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News Values, News Gathering, Sources, Interviewing

We will cover
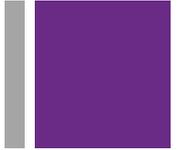
- News values

- Newsgathering

- Sources

- Interviewing

As defined by JEA standards

- Go to https://curriculum.jea.org/wp/

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- Then, pull down **Curriculum**

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Newsgathering

- News judgment: process journalists use to determine what is newsworthy based on the following factors, also known as news values

News Values

- Impact

- Timeliness

- Proximity

- Prominence

- Conflict

- Novelty or oddity

- Emotion

Impact

- Impact is another way of measuring relevance or usefulness. Questions to consider:
  - ✓ How many people are affected?
  - ✓ How direct is the effect?
  - ✓ How immediate is the effect?

Timeliness

- If news is to relevant and useful, it must be timely in the reporting of immediate or recent events.
  - ✓ Your audience wants and needs news as quickly as possible.
  - ✓ Be careful as speed should never be an excuse for inaccurate information.
  - ✓ The time to tell an important or interesting story is as soon as possible.

Proximity

- People are more concerned about and interested when it happens close to where they live.
  - ✓ Among events of roughly equal importance, the one nearest your audience is the most newsworthy.
  - ✓ Some events are of interest and have news value only in the communities where they occur.

Prominence

- Prominence can be divided into three categories:
  - ✓ Prominence-eminence: involves people by who their elected or appointed titles are newsmakers.

  - ✓ Prominence-celebrity: involves people who are prominent because of their celebrity status.

  - ✓ Prominence-notoriety: involves people who are once ordinary citizens but through their actions or experiences are thrust into public spotlight.
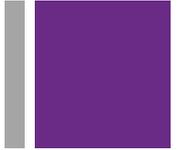
Conflict

- Conflict can be found in both hard-news and human-interest stories:
  - ✓ Physical conflict: such as war or sports.

  - ✓ Oral conflict: such as political debates or citizenship complaints against the police department.
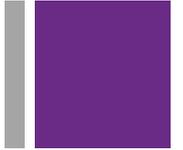
Novelty or oddity

- Novelty/oddity involves events that deviate dramatically from what most would consider to be normal, everyday experiences.

Emotion

- The story evokes any range of emotion from the reader. It helps them connect to the story.

Newsgathering

- Research: reporters conduct research to develop background information for their stories, to locate sources, and to gain knowledge of their sources and topic.

- Internet searches, database use, public records and polls and surveys are some of the tools reporters use for research.

Newsgathering

- Observation: other than interviewing, observation is the most essential tool reporters have for gathering information.

- Reporters witness events with their own eyes and take notes. Also, when interviewing, reporters observe the subject and the surrounding environment, like a detective, looking for clues.

Newsgathering - Sources

- Primary sources: In background research, primary sources are the original material, such as public record, a transcript of a trial or speech, or a letter or email written by a key witness or subject.

- With interviewing, primary sources are the people with first-hand information, who have direct experience of a story topic or event.

Newsgathering - Sources

- Secondary source: information presented in response to first-had events or experiences.

- In interviews, this is information that might be called "hearsay" in a trial – information that has been passed down from one person to the person being interviewed.

- In research, secondary sources are reports derives from primary sources, such as articles from magazine or newspapers.
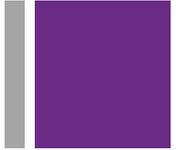
Interviewing

- 5W and 1H

- Who, what, when, where, why and how are the building blocks for developing interview questions.

- In every story, reporters should be able to quickly note the answers to all 5W's after their reporting is done and before they start writing.

Interviewing

- Open-ended questions: questions used in an interview that require a sentence or more as a response. Sources respond in their own words, providing complete thoughts.

- These questions often begin with "why,," "how," "what happened," or "tell me about…."

Interviewing

- Close-ended question: this is a question that elicits a one-word response, including yes/no questions.

- Close-ended questions are good for poll questions, but in interviews they are best avoided unless paired with a follow-up question.

Interviewing

- Follow-up questions: these questions are used to develop a response to a recent question during an interview.

- They can be planned or be the result of listening closely to an answer, particularly if an answer seems incomplete.

- Follow-up questions also may be asked at a later time after an initial interview.
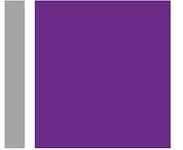
Interviewing

- Quotation: direct expression of a source.

- Quotations, or quotes, are the word-for-word response by a source that requires quotation marks within a story.

- Indirectly, it is paraphrasing of comments or information provided by a specific source.

Interviewing

- Direct quote: the exact words provided by a source, usually gained through an interview.

- Direct quotes must be contained within quotation marks. Punctuation goes within the quotation marks and attribution goes after the first sentence of the quote.

Interviewing

- Indirect quote: information provided by a source that is paraphrased by the writer and used without quotation marks. This is usually a close rephrasing of something someone said, but not word-for-word.

- Indirect quotes must also be attributed.

Interviewing

- Format interview: this is a well-planned interview, usually a sit-down between interviewer and interviewee.

- If in-person isn't an option, Zoom, Facetime, Skype, email, etc. are other ways to interview someone.

Getting answers

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