

Rubric for Writing the Newspaper Article

	Commendable	Acceptable	Needs Improvement
Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear central theme • Purposeful, insightful • Each sentence adds to the main idea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central theme generally present • May include extra or loosely related ideas • Most sentences add to the main idea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central theme difficult or impossible to follow • Many random or unrelated ideas • Few sentences add to the main idea
Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearly related to the topic • Headline, lead, body, relevant quotations, conclusion • Lead provides general information • Body provides specific information • Answers: Who? What? When? Where? Why? How? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Somewhat related to the topic • Attempts headline, lead, body, quotations, conclusion • Lead is evident, though not fully or accurately developed • Body is evident, though not fully developed • Attempts to answer: Who? What? When? Where? Why? How? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No clear topic • No clear headline, lead, body, quotations, conclusion • Lead is absent or not clear • Body is not developed • Fails to answer: Who? What? When? Where? Why? How?
Conventions (optional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generally follows conventions of punctuation, capitalization, and spelling—very few errors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Somewhat follows the conventions of punctuation, capitalization, and spelling—errors do not impede meaning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follows few of the conventions of punctuation, capitalization, and spelling—many errors and/or errors impede meaning
Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Layout mimics newspaper (completed on computer) • Includes related picture or graphic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neatly written • Includes sketch of a related picture or graphic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not neat • No picture/graphic included

Chart for Writing the Newspaper Article

Headline:

Lead: (who/what/when/where/why/how—general information)

Body: Provide Specific Details

Who?

What?

When?

Where?

Why?

How?

What People Involved Said:

Conclusion:

Transparency Chart:

	Who?	What?	Where?	When?	Why?	How?
Lead: (general information)						
Body: (specific details)						

Conclusion:

