Activity 4: Headlines– (ANSWER KEY)

Directions: Cut the following headlines apart and distribute one to each group.

1. The country of Jolandia has the best standard of living in its history!
    (Student response may include the entirety of the graph to show the steady rate of increase over a long period of time. The graph should be kept in dollars as opposed to percent of change.)

2. New GDP numbers show real GDP per capita has plummeted in last 8 years.
    (Student response may use a scale of dollars or rate of change on Y-axis. The rate of change is likely to give the sharpest decline depending on the scale used for years (X-axis). The years chosen must include the eight years prior to the one selected by the students.)

3. The country of Jolandia's president should be impeached! Real GDP per capita is at all-time low!
    (Student response can draw from any point in time when real GDP per capita has sharply decreased. The Y- axis may be represented in dollars or percent change with students explaining their rationale.)

4. New real GDP per capita data shows the standard of living in the country of Jolandia is completely unpredictable.
    (Student response should focus on a narrow time period to show great fluctuation in the real GDP per capita. Smaller intervals on both axes will accentuate this fluctuation.)

5. While big businesses make record profits, people aren't feeling the benefit with an increase in standard of living.
    (This is likely the most challenging headline to present. Students should conclude that a lack of increase in the standard of living means that real GDP per capita is relatively flat over a period of time. Students should narrow the time frame to include a flat period and choose small intervals on both axes to accentuate this.)

6. Why has there been no improvement in our standard of living? Real GDP per capita in the country of Jolandia shows no change yet again!
    (Students should narrow the time frame to include a flat period and choose small intervals on both axes to accentuate this. Students may choose to use percent of change with the values hovering at or near zero.)