

# Unit 4: The Writing Process

Content Area: **ELA**  
Course(s): **Sample Course, Journalism 1**  
Time Period: **MarApr**  
Length: **4 weeks; Grades 11-12**  
Status: **Published**

## **Title Section**

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## **Department of Curriculum and Instruction**



**Belleville Public Schools**

**Curriculum Guide**

**Journalism 1: Grades 11 -12**

**Unit 4: The Writing Process**

**Belleville Board of Education**

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## **Unit Overview**

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The writing process is essential to all aspects of effective communication, especially journalism. Unit 3: The Writing Process includes lessons to promote skilled writers who capture information and make it accessible, understandable, and thought-provoking. The unit includes the tools to promote effective writing that includes factual accuracy, proper grammar, and appropriate and intriguing language. The themes for the unit include newsworthiness, understanding the audience, copyediting rules, and timeliness. In addition, students will discover the journalistic style and format which includes the 5W and H and the use of the inverted pyramid.

## **Enduring Understanding**

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1. Newspapers evolved to report on news and become a major influence on society.
2. Literary styles effect how news is interpreted by the reader.
3. The writer's tone and style relates to the writer's purpose for the publication.
4. Accuracy, balance and audience awareness are essential to good journalism.

## **Essential Questions**

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- What methods of brainstorming and planning are necessary for effective news writing?

- What is the most effective means of revising and editing a piece of writing?
- How are reporting and researching utilized in composing articles?
- How does word choice and sentence structure impact meaning, readability, and interest?
- What are the organizational methods that effective journalists use to display their ideas or story?
- How can grammar and punctuation and tone change meaning?

## Exit Skills

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- Determine and write newsworthy stories
- Distinguish authorial voices that are appropriate for specific journalistic stories
- Read and write a variety of articles
- Determine an author's voice for their audience
- Edit, revise and rewrite articles
- Apply the 5W & H and inverted pyramid styles to writing (who, what, when, where, why and how)

## New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSL-S)

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LA.W.9-10.2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.
LA.W.9-10.2.A	Introduce a topic; organize complex ideas, concepts, and information to make important connections and distinctions; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., figures, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.
LA.W.9-10.2.B	Develop the topic with well-chosen, relevant, and sufficient facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic.
LA.W.9-10.2.C	Use appropriate and varied transitions to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among complex ideas and concepts.
LA.W.9-10.2.D	Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to manage the complexity of the topic.
LA.W.9-10.2.E	Establish and maintain a style and tone appropriate to the audience and purpose (e.g., formal and objective for academic writing) while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.
LA.W.9-10.2.F	Provide a concluding paragraph or section that supports the information or explanation presented (e.g., articulating implications or the significance of the topic).
LA.W.9-10.3	Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.
LA.W.9-10.3.A	Engage and orient the reader by setting out a problem, situation, or observation, establishing one or multiple point(s) of view, and introducing a narrator and/or characters; create a smooth progression of experiences or events.
LA.W.9-10.3.B	Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, description, reflection, and multiple plot lines, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters.

- LA.W.9-10.3.C Use a variety of techniques to sequence events so that they build on one another to create a coherent whole.
- LA.W.9-10.3.D Use precise words and phrases, telling details, and sensory language to convey a vivid picture of the experiences, events, setting, and/or characters.
- LA.W.9-10.3.E Provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on what is experienced, observed, or resolved over the course of the narrative.

## Interdisciplinary Connections

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- TECH.8.2.12.E Computational Thinking: Programming: Computational thinking builds and enhances problem solving, allowing students to move beyond using knowledge to creating knowledge.

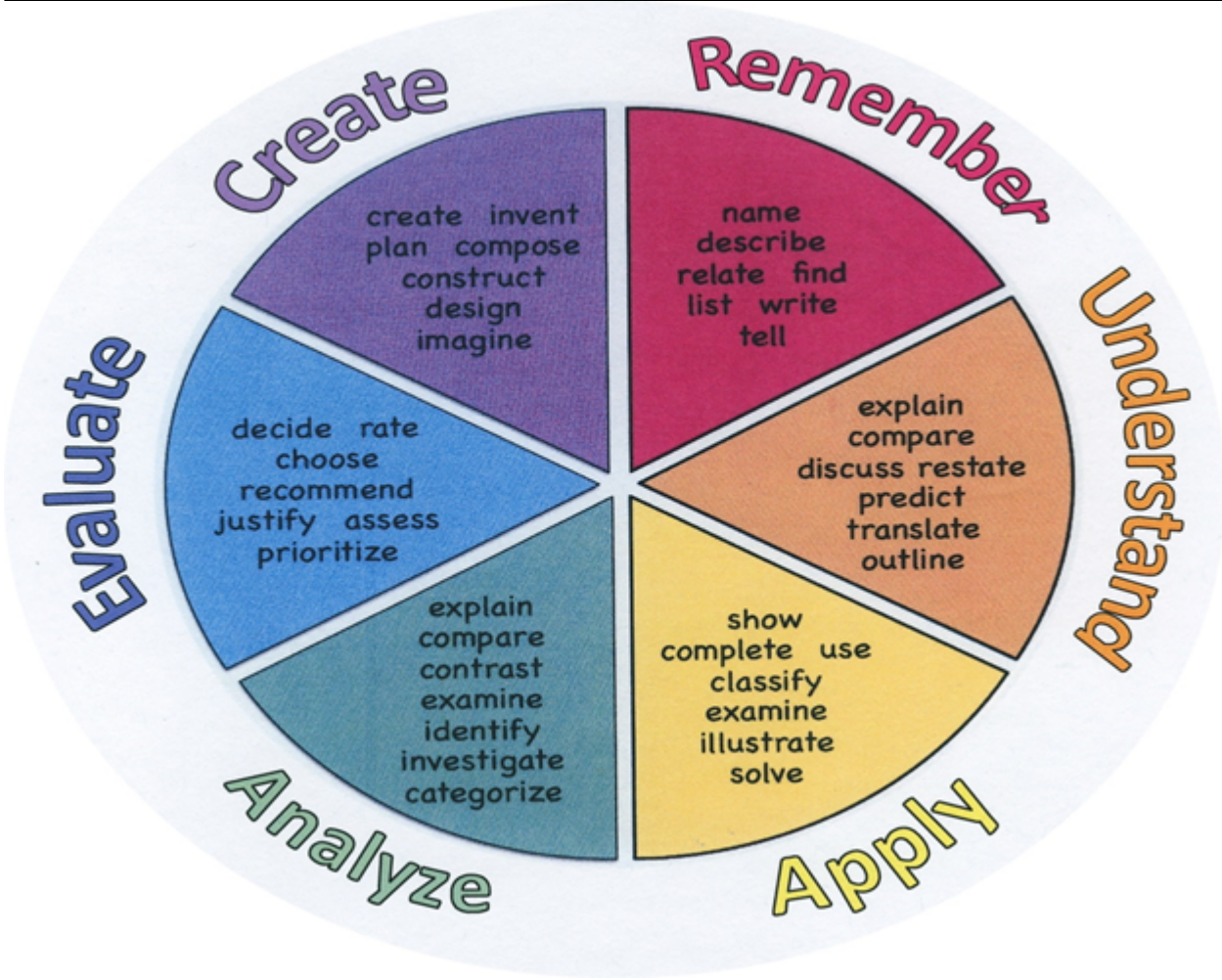
## Learning Objectives

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- Write and revise multiple drafts of different types of journalism articles
- Incorporate verifiable research and accurate reporting into writing
- Write articles for different types of audiences
- Apply the inverted pyramid construction and apply journalistic style to articles
- Identify the central point of a story
- Write headlines, leads, and full stories
- Understand how to achieve tightly written news and feature stories
- Develop and strengthen writing by planning, revising, editing, and rewriting

Remember	Understand	Apply	Analyze	Evaluate	Create
Choose	Classify	Choose	Categorize	Appraise	Combine
Describe	Defend	Dramatize	Classify	Judge	Compose
Define	Demonstrate	Explain	Compare	Criticize	Construct
Label	Distinguish	Generalize	Differentiate	Defend	Design
List	Explain	Judge	Distinguish	Compare	Develop
Locate	Express	Organize	Identify	Assess	Formulate
Match	Extend	Paint	Infer	Conclude	Hypothesize
Memorize	Give Examples	Prepare	Point out	Contrast	Invent
Name	Illustrate	Produce	Select	Critique	Make
Omit	Indicate	Select	Subdivide	Determine	Originate
Recite	Interrelate	Show	Survey	Grade	Organize
Select	Interpret	Sketch	Arrange	Justify	Plan
State	Infer	Solve	Breakdown	Measure	Produce
Count	Match	Use	Combine	Rank	Role Play
Draw	Paraphrase	Add	Detect	Rate	Drive
Outline	Represent	Calculate	Diagram	Support	Devise
Point	Restate	Change	Discriminate	Test	Generate
Quote	Rewrite	Classify	Illustrate		Integrate
Recall	Select	Complete	Outline		Prescribe
Recognize	Show	Compute	Point out		Propose
Repeat	Summarize	Discover	Separate		Reconstruct
Reproduce	Tell	Divide			Revise
	Translate	Examine			Rewrite
	Associate	Graph			Transform
	Compute	Interpolate			

	Convert Discuss Estimate Extrapolate Generalize Predict	Manipulate Modify Operate Subtract			
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**Suggested Activities & Best Practices**

- Write editorial
- Write column
- Create school newsletter
- Interview project/video

## **Assessment Evidence - Checking for Understanding (CFU)**

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Create a newsletter - summative assessment

Write an original column - summative assessment

Evaluate an existing newsletter - alternative assessment

Class discussions - formative assessment

- Admit Tickets
- Anticipation Guide
- Common Benchmarks
- Compare & Contrast
- Create a Multimedia Poster
- DBQ's
- Define
- Describe
- Evaluate
- Evaluation rubrics
- Exit Tickets
- Explaining
- Fist- to-Five or Thumb-Ometer
- Illustration
- Journals
- KWL Chart
- Learning Center Activities
- Multimedia Reports
- Newspaper Headline
- Outline
- Question Stems
- Quickwrite
- Quizzes
- Red Light, Green Light
- Self- assessments
- Socratic Seminar
- Study Guide
- Surveys
- Teacher Observation Checklist
- Think, Pair, Share
- Think, Write, Pair, Share

- Top 10 List
- Unit review/Test prep
- Unit tests
- Web-Based Assessments
- Written Reports

## **Primary Resources & Materials**

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### **Textbooks:**

*Journalism Today*

*Introduction to Journalism*

*Exploring Journalism and the Media*

## **Ancillary Resources**

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[www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)

[www.newseum.org](http://www.newseum.org)

*The Wall Street Journal*

*The New York Times*

*The Star Ledger*

## **Technology Infusion**

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Google Chromebook

OnCourse

Google Classroom

Microsoft Publisher

# Win 8.1 Apps/Tools Pedagogy Wheel

Podcasts  
 Photostory 3  
 Kid Story Builder  
 Music Maker Jam  
 Paint A Story  
 Office 365  
 MS PowerPoint  
 Stack 'Em Up  
 NqSquared Numbers  
 Physamajig  
 Xylophone 8

Wikipedia  
 Skydrive  
 Lync  
 SkyMap  
 Skype  
 Office 365  
 Puzzle Touch  
 Easy QR  
 Memorylage  
 Life Moments  
 Word Cloud Maker

Where's Waldo?  
 MS Excel  
 Flipboard  
 Office 365  
 Nova Mindmapping

Ted Talks  
 Record Voice Pen



Originally taken from <http://www.coetail.com/vzimmer/files/2013/02/IPadagogy-Wheel.001.jpg>  
 And adapted for Windows 8.1 devices by Charlotte Beckhurst @CharBeckhurst



## **Alignment to 21st Century Skills & Technology**

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### **Key SUBJECTS AND 21st CENTURY THEMES**

- English, reading or language arts
- History
- Government and Civics

### **21st Century Skills/Interdisciplinary Themes**

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- Communication and Collaboration
- Creativity and Innovation
- Critical thinking and Problem Solving
- ICT (Information, Communications and Technology) Literacy
- Information Literacy
- Life and Career Skills
- Media Literacy

### **21st Century Skills**

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- Civic Literacy
- Environmental Literacy
- Financial, Economic, Business and Entrepreneurial Literacy
- Global Awareness
- Health Literacy

LA.L.11-12.1	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
LA.L.11-12.2	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.
LA.L.11-12.3	Apply knowledge of language to understand how language functions in different contexts, to make effective choices for meaning or style, and to comprehend more fully when reading or listening.

### **Differentiation**

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Differentiations:

- Small group instruction
- Small group assignments

- Extra time to complete assignments
- Pairing oral instruction with visuals
- Repeat directions
- Study guides
- Teacher reads assessments allowed
- Rephrase written directions
- Additional time
- Preview vocabulary
- Preview content & concepts
- Behavior management plan
- Highlight text
- Student(s) work with assigned partner
- Visual presentation
- Assistive technology
- Auditory presentations

#### Hi-Prep Differentiations:

- Alternative formative and summative assessments
- Group investigations
- Guided Reading
- Independent research and projects
- Leveled rubrics
- Multiple intelligence options
- Multiple texts
- Project-based learning
- Problem-based learning
- Tiered activities/assignments

#### Lo-Prep Differentiations

- Flexible grouping
- Goal setting with students
- Open-ended activities
- Think-Pair-Share
- Varied journal prompts
- Varied supplemental materials

### **Special Education Learning (IEP's & 504's)**

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- Modifications as dictated in the student's IEP/504 Plan

- Additional time for skill mastery
  - Behavior management plan
  - Modified test/test length
  - Study guides provided
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- printed copy of board work/notes provided
  - additional time for skill mastery
  - assistive technology
  - behavior management plan
  - Center-Based Instruction
  - check work frequently for understanding
  - computer or electronic device utilizes
  - extended time on tests/ quizzes
  - have student repeat directions to check for understanding
  - highlighted text visual presentation
  - modified assignment format
  - modified test content
  - modified test format
  - modified test length
  - multiple test sessions
  - multi-sensory presentation
  - preferential seating
  - preview of content, concepts, and vocabulary
  - Provide modifications as dictated in the student's IEP/504 plan
  - reduced/shortened reading assignments
  - Reduced/shortened written assignments
  - secure attention before giving instruction/directions
  - shortened assignments
  - student working with an assigned partner
  - teacher initiated weekly assignment sheet
  - Use open book, study guides, test prototypes

## **English Language Learning (ELL)**

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- Using videos, illustrations, pictures and drawings to explain or clarify
  - Providing study guides
  - Decreasing amount of work presented/required
  - Modifying tests
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- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
  - using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify

- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning;
- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- decreasing the amount of work presented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers
- using computer word processing spell check and grammar check features
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests

## **At Risk**

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- Using videos, illustrations, pictures and drawings to explain or clarify
  - Providing study guides
  - Decreasing amount of work presented/required
  - Modifying tests
- 
- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
  - teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
  - allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning
  - allowing students to select from given choices
  - allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
  - collaborating (general education teacher and specialist) to modify vocabulary, omit or modify items to reflect objectives for the student, eliminate sections of the test, and determine how the grade will be determined prior to giving the test.
  - decreasing the amount of work presented or required
  - having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes
  - marking students' correct and acceptable work, not the mistakes
  - modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
  - providing study guides
  - reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
  - reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
  - tutoring by peers
  - using authentic assessments with real-life problem-solving
  - using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests
  - using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify

## Talented and Gifted Learning (T&G)

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- Advanced problem-solving
  - Higher order, critical and creative thinking skills and discovery
  - Allow students to work at faster pace
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- Above grade level placement option for qualified students
  - Advanced problem-solving
  - Allow students to work at a faster pace
  - Cluster grouping
  - Complete activities aligned with above grade level text using Benchmark results
  - Create a blog or social media page about their unit
  - Create a plan to solve an issue presented in the class or in a text
  - Debate issues with research to support arguments
  - Flexible skill grouping within a class or across grade level for rigor
  - Higher order, critical & creative thinking skills, and discovery
  - Multi-disciplinary unit and/or project
  - Teacher-selected instructional strategies that are focused to provide challenge, engagement, and growth opportunities
  - Utilize exploratory connections to higher-grade concepts
  - Utilize project-based learning for greater depth of knowledge

## Sample Lesson

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Using the template below, please develop a **Sample Lesson** for the first unit only.

Unit Name:

NJSLS:

Interdisciplinary Connection:

Statement of Objective:

Anticipatory Set/Do Now:

Learning Activity:

Student Assessment/CFU's:

Materials:

21st Century Themes and Skills:

Differentiation/Modifications:

Integration of Technology: