

Write On Wednesday with The Seattle Times

June 29, 2016

Learning Objectives

- Students will analyze words and phrases to determine the purpose of newspaper headlines.
- Students will write newspaper articles to inform readers about a topic.

CCSS Standards

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.7-12.4

Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of a specific word choice on meaning and tone.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.7-12.2

Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.

Materials

- **Tuesday, June 28, 2015** in the e-Edition of The Seattle Times
- **Computers (and/or pencil and paper)**

Warm Up: What is a Headline?

Examine the following picture (on Main, A6 of the Sunday, June 26, 2016). Choose a headline to go along with this picture. Why did you choose this headline? What is the purpose of a headline?



Reading: Headlines

With a partner read the following list of headlines from the Tuesday, June 28th edition of The Seattle Times. Discuss: Based on the headline, see if you can figure out where the article belongs out of the following sections: Main, NWTuesday, Sports, Business and Editorial. (You might want to review as a class what is typically in each of these sections).

Questions to consider: What you think the article is about? How does the headline capture your attention? Why? How might this headline relate to current events you know of? Is this a front page story? What are some literary devices that the headline uses? What types of words do the authors use? Are there any headlines that confuse you? Why?

- Portland's chief of police quits amid probes into shooting
- Bird's Resurgence
- From ocean to Idaho border, state becoming less white
- Tennis instructor knows what he's talking about
- Summer rain cues rain's swan song
- Stink rises over proposed septic tank fee
- Judge approves deal in 'Happy Birthday' copyright case
- Communities must act on gun laws
- Guilty plea in worker's death in bark auger
- Amazon's new push: teaching resources
- Sparkles & Saxophones

Write On:

Pick the headline that interests/appeals to you most (or you may choose to pick the headline you came up with in the Warm Up). Without reading the original article, write your own version of a newspaper article that corresponds with this headline. As you write consider that the goal of a newspaper article is **to inform**. You might want to conduct your own research on the topic you choose to write about, and try to focus on answering the following questions:

- What happened?
- Where/when/why did it happen?
- Who is involved in the news story?
- Why should people care?

After you finish writing, find and read the original article. Compare the two articles. Does your article have anything in common with the original article? Are there any major differences between your article and the original article? Why? How can the interpretation of the headline add to or detract from the purpose of the article?

Headlines Location Answers:

- Portland's chief of police quits amid probes into shooting (NWTuesday, B5)
- Bird's Resurgence (Sports, C1)
- From ocean to Idaho border, state becoming less white (Main, A1)
- Tennis instructor knows what he's talking about (Sports, C2)
- Summer rain cues rain's swan song (Main, A1)
- Stink rises over proposed septic tank fee (Main, A1)
- Judge approves deal in 'Happy Birthday' copyright case (Main, A7)
- Communities must act on gun laws (Editorial, A11)
- Guilty plea in worker's death in bark auger (NWTuesday, B1)
- Amazon's new push: teaching resources (Business, A9)
- Sparkles & Saxophones (NWTuesday, B1)