



“Reporting the News” UBD Performance Assessment

Over the last year the focus of sixth grade language arts has been capitalization and punctuation. Instead of having one major test to assess your understanding of this unit, you are being asked to complete an assessment which will assess your ability to use three vital skills:

1. Your ability to correctly utilize all of the new skills and grammar rules you have learned so far this year.
2. Your ability to work cooperatively in a group in order to efficiently complete a task.
3. Your ability to be creative and have fun while successfully meeting the previous two goals.

Your tasks for this **200** point performance assessment is to create, design, edit, and publish a seven section classroom newspaper. Each class will be divided into groups consisting of 4-6 students. Each group is responsible for producing 1(one) newspaper. Microsoft Publisher will be used in order to complete this task.

Each Newspaper will consist of the following seven sections:

1. Cover/Lead story
2. Editorial
3. Sports
4. Entertainment
5. Celebrity Profile
6. Advice Column
7. About Writers Section.

Each group is responsible for deciding which members will work on each individual assignment. It is recommended that at least two people be assigned to complete each individual section. Group members may work on more than one section of the paper. Be aware, that you (the group) are responsible for all of the following:

- ☆ assigning each individual's role
- ☆ creating story lines
- ☆ writing all articles
- ☆ conducting and transcribing all interviews
- ☆ researching information as needed
- ☆ editing the paper (this means checking capitalization, punctuation, and grammar)
- ☆ designing the layout of the newspaper (this include color, pictures, designs, font, etc.)



Microsoft Publisher will be used to complete this assignment. The Newsletter format is what you will use in order to design your newspaper. Although there are numerous newsletter formats to choose from, you are limited the following four formats:

- 📌 Accessory Bar newsletter
- 📌 Art boxes newsletter
- 📌 Kids Stuff newsletter
- 📌 Tipped Title newsletter

Your group may change the fonts, pictures, etc. of the above formats, but you are required to choose one of the above four. There will be a special folder created so only you and your group will be allowed to work on the newspaper.

Required Sections



1. Cover Story

- Headline
- Interviews required (min. 5 (five) questions)
- Picture (not Clip-Art)
- Min. 3-4 well-written paragraphs

2. Editorial

- Title/Headline
- An editorial is an opinion-based response to an issue
- Picture
- Min. 2 (two) well-written paragraphs
 - ↳ Examples of great topics for editorials
 - ☆ Cafeteria (food, set-up, calling of lunch tables)
 - ☆ Dress Code
 - ☆ Length of the passing period
 - ☆ 6th grade lack of sports participation

3. Sports

- Headline
- Interviews required (min. 5 (five) questions)
- Picture (not Clip-Art)
- Min. 2-3 well-written paragraphs
- If applicable to your article:
 - ↳ Scores
 - ↳ Stats
 - ↳ Season record
 - ↳ High scorers
 - ↳ Points per game/meet

4. Entertainment

- Title/Headline
- Choice of Movie, Music, Play, Book, or Tap Review
- Picture (not Clip-Art, excluding TAP)
- Min. 2 well-written paragraphs

Movie

Title
 Genre/Type of Movie
 Rating
 Major Actors
 Summary of Movie Plot
 Reporter's opinion
 ☆Reporters rating: Thumbs/Stars ⇨

Book

Title
 Author
 Summary of story
 Main Characters
 Reporter's opinion
 Genre/Type of Book
 Same

TAP

Attendance
 Who's who?
 Activities
 High/lows
 Reporter's opinion
 Interviews
 Same

5. Celebrity Profile

- Min. of 2 (two) people profiled (1 major celebrity & 1 Lisle Celebrity)
- Picture (not Clip-Art)
- Min. 1 (one) well-written paragraph (per celebrity)
- Required information:

↳ Name

↳ Birthday (Place of Birth if available)

↳ Interest/Activities

↳ Accomplishments

↳ Interview (Min. 6 questions w/ teacher approval) **LISLE**

↳ One thing that you would change about LHS? **LISLEONLY**

↳ Additional information (your discretion)

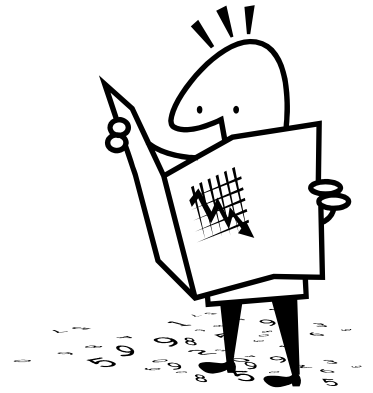
↳ Parting Comments

6. Advice Column

- Title of Column
- Min. 3 (three) responses
- Advice question should be placed before response
- Min. 1 well-written paragraph (per response)
- Picture of columnist (non Clip-Art)

7. About Writers Section

- Picture of Group (non Clip-Art)
- Names of Group members w/ job description
- Min. 1 (one) well-written short paragraph about the group



All of the above sections are required for successful completion of this assessment. Failure to complete all required sections will result in loss of credit and will negatively impact the grade for the entire group. It is strongly suggested that each group assign two (2) people per reporting assignment; therefore, if one person loses his/her notes or materials, there is always a back-up.

As previously mentioned, if a person or persons in the group are not adequately contributing, the teacher should be informed immediately. If the teacher is not made aware of the problem well in advance of the project due date, all members of the group will receive the same grade. For those people who can not work productively in a group, you may be asked to complete the entire project alone or you can/will receive zero credit for this assignment.

Below is a list of optional sections which can be added to your newspaper. These are not required and should only be attempted after the majority of the newspaper has been completed. Although these sections are optional, if a group decides to use one or all of these, they should be completed to the best of your ability. Sloppy work can/will result in the loss of points for overall presentation.



Optional Sections

A. Cartoon Strip

- Original design
- Color

B. Game Section

- 1 game required (can be word search, cross word, etc.)
- Great puzzle resource www.Puzzlemaker.com

C. Horoscope

- All Zodiac signs w/dates
- 1-2 sentence blurb

D. Weather Forecast

- 2-3 sentence weather report
- 5 day forecast w/picture depiction of conditions (Clip-Art strongly recommended)

Two weeks worth of class time will be devoted to finishing this project. It is your responsibility to make arrangements with your parents if you need to stay after school to attend a game, dance, etc. It is also your responsibility to inform your teacher when digital pictures need to be taken for your paper. This project is worth a total of **200** points. Creativity, neatness, and use of class time will be factored into the final grade. Sloppy work will not accepted!

All Newspapers will be printed out during class. **Late Newspapers will not be accepted!!!!!!**
No Exceptions!!!!!!