WRITING LIKE A REPORTER
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OBJECTIVES OF A NEWS WRITING CLASS
• CRITICALLY EVALUATE INFORMATION
• GAIN PRACTICAL SKILLS OF GATHERING INFORMATION AND WRITING NEWS
• PRACTICE CLEAR AND CONCISE REPORTING AND WRITING (FOR VARIOUS MEDIA)
• INFORM DIVERSE POPULATIONS AND COMMUNITIES
• CREATE ACCURATE, RELEVANT, AND SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE NEWS CONTENT
• DEVELOP CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS CONTRIBUTING TO EFFECTIVE PUBLIC DISCOURSE

5WS AND 1H; THE INVERTED PYRAMID
• WHO
• WHAT
• WHEN
• WHERE
• WHY
• HOW

THE PROCESS OF NEWS WRITING
• ASSESSING AUDIENCE AND COMMUNITY NEEDS
• GENERATING STORY IDEAS
• FACT-GATHERING (OBSERVATION, INTERVIEWING)
• FACT-VERIFYING (RESEARCH SKILLS)
• DRAFTING
• WRITING
• READING
• EDITING
• PROOFREADING
• PEER WORK

DEVELOPING WRITING SKILLS
• INTRODUCTION OR THE LEAD
• THESIS OR THE "SO WHAT" QUESTION
• APPROPRIATE TRANSITIONS
• LANGUAGE AND SENTENCE FORMATION
• WRITING CONCISELY
• PROVIDING EVIDENCE
THEORY INTO PRACTICE

• REFER TO THE HandOUT ON I-270 CRASH FROM NBC NEWS

• TEXAS INTERSTATE PILE-UP

STORY LEAD

A 150-VEHICLE PILE-UP WAS CAUSED DUE TO FOG ON INTERSTATE 10, 80 MILES EAST OF HOUSTON, YESTERDAY AROUND 8 A.M. THE COLLISION LEFT TWO PEOPLE DEAD AND UP TO 100 IN HOSPITAL. ACCORDING TO JEFFERSON COUNTY SHERIFF DEPARTMENT, DENSE FOG CAUSED ONE ACCIDENT AFTER ANOTHER, CAUSING THE PILE-UP.

ONLINE RESOURCES

• HTTPS://OWL.ENGLISH.PURDUE.EDU/OWL/RESOURCE/735/05/

• HTTPS://WWW.PBS.ORG/NOW/CLASSROOM/LESSONPLAN-05.HTML

• HTTPS://WWW.NORTHWESTERN.EDU/UNIV-RELATIONS/PUBLICATIONS/RESOURCES/NEWSWRITING-STYLE.HTML

• HTTPS://CUBREPORTERS.ORG/LEADS.HTML

• HTTPS://CUBREPORTERS.ORG/GRAMMAR_FOR_JOURNALISTS.HTML

• HTTPS://CUBREPORTERS.ORG/AP_STYLE

QUESTIONS