

Feature Writing For Students

Feature writing is an exciting way for students to explore storytelling, combining factual reporting with narrative techniques to engage readers deeply. Whether you're covering a school event, profiling a notable person in your community, or exploring a significant issue, feature articles allow you to delve into the subject matter with creativity and depth. Here's a simple guide to help students craft compelling feature stories.

Choosing a Topic

- **Interest and Relevance:** Pick a subject that fascinates you and is relevant to your audience.
- **Unique Angle:** Find a unique perspective or an untold aspect of a well-known story to stand out.

Research and Interviews

- **Comprehensive Research:** Gather detailed information about your topic from reliable sources.
- **Interviews:** Talk to people directly involved or knowledgeable about your subject to add depth and authenticity to your story.

Writing Your Feature

1. Headline

- Create an engaging headline that captures the essence of your story and piques curiosity.

2. Lead (Lede)

- Start with a strong opening that grabs attention. Use an anecdote, a striking fact, or a compelling question.

3. Nut Graf

- After your lead, include a paragraph that explains the significance of your story and what it will cover.

4. Body

- **Structure:** Organize your article into clear, logical sections. Use headings if necessary.
- **Main Content:** Develop your narrative, integrating background information, anecdotes, and insights from your interviews.
- **Quotes:** Incorporate direct quotes to add voice and perspective.
- **Descriptive Detail:** Use vivid descriptions to bring scenes and personalities to life, making your story engaging and immersive.

5. Conclusion

- Conclude your feature with a strong closing that leaves a lasting impression. You can circle back to your opening or end with a thought-provoking statement or question.

Tips for Effective Feature Writing

- **Show, Don't Tell:** Use specific examples and descriptions to show your readers what you mean, rather than simply telling them.
- **Voice and Tone:** While maintaining accuracy, don't be afraid to let your voice shine through, making your writing more relatable and enjoyable.
- **Engage the Senses:** Include details that engage the readers' senses, making your story more vivid and memorable.
- **Revise and Edit:** Review your work critically, checking for clarity, coherence, grammar, and spelling. Ask for feedback from peers or teachers.