

Read,
Write,
Speak,
Listen,
View and
Learn



Getting information
from newspapers
and other media

Read, Write, Speak, Listen, View and Learn

Table of Contents

Page #-Title of Activity

Page 3-How much do you use media?

Page 4-What information do you find in newspapers?

Page 5- Which media do you use to answer questions?

Page 6-What are the advantages and disadvantages of using different media?

Page 7-Are you in the news?

Page 8- Do you get the message?

Page 9-Do you know ads?

Page 10-How are news reports structured?

Page 11-What would you choose?

Page 12-Can you be a journalist?

This guide was adapted from a 1994 publication, Read, Watch, Listen and Learn, written by Dr. Sherrye Dee Garrett, Tracy Love and James Saurbaugh, then of Lancaster (Pa.) Newspapers, Inc., and distributed by The Newspaper Association of America Foundation. This revised version was developed for NIE Week 2014 by Mary Miller and Sandra Cook. Thanks to professional educators for critiquing the text: Cynthia McFadden, Dawn Sweredoski and Mary Blow.

How much do you use media?

You choose from a variety of media, such as in print and online newspapers and magazines, video, TV and more on computers, phones and tablets. You use social media to share news with friends. Area newspapers include stories about your school.



1. How many different media do you use in one week? Look at the media shown above. Circle each kind of media you used last week. List any media not pictured.

2. How many media do you use in one day? Think about what you did yesterday. Look at the media shown above. Underline each kind of media you used yesterday. List any media not pictured.

How many media did you use last week? _____

How many media did you use yesterday? _____

A. Book B. Newspaper (varied formats) C. Cell phone D. Tablet E. Television with remote F. Laptop computer (could also represent a desktop computer) G. iPod (or similar device)

What information do you find in newspapers?

You use information every day. Your print or digital newspapers will answer many of the questions below. Draw a line from each question you can answer using newspapers, delivered in print or digitally.

What will the weather be today?
Should I wear a sweater or coat?

What items on sale do you want or need?

How busy is traffic on local roads?

What are the latest scores for high school teams?

What is on television tonight at 7:30 p.m.?

What is happening in my community?

What's showing at the closest local theaters?

What is happening in the nation?

What community events are scheduled?

Where do I find a place to meet friends after school?

Is someone whom I know in the news?



Use examples from your newspaper as evidence when discussing what you found in your newspaper. Which format of the newspaper do you turn to first for answers to specific questions?

Which media do you use to answer questions?

You find what you need to know in different media. Draw a line from each question to the image that shows the media you would use to find the answer.



- What items on sale do you want or need?
- What will the weather be today? Should I wear a sweater or coat?
- How busy is traffic on local roads?
- What is on television tonight at 7:30 p.m.?
- What is happening in my community?
- What are the latest scores for high school teams?
- What community events are scheduled?
- What is happening in the nation?
- Is someone whom I know in the news?
- What's showing at the closest local theaters?
- Where do I find a place to meet friends after school?

Discuss why you choose the media you do.

Which do you turn to first for answers to specific questions?

On the next page, explain the advantages and disadvantages of using each media.

What are the advantages and disadvantages of using different media?

Media	Advantages	Disadvantages
Newspaper		
Book		
Television		
Cell phone		
Tablet		
Computer		
iPod (or similar device)		

What new medium would you invent to help young people acquire news and information? Explain.

Are you in the news?

You probably identify with people in your favorite sections of the newspaper. Look at photos and illustrations throughout the newspaper. Be sure to check comics, sports and advertising as well as section A of your newspaper, in print and E-editions. Find people who are like you. Paste the person or write the name of the person next to each description.

**A person
doing
something
you like to do**

What traits do you have in common?

**A person who
is doing a job
that interests
you**

What traits do you have in common?

**A person who
is like you
in some way**

What traits do you have in common?

Share what you choose with a classmate, friend or family member. Were the traits physical, mental and/or emotional? Were any character traits, such as courage, responsibility, hard work or other?

Do you get the message?

Newspapers and other media help readers in different ways. Sometimes, media give news about what's going on in your community and in the world. Sometimes, media make us smile or laugh.

Think about the way you use newspapers. Cut out items from the newspaper and paste them in the boxes. Using an E-edition or newspaper website? Write the page number and/or section and brief description of each item in the appropriate box below.

A news story you find interesting

Why did you choose this item?

Something for fun

Why did you choose this item?

Now think about all types of media...

Which media do you use to obtain news and information?

Which media do you turn to for fun or entertainment?

Do you think any media provide both fun and learning? How?

Do you know ads?

How do you find out what's on sale? Where can you go to buy something you need? Newspaper ads can tell you. Find an ad in the newspaper for something you would like to buy. If you're using an E-edition, print the ad in a size that fits here. Paste the ad in the space below. Point out different parts of the ad by drawing lines from the boxes to the ad.

On the ad, circle the name of the product.

On the ad, underline words that describe the product.

On the ad, box when and where the product is available.

1. What words in the advertisement add to the product's appeal?
2. Who does the ad appeal to? Who is the intended audience?
3. Why did you select this ad? What about the ad grabbed your attention?
4. How is your chosen ad structured? How are print advertisements structured? How do print ads compare in structure to ads in other formats? Discuss and explain.

How are news reports structured?

Study types of writing in newspapers. Each type serves a specific purpose. After you choose an example, discuss its purpose and the purpose for the type of writing it represents.

Find a photo with a caption/cutline that answers the who, what, when and where questions about the photograph.			
What's the photo? Topic	Date	Page #	Section
Find a story that answers the who, what, when and where questions in the opening paragraph(s)?			
What's the story? Headline	Date	Page #	Section
Find a story that uses a soft lead. A soft lead offers a question, quote, short story (anecdote) or similar opening statement related to the topic?			
What's the story? Headline	Date	Page #	Section
Find an opinion on the editorial page(s) that opens and closes with a summary of what the writer or newspaper thinks and includes paragraphs that explain the position the writer or newspaper takes.			
What's the topic of the opinion? Headline	Date	Page #	Section
Find infographics, which include charts, graphs and/or maps.			
What's the story/topic? Heading	Date	Page #	Section

Compare the structure of news reported in newspapers with news delivered through tweets, websites, apps and other means.

What would you choose?

You'll find different kinds of stories and features in your newspaper. But maybe you would like to see more. What if you could choose what goes in the newspaper? How would it be different?

Pretend you are the editor. You want to add a new section to your local newspaper—something that young people your age would like to read. Write the name of your section at the top of the newspaper page below. Then draw a picture or write a story that could be found in your new section.

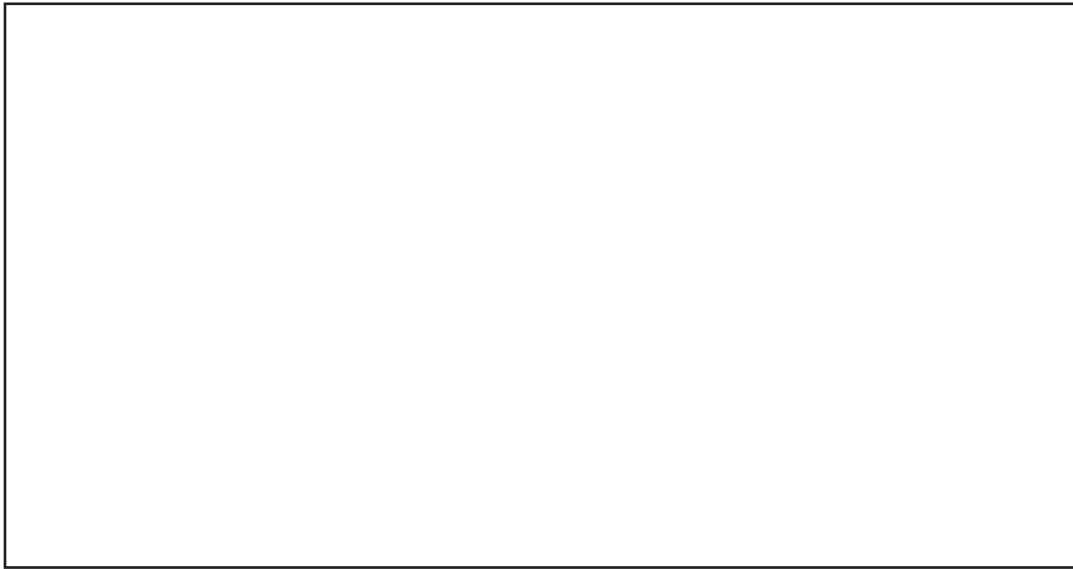
Flag or section heading:
Headline: Subhead:
Article and/or photo with caption:

Can you be the journalist?

A journalist is a person who finds the news and then writes about it. Sometimes a photographer takes a picture to go with the journalist's story. Pretend you are a journalist. Write a story below about something that has happened to you. Write a headline for your story. Draw a picture or paste a photograph in the box to go with your story. Write a cutline or caption to go with the picture or photo. Then write your story. Share your story with a friend or family member.

Write your
headline
here →

Draw a
picture or
paste a
photograph
here →



Write a cutline
or caption
here →

Write your
story
here →

<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>