**News Drafting Directions:**

Headline is short, catchy, with appropriate capitalization

by line goes here

I am a news article. I explain who, what, where, when, why, and how about the topic. I contain quotes from others about the topic. I do not contain any “I think…” “I feel…” or “I believe…” statements. I also don’t give any clues about how I feel about the topic.

**Examples:**

Invisible Children

by Clara Murphey

Have you ever feared for your life? Have you ever had a gun held in your face? Children in Northern Uganda have to live every day in fear of being captured by Joseph Kony, leader of the LRA (Lords Resistance Army). This war started in the 1980’s when Northern and Southern Uganda had different views on how things should be run and how jobs should be divided up. Ever since then, children across Northern Uganda have been kidnapped and forced to fight in the war. “This story is sad and heartbreaking,” says Jason Russell, a volunteer with Invisible Children. Jason Russell, Bobby Bailey, and Laren Poole decided to do something about it. They packed their bags, got plane tickets and took 300 dollars to Uganda for an African adventure. Then the young men made a film about the war and the night commuters once they got there. Since the start of their mission they have managed to stop night commutes and they have had meetings with the L.R.A, even though they have not met with Joseph Kony. “I encourage everyone to go to our website and help out however you can at [www.invisiblechildren.com](http://www.invisiblechildren.com),” he states in an interview.

Killer Whale Strikes Again

by Emilie South

On February 24th Dawn Brancheau, the trainer, laid down to communicate with Tilikum, a thirty year old killer whale, who appeared agitated according to awitness. Dawn was down face to face with Tilikum, one flick of the pony tail and the attack began. According to the training monitor, this whale is the biggest in captivity at twenty two feet long and weighing at twelve thousand pounds. Tilikum pulled Dawn in and shook her until she eventually died of drowning and injuries. Once the whale killed Dawn, he didn’t want to let her go. The trainers pulled the whale out, but then they had to pry his mouth open. Dawn was pronounced dead at the scene.

Unfortunately Tilikum has been known to kill. He was captured off the coast of Iceland in 1983. Tilikum and two orcas killed a twenty year old woman who fell into the tank at Sea World in British Columbia. They sold this killer whale to Sea World in Orland, Florida in 1999. A homeless man snuck in over night. He was found on Tilikum’s back having drowned the night before, and with a bite just below his waist. “That should have been a warning to not continue performances wit that animal. These animals are highly stressed, they’re medicated, and they are forced to associate with pool mates that they might not be involved with in the wild. Whales in captivity live about half as long as they do in the wild, and attacks on handlers are not uncommon.” This is a statement after the second death that that Courtney Vail said, who is part of the whale and dolphin conservation society.

Dawn was a sixteen year veteran trainer of whales at the Shamu Stadium. She was a forty year old woman with a very loving family. Her family stated, “She loved her job, and she loved her animals.” Showing he love to Tilikum, after every show she would pet, communicate, and give him treats.

The big question is: Should Tilikum still participate in the show? Well Jim Atchison says yes. He says “he’s a part of our team and he will remain a part of our team.” Jim Atchison is the president of Sea World parks and entertainment. February 27th the show resumed, but Tilikum wasn’t in it, for now at least. None of the trainers are allowed to swim with supposed to swim with whales. Since Tilikum is such a big whale he was mainly used to splash the audience.

**Features Drafting Directions:**

Headline is short, catchy, with appropriate capitalization

by line goes here

I am a features article. I explain who, what, where, when, why, and how about the interview. I contain quotes from others about the topic. I do not contain any “I think…” “I feel…” or “I believe…” statements. I also don’t give any clues about how I feel about the topic.

**Example:**

Mrs. Hemaya is Leaving Lakeview

by Kayla Simmons

It has been decided Lakeview readers: Mrs. Hemaya will no longer be an Assistant Principal at Lakeview. For the eight years that Mrs. Hemaya has been here at Lakeview, she has had as much impact on the students and teachers as the school itself.

Mrs. Hemaya started her complete teaching career at Graden Elementary, where she was a teacher for ten years. After which, she came here and became Lakeview’s Assistant Principal. With this job, she is the full time Assistant Principal in charge of discipline; as most people at Lakeview have learned. Mrs. Hemaya has given Lakeview hundreds of moments to cherish; yet, Mrs. Hemaya must move onto greater things.

On February 26th, 2009, Mrs. Hemaya was given the final verdict. She had been hired as the full time Principal of Hawthorn Elementary. Mrs. Hemaya said in an impromptu interview on March 12th, 2009, in Mrs. Hemaya’s own office, “Yes, I am very excited getting the opportunity to be [a principal] at Hawthorn Elementary.”

I asked Mrs. Hemaya if she had anything in mind that she wanted specifically to do for Hawthorne as a principal. She answered, “Not really. There are a lot of great things [already] being done at Hawthorn, but I want to still [bring] those skills of leadership [and so on].”

Mrs. Hemaya is important to Lakeview, and I asked what she would miss from Lakeview. She said, “There are [a lot] of things I’ll miss. The people [and] students.” Mrs. Hemaya is a great Assistant Principal, but I wanted know, probably like most of you, how Mrs. Hemaya proved she was the right person for the job. As you can see, her career speaks for itself, and we all can add she is more than worthy due to her great skills as an Assistant Principal, turned Principal.

Congratulations Mrs.Hemaya to your great achievement of becoming the principal of Hawthorn Elementary! We will miss you dearly here at Lakeview Middle School.

**Sports/Health Drafting Directions:**

Headline is short, catchy, with appropriate capitalization

by line goes here

I am a sports/health article. I explain who, what, where, when, why, and how about the topic. I contain quotes from others about the topic. I do not contain any “I think…” “I feel…” or “I believe…” statements. I also don’t give any clues about how I feel about the topic.

**Example:**

Royals’ Spring Training Underway

by Isaac Brizendine

After a 65-97 record and tying for last place in the division, the Royals are ready for the 2010 season. They look to rely on new players Chris Getz, Jason Kendall, Scott Podsednik, and Rick Ankiel. Many people believe that in a weak division the Royals have a shot at a winning record for the first time since 2003. Eccentric Royals fan Robert Pollan said,”The royals will be great this year. I think they’ll make it to the playoffs.” That is a bold statement by a very excited fan.

Although Cy Young Award winner Zack Greinke, veteran Gil Meche, and 2008 all-star Joakim Soria the Royals pitching staff is very weak. The lack good relievers and the bottom part of the starting rotation lacks consistency. There were many players in the free agent market that could’ve boosted their rotation, but they decided to pass. Hopefully young talents Luke Hochevar and Aaron Crow develop quickly and help the pitching staff.

Defensively last year, the Royals stunk. They had errors left and right so they added Rick Ankiel and Chris Getz to solve that. Manager Trey Hillman said this on the addition of Rick Ankiel in centerfield,” Obviously we have a lot of acreage in our ballpark in the outfield, and we need a player who's experienced and has good reads and good routes." Sounds like Hillman is happy with this year’s defense.

Billy Butler, Rick Ankiel, and Alberto Callaspo will lead the Royals’ offensive attack. The Royals did lose Mark Teahen, and Miguel Olivio who were big bats last year. Another bad thing is that 3rd baseman Alex Gordon has broken thumb and might not be ready for opening day. The hitting looks decent this year but I doubt it’ll be great.

Led by Zack Greinke and Billy Butler the Royals look to have a good year if they stay healthy and hit well. I predict the Royals will go 83-79 and have a 3rd place finish in the Al Central.

**Editorials Drafting Directions:**

Headline is short, catchy, with appropriate capitalization

by line goes here

I am an editorials article. I explain the current rules/laws around the topic, why they’re in place, what others think about them, and then my own opinion. I give both sides, even if I don’t agree with both sides. I try to show a lot of opinions, not just mine.

**Example:**

Lakeview Middle School Card System

by Kent Masters

At Lakeview, we have a “card-system”. The system is made to help monitor student’s behavior, as well as give special privileges to those who behave well. Purple card is the highest “rank” you can have. This allows you the most privileges, which include being able to go to the bathroom during class without a pass and card parties every few months. Card parties are parties for the purple and silver card holders.

In my opinion, as seventh and eighth graders here at Lakeview, I do not feel like our bladders should be monitored by our behavior, or what kind of card we have. For me, if I’m saying I need to go bad enough to leave during class, then I need to really go. In the words of George Barth, “When ya gotta go, ya gotta go.” An anonymous eighth-grader said, “If you are well behaved, a purple or silver card is something to have pride in, you earned it.”

Part of me does understand this system, though. For teachers it is a good tool to help punish students for bad behavior. Also, if one teacher is having a problem with a student talking, and looks at that particular student’s citizenship card, they will know whether or not it is a big or small issue for that student.

Overall I think that our little “system” is fair enough and well organized. I just feel that the bathroom rule is a little unfair.

**Entertainment Drafting Directions:**

Headline is short, catchy, with appropriate capitalization

by line goes here

I am an entertainment article. If I’m a review, I give all the information about what I am reviewing, other people’s opinions, and my own opinion. I show other perspectives, even if I don’t agree. If I am a different kind of entertainment article, I gather quotes and information from various sources and include them. No matter what kind of article I am, I focus on voice and interesting word choice.

**Example:**

PSP

by Angel Monarrez

This article I’m reviewing the Sony PSP (PlayStation Portable). The PSP is the handheld version of the PlayStation and the PSP comes in 3 different varieties. One of the varieties is the PSP 1000 fat, this PSP got “fat” on its name due to its weight; the PSP fat is the heaviest PSP out. The second variety is the PSP 2000 (slim), this PSP got “slim” on its name due to its slippery shell. The last variety is the PSP 3000 Brite. this PSP has “brite” on its name because it is lighter than any other PSP. “I prefer the brite because I like to put it in my back pocket” says one anonymous 7th grade Thunderhawk. There is another PSP coming out which is the PSP 4000 with the feature to use a keypad and a camera. The PSP has many features on it, like searching through the internet, watching videos, listening to music, and playing games. “It works as an iPad, basically, except it doesn’t cost as much” explains one reviewer on yahoo.com. You can put more stuff on the PSP like CFW (Custom Firmware), which can be on with a Pandora Battery and a Magic Memory Stick which makes it easier to download files without being corrupted. That’s what makes the PSP 4000 my recommendation of all the PSP handhelds available.

Horoscopes

by Jade Macken

These horoscopes are for entertainment purposes only. I actually have no psychic ability what-so-ever. Please enjoy the following. Josh Hall, Legend, says, “[The horoscopes] are completely made up and are not true.”

Aries (March 21- April 19) Don’t get cocky; put other’s needs before yours. You will have a productive week.

Taurus (April 20- May 20) Don’t take risks, you’re on a roll. You will have a pleasant week.

Gemini (May 21- June 20) Stay positive, luck will soon come your way. You will have a decent week.

Cancer (June 21- July 22) Lighten up; you’re bringing people down around you. You will have a bad week.

Leo (July 23- August 22) Keep up the good work! You’re brightening people’s moods around you! You will have a fabulous week.

Virgo (August 23- September 22) Put yourself out there. Let them know you care. You will have a boring week.

Libra (September 23- October 22) Stay away from drama, just go with the flow. You will have an uncomplicated week.

Scorpio (October 23- November 21) You will rise to the top this week. Keep working at it.

Sagittarius (November 22- December 21) Do a random act of kindness; it will work in your favor. You will have a very productive week.

Capricorn (December 22- January 19) A long time admirer thinks highly of you. You will have a pleasant week.

Aquarius (January 20- February 18) March to your own beat, don’t let people stop you. You will have a fun week.

Pisces (February 19- March 20) Chase your dream, never give up. You will feel accomplished this week.