

# **Unit 3: Writing for Different Forms of Publication (Editorials, Features, and Columns)**

Content Area: **ELA**  
Course(s): **Sample Course**  
Time Period: **FebMar**  
Length: **8-10 Weeks & Grades 11-12**  
Status: **Published**

## **Title Section**

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## **Department of Curriculum and Instruction**



**Belleville Public Schools**

**Curriculum Guide**

## **Journalism 2: Grades 11 -12**

## **Unit 3: Writing for Different Forms of Publication**

**Belleville Board of Education**

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## **Unit Overview**

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Unit 3: Writing for Different Forms of Publication explains how to write different types of news articles including editorials, columns, and features. The unit will describe types of organizational styles for news and feature stories, and how to achieve tightly written news. Students will explore how each type of written work is categorized and what are the purposes of each of these pieces are in journalism.

## **Enduring Understanding**

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1. Feature writers have more flexibility, and they are allotted more creativity than other reporters.
2. Defining a subject, identifying the message, deciding how to present your message, putting the story together, and finishing the story are the five steps to creating the feature article.
3. Opinion writers use the eitorial page to advance an argument or discuss important issues of the day.
4. Editorials play a major role in stimulating debate and discussion.
5. Columns give writers flexibility in which they have license to use humor or lay out sharp insights to the reader.
6. Columns give the writer the opportunity to combine opinion with supportive facts and transfer a message to the writer's audience.

## 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 and opinion pieces?
- How does word choice and sentence structure impact meaning, readability, and interest?
- How can grammar and punctuation change meaning?

## Exit Skills

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- Write an editorial
- Write a feature
- Write a column
- Identify different types of journalistic styles and tone
- Write and revise multiple drafts of writing using the conventions of the English language
- Incorporate verifiable research and accurate reporting into writing

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

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|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| LA.RL.11-12.1 | Cite strong and thorough textual evidence and make relevant connections to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.          |
| LA.RL.11-12.2 | Determine two or more themes or central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to produce a complex account; provide an objective summary of the text. |
| LA.RL.11-12.3 | Analyze the impact of the author's choices regarding how to develop and relate elements of a story or drama (e.g., where a story is set, how the action is ordered, how the characters are introduced and developed).                           |
| LA.RI.11-12.1 | Accurately cite strong and thorough textual evidence, (e.g., via discussion, written response, etc.), to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferentially,  |

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
|                 | including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.  |
| LA.RI.11-12.2   | Determine two or more central ideas of a text, and analyze their development and how they interact to provide a complex analysis; provide an objective summary of the text.   |
| LA.RI.11-12.3   | Analyze a complex set of ideas or sequence of events and explain how specific individuals, ideas, or events interact and develop over the course of the text.   |
| LA.RI.11-12.6   | Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text in which the rhetoric is particularly effective, analyzing how style and content contribute to the power, persuasiveness or beauty of the text.  |
| LA.RI.11-12.7   | Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words in order to address a question or solve a problem.  |
| LA.W.11-12.1    | Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.  |
| LA.W.11-12.2    | 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.11-12.3    | Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.   |
| LA.SL.11-12.1.A | Come to discussions prepared, having read and researched material under study; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence from texts and other research on the topic or issue to stimulate a thoughtful, well reasoned exchange of ideas.             |
| LA.SL.11-12.1.B | Collaborate with peers to promote civil, democratic discussions and decision-making, set clear goals and assessments (e.g., student developed rubrics), and establish individual roles as needed.   |
| LA.SL.11-12.1.C | Propel conversations by posing and responding to questions that probe reasoning and evidence; ensure a hearing for a full range of positions on a topic or issue; clarify, verify, or challenge ideas and conclusions; and promote divergent and creative perspectives. |

## **Interdisciplinary Connections**

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| TECH.8.1.12   | Educational Technology: All students will use digital tools to access, manage, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to solve problems individually and collaborate and to create and communicate knowledge.    |
| TECH.8.1.12.B | Creativity and Innovation: Students demonstrate creative thinking, construct knowledge and develop innovative products and process using technology.  |
| TECH.8.1.12.C | Communication and Collaboration: Students use digital media and environments to communicate and work collaboratively, including at a distance, to support individual learning and contribute to the learning of others. |

## **Learning Objectives**

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- Understand how feature writing compares to newswriting and other aspects of journalism
- Identify an editorial, feature and column
- Organize material to write an editorial, feature story, and column

- Summarize the characteristics of different journalism styles
- Use copyediting symbols and style guides for writing articles
- Identify the writer's tone and purpose
- Write articles for specific audiences and various purposes

| 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       | Manipulate  |               |           |             |
|           | Discuss       | Modify      |               |           |             |
|           | Estimate      | Operate     |               |           |             |
|           | Extrapolate   | Subtract    |               |           |             |
|           | Generalize    |             |               |           |             |
|           | Predict       |             |               |           |             |



### Suggested Activities & Best Practices

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- Publish an editorial, feature and column
- Blog Project
- School newsletter
- Chapter 5 Test
- Writing workshop
- Peer editing

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

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Publish an editorial, feature and column - summative assessment

Blog project - alternative assessment

Unit test - summative 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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**Workbook:** *Media Literacy Thinking Critically About Newspapers & Magazines*

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

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

*The Wall Street Journal*

*The New York Times*

*Online news articles and videos*

## **Technology Infusion**

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SMART TV

Google Classroom

Google Chromebooks

OnCourse

Online newspaper subscriptions



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

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

Ted Talks  
Record Voice Pen



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

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|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| CAEP.9.2.12.C.5 | Research career opportunities in the United States and abroad that require knowledge of world languages and diverse cultures. |
| CAEP.9.2.12.C.7 | Examine the professional, legal, and ethical responsibilities for both employers and employees in the global workplace.       |

## **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

## **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

- 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
- multi-sensory presentation
- multiple test sessions
- 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
  - Allow students to correct errors
  - Reduce lengthy reading assignments
- 
- 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
- Create a blog
- Complete activities aligned with above grade level text using Benchmark results

- 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: