Vasco Cotovio, Kareem Khadder and Faith Karimi contributed to this report.’

## Summary 1:

Membership gives the ICC jurisdiction over alleged crimes committed in Palestinian territories since last June. Israel and the United States opposed the move, which could open the door to war crimes investigations against Israelis.

## Example 2

### Article:

(CNN)Never mind cats having nine lives. A stray pooch in Washington State has used up at least three of her own after being hit by a car, apparently whacked on the head with a hammer in a misguided mercy killing and then buried in a field – only to survive. That’s according to Washington State University, where the dog – a friendly white-and-black bully breed mix now named Theia – has been receiving care at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital. Four days after her apparent death, the dog managed to stagger to a nearby

*farm, dirt-covered and emaciated, where she was found by a worker who took her to a vet for help. She was taken in by Moses Lake, Washington, resident Sara Mellado. "Considering everything that she's been through, she's incredibly gentle and loving," Mellado said, according to WSU News. "She's a true miracle dog and she deserves a good life." Theia is only one year old but the dog's brush with death did not leave her unscathed. She suffered a dislocated jaw, leg injuries and a caved-in sinus cavity – and still requires surgery to help her breathe. The veterinary hospital's Good Samaritan Fund committee awarded some money to help pay for the dog's treatment, but Mellado has set up a fundraising page to help meet the remaining cost of the dog's care. She's also created a Facebook page to keep supporters updated. Donors have already surpassed the \$10,000 target, inspired by Theia's tale of survival against the odds. On the fundraising page, Mellado writes, "She is in desperate need of extensive medical procedures to fix her nasal damage and reset her jaw. I agreed to foster her until she finally found a loving home." She is dedicated to making sure Theia gets the medical attention she needs, Mellado adds, and wants to "make sure she gets placed in a family where this will never happen to her again!" Any additional funds raised will be "paid forward" to help other animals. Theia is not the only animal to apparently rise from the grave in recent weeks. A cat in Tampa, Florida, found seemingly dead after he was hit by a car in January, showed up alive in a neighbor's yard five days after he was buried by his owner. The cat was in bad shape, with maggots covering open wounds on his body and a ruined left eye, but remarkably survived with the help of treatment from the Humane Society.*

## **Summary 2:**

Theia, a bully breed mix, was apparently hit by a car, whacked with a hammer, and buried in a field. "She's a true miracle dog and she deserves a good life," says Sara Mellado, who is looking for a home for Theia.

## **Example 3**

### **Article:**

*(CNN)If you've been following the news lately, there are certain things you doubtless know about Mohammad Javad Zarif. He is, of course, the Iranian foreign minister. He has been U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry's opposite number in securing a breakthrough in nuclear discussions that could lead to an end to sanctions against Iran – if the details can be worked out in the coming weeks. And he received a hero's welcome as he arrived in Iran on a sunny Friday morning. "Long live Zarif," crowds chanted as his car rolled slowly down the packed street. You may well have read that he is "polished" and, unusually for one burdened with such weighty issues, "jovial." An Internet search for "Mohammad Javad Zarif" and "jovial" yields thousands of results. He certainly has gone a long way to bring Iran in from the cold and allow it to rejoin the international community. But there are some facts about Zarif that are less well-known. Here are six: . In September 2013, Zarif tweeted "Happy Rosh Hashanah," referring to the Jewish New Year. That prompted Christine Pelosi, the daughter of House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, to respond with a tweet of her own: "Thanks. The New Year would be even sweeter if you would end Iran's Holocaust denial, sir." And, perhaps to her surprise, Pelosi got a response. "Iran*

never denied it," Zarif tweeted back. "The man who was perceived to be denying it is now gone. Happy New Year." The reference was likely to former Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, who had left office the previous month. Zarif was nominated to be foreign minister by Ahmadinejad's successor, Hassan Rouhani. His foreign ministry notes, perhaps defensively, that "due to the political and security conditions of the time, he decided to continue his education in the United States." That is another way of saying that he was outside the country during the demonstrations against the Shah of Iran, which began in 1977, and during the Iranian Revolution, which drove the shah from power in 1979. Zarif left the country in 1977, received his undergraduate degree from San Francisco State University in 1981, his masters in international relations from the University of Denver in 1984 and his doctorate from the University of Denver in 1988. Both of his children were born in the United States. The website of the Iranian Foreign Ministry, which Zarif runs, cannot even agree with itself on when he was born. The first sentence of his official biography, perhaps in a nod to the powers that be in Tehran, says Zarif was "born to a religious traditional family in Tehran in 1959." Later on the same page, however, his date of birth is listed as January 8, 1960. And the Iranian Diplomacy website says he was born in 1961. So he is 54, 55 or maybe even 56. Whichever, he is still considerably younger than his opposite number, Kerry, who is 71. The feds investigated him over his alleged role in controlling the Alavi Foundation, a charitable organization. The U.S. Justice Department said the organization was secretly run on behalf of the Iranian government to launder money and get around U.S. sanctions. But last year, a settlement in the case, under which the foundation agreed to give a 36-story building in Manhattan along with other properties to the U.S. government, did not mention Zarif's name. Early in the Iranian Revolution, Zarif was among the students who took over the Iranian Consulate in San Francisco. The aim, says the website Iranian.com – which cites Zarif's memoirs, titled "Mr. Ambassador" – was to expel from the consulate people who were not sufficiently Islamic. Later, the website says, Zarif went to make a similar protest at the Iranian mission to the United Nations. In response, the Iranian ambassador to the United Nations offered him a job. In fact, he has now spent more time with Kerry than any other foreign minister in the world. And that amount of quality time will only increase as the two men, with help from other foreign ministers as well, try to meet a June 30 deadline for nailing down the details of the agreement they managed to outline this week in Switzerland.

### Summary 3:

Mohammad Javad Zarif has spent more time with John Kerry than any other foreign minister. He once participated in a takeover of the Iranian Consulate in San Francisco. The Iranian foreign minister tweets in English.

### Example 4

#### Article:

*(CNN) Five Americans who were monitored for three weeks at an Omaha, Nebraska, hospital after being exposed to Ebola in West Africa have been released, a Nebraska Medicine spokesman said in an email Wednesday. One of the five had a heart-related issue on Sat-*

urday and has been discharged but hasn't left the area, Taylor Wilson wrote. The others have already gone home. They were exposed to Ebola in Sierra Leone in March, but none developed the deadly virus. They are clinicians for Partners in Health, a Boston-based aid group. They all had contact with a colleague who was diagnosed with the disease and is being treated at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland. As of Monday, that health care worker is in fair condition. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta has said the last of 17 patients who were being monitored are expected to be released by Thursday. More than 10,000 people have died in a West African epidemic of Ebola that dates to December 2013, according to the World Health Organization. Almost all the deaths have been in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. Ebola is spread by direct contact with the bodily fluids of an infected person.

#### Summary 4:

17 Americans were exposed to the Ebola virus while in Sierra Leone in March. Another person was diagnosed with the disease and taken to a hospital in Maryland. National Institutes of Health says the patient is in fair condition after weeks of treatment.

#### Example 5

##### Article:

(CNN)A Duke student has admitted to hanging a noose made of rope from a tree near a student union, university officials said Thursday. The prestigious private school didn't identify the student, citing federal privacy laws. In a news release, it said the student was no longer on campus and will face student conduct review. The student was identified during an investigation by campus police and the office of student affairs and admitted to placing the noose on the tree early Wednesday, the university said. Officials are still trying to determine if other people were involved. Criminal investigations into the incident are ongoing as well. Students and faculty members marched Wednesday afternoon chanting "We are not afraid. We stand together," after pictures of the noose were passed around on social media. At a forum held on the steps of Duke Chapel, close to where the noose was discovered at 2 a.m., hundreds of people gathered. "You came here for the reason that you want to say with me, This is no Duke we will accept. This is no Duke we want. This is not the Duke we're here to experience. And this is not the Duke we're here to create," Duke President Richard Brodhead told the crowd. The incident is one of several recent racist events to affect college students. Last month a fraternity at the University of Oklahoma had its charter removed after a video surfaced showing members using the N-word and referring to lynching in a chant. Two students were expelled. In February, a noose was hung around the neck of a statue of a famous civil rights figure at the University of Mississippi. A statement issued by Duke said there was a previous report of hate speech directed at students on campus. In the news release, the vice president for student affairs called the noose incident a "cowardly act." "To whomever committed this hateful and stupid act, I just want to say that if your intent was to create fear, it will have the opposite effect," Larry Moneta said Wednesday. Duke University is a private college with about 15,000 students in Durham, North Carolina. CNN's Dave Alsup contributed to this report.

### Summary 5:

Student is no longer on Duke University campus and will face disciplinary review. School officials identified the student during investigation and the person admitted to hanging the noose, Duke says. The noose, made of rope, was discovered on campus about 2 a.m.

### Example 6

#### Article:

*(CNN)He's a blue chip college basketball recruit. She's a high school freshman with Down syndrome. At first glance Trey Moses and Ellie Meredith couldn't be more different. But all that changed Thursday when Trey asked Ellie to be his prom date. Trey – a star on Eastern High School's basketball team in Louisville, Kentucky, who's headed to play college ball next year at Ball State – was originally going to take his girlfriend to Eastern's prom. So why is he taking Ellie instead? "She's great... she listens and she's easy to talk to" he said. Trey made the prom-posal (yes, that's what they are calling invites to prom these days) in the gym during Ellie's P.E. class. Trina Helson, a teacher at Eastern, alerted the school's newspaper staff to the prom-posal and posted photos of Trey and Ellie on Twitter that have gone viral. She wasn't surprised by Trey's actions. "That's the kind of person Trey is," she said. To help make sure she said yes, Trey entered the gym armed with flowers and a poster that read "Let's Party Like it's 1989," a reference to the latest album by Taylor Swift, Ellie's favorite singer. Trey also got the OK from Ellie's parents the night before via text. They were thrilled. "You just feel numb to those moments raising a special needs child," said Darla Meredith, Ellie's mom. "You first feel the need to protect and then to overprotect." Darla Meredith said Ellie has struggled with friendships since elementary school, but a special program at Eastern called Best Buddies had made things easier for her. She said Best Buddies cultivates friendships between students with and without developmental disabilities and prevents students like Ellie from feeling isolated and left out of social functions. "I guess around middle school is when kids started to care about what others thought," she said, but "this school, this year has been a relief." Trey's future coach at Ball State, James Whitford, said he felt great about the prom-posal, noting that Trey, whom he's known for a long time, often works with other kids. Trey's mother, Shelly Moses, was also proud of her son. "It's exciting to bring awareness to a good cause," she said. "Trey has worked pretty hard, and he's a good son." Both Trey and Ellie have a lot of planning to do. Trey is looking to take up special education as a college major, in addition to playing basketball in the fall. As for Ellie, she can't stop thinking about prom. "Ellie can't wait to go dress shopping" her mother said. "Because I've only told about a million people!" Ellie interjected.*

### Summary 6:

College-bound basketball star asks girl with Down syndrome to high school prom. Pictures of the two during the "prom-posal" have gone viral.



## Example 7

### Article:

*(CNN) Governments around the world are using the threat of terrorism – real or perceived – to advance executions, Amnesty International alleges in its annual report on the death penalty. "The dark trend of governments using the death penalty in a futile attempt to tackle real or imaginary threats to state security and public safety was stark last year," said Salil Shetty, Amnesty's Secretary General in a release. "It is shameful that so many states around the world are essentially playing with people's lives – putting people to death for terrorism or to quell internal instability on the ill-conceived premise of deterrence." The report, "Death Sentences and Executions 2014," cites the example of Pakistan lifting a six-year moratorium on the execution of civilians following the horrific attack on a school in Peshawar in December. China is also mentioned, as having used the death penalty as a tool in its "Strike Hard" campaign against terrorism in the restive far-western province of Xinjiang. The annual report catalogs the use of state-sanctioned killing as a punitive measure across the globe, and this year's edition contains some mixed findings. On one hand, the number of executions worldwide has gone down by almost 22% on the previous year. At least 607 people were executed around the world in 2014, compared to 778 in 2013. Amnesty's figures do not include statistics on executions carried out in China, where information on the practice is regarded as a state secret. Belarus and Vietnam, too, do not release data on death penalty cases. "The long-term trend is definitely positive – we are seeing a decrease in the number of executions (worldwide)," Audrey Gaughran, Amnesty's Director of Global Issues, told CNN. "A number of countries are closer to abolition, and there are some signs that some countries will be abolitionist by 2015. (There are) signals of a world that is nearing abolition." While the report notes some encouraging signs, it also highlights a marked increase in the number of people sentenced to death in 2014. At least 2,466 people globally are confirmed to have been handed the sentence last year, an increase of 28% compared with 2013. The report notes that the spike in sentencing is attributable to mass-sentencing in countries including Egypt and Nigeria, "against scores of people in some cases." The organization found "positive developments" worldwide, with most regions seeming to show reductions in the number of executions. Opinion: Sharp spike in death sentences . Sub-Saharan Africa, for example, saw a 28% fall in reported cases, and executions recorded in the Middle East and North Africa were down 23% compared to 2013. "Even though we've highlighted some of the negative developments... I think we would always highlight that there are positive developments," Gaughran said. "Across the board, with the exception of Europe and Central Asia there were fewer reports of executions in every region." The resumption of the use of capital punishment in Belarus – the only country in Europe and Central Asia to execute people – after a two year hiatus spoiled an near-universal decrease in countries using the death penalty by region. The United States has the dubious distinction of being the only country in the Americas to conduct executions, but the number of convicts put to death here fell slightly, from 39 in 2013 to 35 in 2014. The state of Washington also imposed a moratorium on executions last year. The U.S. remains one of the worst offenders for imposing capital punishment, with only Iran (289+), Iraq (61+), and Saudi Arabia (90+) executing more people in 2014. While figures are not available, Amnesty estimates that China also executes "thousands" of prisoners each year, "more than the rest of the world put together." The report also highlights the imperfections in the judiciary processes that lead to many sentenced to death.*

*"In the majority of countries where people were sentenced to death or executed, the death penalty was imposed after proceedings that did not meet international fair trial standards," the report stated. "In 2014 Amnesty International raised particular concerns in relation to court proceedings in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, North Korea, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Sri Lanka." The United Nations Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, last year stressed the need to move toward abolition of capital punishment. "The taking of life is too irreversible for one human being to inflict it on another," he said, in marking World Day against Death Penalty in October. "We must continue to argue strongly that the death penalty is unjust and incompatible with fundamental human rights." Amnesty estimates that at least 19,094 people were believed to be on death row at the end of 2014.*

## **Summary 7:**

Amnesty's annual death penalty report catalogs encouraging signs, but setbacks in numbers of those sentenced to death. Organization claims that governments around the world are using the threat of terrorism to advance executions. The number of executions worldwide has gone down by almost 22% compared with 2013, but death sentences up by 28%.

## **Example 8**

### **Article:**

*(CNN)Andrew Getty, one of the heirs to billions of oil money, appears to have died of natural causes, a Los Angeles Police Department spokesman said. The coroner's preliminary assessment is there was no foul play involved in the death of Getty, grandson of oil tycoon J. Paul Getty, said Detective Meghan Aguilar. Andrew Getty, 47, had "several health issues," Aguilar said, adding that an autopsy will be conducted. There is no criminal investigation underway, he said. Some medication had also been recovered from Getty's home, though investigators don't know whether Getty was taking it or what his medical history was, Ed Winter, assistant chief in the Los Angeles County coroner's office, told CNN affiliate KTLA Tuesday night. KTLA reported that Getty was found on his side near a bathroom in his home. Getty's parents, Ann and Gordon Getty, released a statement confirming their son's death and asking for privacy. Where the Getty family fortune came from. Gordon Getty is one of three living sons of J. Paul Getty, the oil baron who was thought to be the richest man in the world at the time of his death in 1976. Gordon Getty, 81, has a net worth of \$2.1 billion, according to Forbes. One other son died in 1958 and another died in 1973. Gordon Getty spearheaded the controversial sale of Getty to Texaco for \$10 billion in 1984. In its list of richest American families, Forbes estimated the Gettys' net worth to be about \$5 billion. Court records show Andrew Getty had recently filed to get a restraining order against an ex-girlfriend. A hearing in the case had been scheduled for next week. In his request, Getty said he had been diagnosed with a serious medical condition in 2013. "A rise in my blood pressure places me in grave risk of substantial and irreparable injury or death," he wrote in the petition. "My doctors have advised that heated arguments can cause my blood pressure to rise dangerously." Andrew Getty had three brothers and three half-sisters. People we've lost in 2015. CNN's*

*Doug Criss, Janet DiGiacomo, Mark Mooney, Mike Love, Julie In and Cheri Mossburg contributed to this report.*

### **Summary 8:**

Andrew Getty's death appears to be from natural causes, police say, citing coroner's early assessment. In a petition for a restraining order, Getty had written he had a serious medical condition. Police say this is not a criminal matter at this time.

### **Example 9**

#### **Article:**

*(CNN)Filipinos are being warned to be on guard for flash floods and landslides as tropical storm Maysak approached the Asian island nation Saturday. Just a few days ago, Maysak gained super typhoon status thanks to its sustained 150 mph winds. It has since lost a lot of steam as it has spun west in the Pacific Ocean. It's now classified as a tropical storm, according to the Philippine national weather service, which calls it a different name, Chedeng. It boasts steady winds of more than 70 mph (115 kph) and gusts up to 90 mph as of 5 p.m. (5 a.m. ET) Saturday. Still, that doesn't mean Maysak won't pack a wallop. Authorities took preemptive steps to keep people safe such as barring outdoor activities like swimming, surfing, diving and boating in some locales, as well as a number of precautionary evacuations. Gabriel Llave, a disaster official, told PNA that tourists who arrive Saturday in and around the coastal town of Aurora "will not be accepted by the owners of hotels, resorts, inns and the like ... and will be advised to return to their respective places." Aldazar Aurelio, a meteorologist with the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA), said the storm was centered 200 miles southwest of Aurora province as of 5 p.m. (5 a.m. ET) and heading west at a 12.5 mph clip. It's expected to make landfall Sunday morning on the southeastern coast of Isabela province and be out of the Philippines by Monday. Ahead of the storm. Isabela Gov. Faustino Dry III warned Saturday that residents should act as if this will be "no ordinary typhoon." Dry told PNA, "We do not know what the impact will be once it will make landfall.*

### **Summary 9:**

Once a super typhoon, Maysak is now a tropical storm with 70 mph winds. It could still cause flooding, landslides, and other problems in the Philippines.

### **Example 10**

#### **Article:**

*(CNN)For the first time in eight years, a TV legend returned to doing what he does best. Contestants told to "come on down!" on the April 1 edition of "The Price Is Right" encountered not host Drew Carey but another familiar face in charge of the proceedings. Instead, there was Bob Barker, who hosted the TV game show for 35 years before stepping*

*down in 2007. Looking spry at 91, Barker handled the first price-guessing game of the show, the classic "Lucky Seven," before turning hosting duties over to Carey, who finished up. Despite being away from the show for most of the past eight years, Barker didn't seem to miss a beat.*

**Summary 10:**

Bob Barker returned to host "The Price Is Right" on Wednesday. Barker, 91, had retired as host in 2007.