

## **Write On Wednesday with The Seattle Times**

**August 10, 2016**

### **Learning Objectives**

- Students will use newspaper articles to analyze the structure of different types of interviews.
- Students will develop their own interview questions and produce a piece of writing based on a peer interview.

### **CCSS Standards**

#### **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.7.5**

Analyze the structure an author uses to organize a text, including how the major sections contribute to the whole and to the development of the ideas.

#### **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.7.4**

Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1-3 above.)

### **Materials**

- **The following E-Editions of The Seattle Times:**
  - Sunday, July 31<sup>st</sup> 2016
  - Monday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016
  - Sunday, August 7, 2016
- **Computers (and/or pencil and paper)**
- **Dictionary**

### **Warm Up: Conduct a Silly Interview**

Choose an object in the classroom – something like the pencil sharpener, an eraser, or your left shoe. Take five minutes and brainstorm a list of questions that you would be curious to ask that object. Next, find a partner and use your questions to interview your partner. Your partner should answer the questions, pretending as if he/she was the object that you chose. Once you finish interviewing your partner, switch and pretend to be the object that your partner chose to answer their interview questions.

Discuss with the rest of the class which questions were the best at giving insight into the object – which questions were not as good at giving insight into the object.

### **Reading: Interview Stories**

Read the following three articles from e-edition of The Seattle Times. As you read, take note of how the interviews for these articles are different. What kind of article is this? Who is the main person being interviewed? Why? What kind of questions are being asked? What kind of information do you think the reporter is trying to get out of the interview?

- “Bennett understands being told to sit out”, Sports, C3, Sunday, August 7, 2016
- “Alibaba’s tech chief touts company’s reach”, Business, A11, Monday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016
- “Cool Job: Education Director Patricia Mary Allen-Dick”, F1, Jobs, Sunday, July 31<sup>st</sup> 2016

### **Write On: Interview**

- 1) Take the next 5 – 10 minutes to brainstorm a list of questions to ask someone in your class. You might want to use the following questions as a jumping off point:
  - How old are you?
  - Where were you born?
  - Do you have any siblings?
  - What is your favorite kind of music?
  - Who is someone you look up to? Why?
  - Do you like the month that your birthday is in?
  - What do you believe your greatest talent to be?
  - What is one of your long term life goals?
  - Which subject in school do you enjoy the most?
- 2) Find a partner to interview, you might want to choose someone that you don’t already know very well. Take 10 minutes to interview your partner, taking time to write down their answers. After you finish, switch and allow your partner to interview you.
- 3) After you have the answers to your questions, practice writing a profile piece on the person that you just interviewed.