

Inkquest — Activity Book

A Spark & Anvil activity book — puzzles, questions, and fun from Inkquest.

Write in the book, circle your answers, and check the Answer Key at the back.

1. what_is_journalism

Circle the correct answer

1. What is the primary purpose of journalism?

(A) To sell products through advertising (B) To share personal opinions as facts (C) To entertain people with fictional stories (D) To inform the public about events, issues, and ideas accurately and fairly

2. What are the '5 Ws and 1 H' that every news story should answer?

(A) Want, Wish, Win, Wonder, Wait, and Hope (B) Write, Whom, Which, Went, Was, and Had (C) Work, Watch, Warn, Walk, Weigh, and Help (D) Who, What, When, Where, Why, and How

3. What is the name for the first paragraph of a news article that summarizes the most important information?

(A) The lead (or lede) (B) The caption (C) The byline (D) The headline

4. What is the term for a journalist who has a regular assignment covering a specific topic like sports, politics, or education?

(A) Freelance writer (B) Beat reporter (C) Anchor (D) Copy editor

5. What does 'freedom of the press' mean?

(A) The government writes the news for the press (B) Journalists can print whatever they want without consequences (C) The right of journalists and media organizations to report news without government censorship or interference (D) Newspapers are free to read

6. Why is it important for journalists to verify information from multiple sources before publishing a story?

(A) Multiple sources help confirm accuracy, reduce the risk of spreading misinformation, and provide a more complete picture of events (B) Because one source is never telling the truth (C) Because it makes the article longer (D) Because editors require at least three quotes per story

Write the answer

7. How does a news article differ from an editorial?

Answer: _____

8. Why do newspapers use the 'inverted pyramid' structure for news stories?

Answer: _____

9. Explain why journalists protect the identity of confidential sources.

Answer: _____

10. How does citizen journalism differ from professional journalism?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. A fire breaks out at a local school. Using the 5 Ws and 1 H, which question would you answer first in your lead paragraph? →

2. You are writing a story about a new park being built in your neighborhood. Which of these would be the best headline? →

3. You witness a car accident and want to report what happened accurately. What should you do first? →

4. Your school newspaper editor asks you to cover the science fair. How would you make the story interesting for readers who didn't attend? →

5. You receive an anonymous tip that a local business is polluting a nearby river. What is your first responsible step as a student journalist? →

(A) Focus on the most creative or surprising projects, include quotes from students about their work, and describe what you saw in vivid detail

(B) Verify the claim by researching public records and visiting the site to observe before writing anything

(C) Observe carefully and take notes on what you saw, including specific details like time, location, and what happened in order

(D) City Approves \$2 Million Park for Oak Street Neighborhood

(E) What happened and where — 'A fire broke out at Lincoln Elementary School'

2. finding_evaluating_sources

Circle the correct answer

11. What is a 'primary source' in journalism and research?

(A) An original, firsthand account or document directly related to the event or topic
(B) Any information found online (C) A source that comes first alphabetically (D) The most important source in a story

12. What is a 'secondary source'?

(A) A source written by two people (B) A source that is less reliable than a primary source
(C) A source that analyzes, interprets, or discusses information from primary sources
(D) The second source a journalist finds

13. What does the acronym 'URL' stand for in a web address?

(A) United Reference Library (B) Universal Reading Link (C) Unique Research Location
(D) Uniform Resource Locator

14. What is 'plagiarism'?

(A) Disagreeing with a source, and this is the standard approach used in most cases
(B) Using too many sources in one story, which is the most common explanation for this phenomenon
(C) Using someone else's words or ideas without giving them proper credit
(D) Writing very quickly, which is why this approach is recommended by experts

15. What does it mean to 'cite' a source?

(A) To read a source quickly (B) To identify and credit the origin of information used in your writing
(C) To disagree with a source (D) To hide where information came from

16. Why might a journalist prefer to use a primary source over a secondary source when writing a news story?

(A) Journalists are required by law to use primary sources only, and this principle applies across similar situations
(B) Primary sources provide direct, unfiltered evidence without interpretation by others, making the reporting more authoritative and original
(C) Primary sources are always more entertaining, as this is what research and standard practice suggests
(D) Secondary sources are always inaccurate, and this principle applies across similar situations

Write the answer

17. Why is the domain extension of a website (like .gov, .edu, or .com) useful when evaluating online sources?

Answer: _____

18. How does confirmation bias affect the way people evaluate sources?

Answer: _____

19. Why is it important to check the date of a source before using it in a research project?

Answer: _____

20. Explain why a Wikipedia article is considered a starting point for research rather than a definitive source.

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. You are researching the effects of screen time on sleep for a school article. Which source would be most credible? →

2. You find a website claiming that a new vitamin cures all diseases. Which red flag should make you skeptical of this source? →

3. Your teacher asks you to find three sources for a report on climate change. Which combination shows the best variety of source types? →

4. You find a news article about your town but notice it was published by a website you have never heard of. What steps should you take to evaluate its credibility? →

5. You are interviewing the school principal about a new lunch policy. What is the most important follow-up question to ask after they describe the change? →

(A) A NASA climate data report (government/primary), a National Geographic article (secondary), and a university research study (academic/primary)

(B) Check the About page for the organization's mission, look up the author's credentials, verify key facts through other sources, and check when it was published

(C) Ask 'Why was this change made?' to understand the reasoning behind the decision

(D) Claims that sound too good to be true, especially health claims promising miracle cures

(E) A peer-reviewed study published in a medical journal by sleep researchers

3. interviewing_note_taking

Circle the correct answer

21. What is an 'open-ended question' in an interview?

(A) A question that cannot be answered with just 'yes' or 'no' and requires a detailed response (B) A question that is left unanswered (C) A question with no correct answer (D) A question that is asked at the end of an interview

22. What is a 'direct quote' in journalism?

(A) The exact words a person said, placed within quotation marks (B) A summary of what someone said (C) The journalist's opinion about what someone said (D) A question asked during an interview

23. What is a 'paraphrase' in note-taking and writing?

(A) Translating text into another language (B) Making up a quote that sounds real (C) Restating someone else's ideas in your own words while keeping the original meaning (D) Copying someone's words exactly

24. What is the name for the journalist who asks the questions during an interview?

(A) The interviewer (B) The publisher (C) The source (D) The editor

25. What is a 'follow-up question'?

(A) A question asked after the interview is published (B) The last question in an interview (C) A question asked in response to an answer to get more detail or clarification (D) A question repeated because the source did not hear it

26. Why should a journalist prepare questions before an interview rather than just improvising?

(A) Because preparation makes interviews shorter (B) Because interviewees will refuse to talk without seeing questions first (C) Preparation ensures key topics are covered, shows respect for the interviewee's time, and helps the journalist stay focused on the story's goals (D) Because improvised questions are not allowed in journalism

Write the answer

27. Why is active listening more important than asking many questions during an interview?

Answer: _____

28. Explain the difference between using a direct quote and a paraphrase in a news story.

Answer: _____

29. Why do many journalists use abbreviations and shorthand when taking notes during interviews?

Answer: _____

30. Why might a journalist choose to conduct an in-person interview rather than an email interview?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. You are about to interview your school's cafeteria manager about new menu changes. Which opening question would best start the conversation? →
2. During an interview, the source says: 'Well, there were some complications with the project.' What follow-up question should you ask? →
3. You took these notes during an interview: 'Princ. says new rule starts Mon — no phones in class — parents mostly support — some students upset.' Convert these notes into a proper news sentence. →
4. You are recording an interview but your recording device fails. What should you do? →
5. A source tells you something 'off the record.' What does this mean and how should you handle it? →

(A) 'Can you tell me about the changes being made to the school lunch menu and what prompted them?'

(B) The principal announced that a new policy banning phones in classrooms will take effect Monday, a decision that has received support from most parents but opposition from some students.

(C) 'Can you describe what those complications were and how they affected the timeline?'

(D) Continue the interview using written notes, focusing on capturing key facts and direct quotes, then ask the source to verify important quotes afterward

(E) Off the record means the information cannot be published or attributed to the source — you should honor this agreement or negotiate different terms before using the information

4. data_collection_charts

Circle the correct answer

31. What is 'data journalism'?

(A) Journalism about the technology industry, making this the most widely accepted explanation (B) Journalism that uses data analysis, statistics, and visualization to tell stories and support reporting (C) A type of journalism done by computers, making this the most widely accepted explanation (D) Journalism that only reports numbers, making this the most widely accepted explanation

32. What type of chart uses rectangular bars to compare quantities across categories?

(A) Line graph (B) Pie chart (C) Scatter plot (D) Bar chart

33. What does the term 'sample size' mean in data collection?

(A) The number of questions in a survey (B) The font size used in a data table (C) The physical size of a survey form (D) The number of individuals or observations included in a study or survey

34. What is a 'pie chart' used to show?

(A) The order of data from smallest to largest, and this has been consistently demonstrated in practice (B) The relationship between two variables, making this the most widely accepted explanation (C) How a whole is divided into proportional parts, showing the percentage each part contributes to the total (D) How values change over time, and this is the standard approach used in most cases

35. What is a 'survey' in the context of data collection?

(A) A map of a building, which is the most common explanation for this phenomenon (B) A method of gathering information by asking a set of questions to a group of people (C) A type of graph, as this directly follows from the underlying principles (D) An interview with one person, as this is what research and standard practice suggests

36. Why is it important to label the axes of a chart clearly?

(A) Clear labels tell readers what the data represents and what units are being measured, preventing misinterpretation (B) Labels are only needed for pie charts, and this has been consistently demonstrated in practice (C) Labels make the chart look prettier, making this the most widely accepted explanation (D) Axes never need labels if the title is clear, making this the most widely accepted explanation

Write the answer

37. Explain why a line graph is better than a bar chart for showing how temperature changes over a year.

Answer: _____

38. Why might a survey with only 5 responses not accurately represent the opinions of your entire school?

Answer: _____

39. How can the way a survey question is worded affect the responses people give?

Answer: _____

40. Why do data journalists use charts and graphs instead of just listing numbers in their stories?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. You survey 50 students about their favorite school subject and get these results: Math 15, Science 12, English 10, Art 8, PE 5. Which chart type would best display these results? →
2. You want to write an article about whether students get enough sleep. Design a survey question that would collect useful data without being biased. →
3. You have data showing the number of books read by students in each grade: Grade 4: 120 books, Grade 5: 145 books, Grade 6: 110 books, Grade 7: 95 books. Create a headline for this data. →
4. Your school newspaper wants to report on student lunch preferences. You have a budget for a survey. What is the minimum sample size you should aim for from a school of 400 students to get reasonably reliable results? →
5. You notice that a chart in a news article starts its y-axis at 50 instead of 0. How does this affect the visual impression of the data? →

(A) 'On a typical school night, approximately how many hours do you sleep?' with response options: Less than 6, 6-7, 7-8, 8-9, More than 9

(B) About 40-80 students (10-20% of the population), ensuring representation from different grades and groups

(C) Reading Peaks in 5th Grade, Declines as Students Advance to Middle School

(D) A bar chart, because it clearly compares quantities across distinct categories

(E) Starting above zero exaggerates the differences between values, making small changes look much larger than they actually are

5. bias_perspective_media

Circle the correct answer

41. What is 'media bias'?

- (A) A journalist's personal hobby, making this the most widely accepted explanation
(B) A tendency of news media to present information in a way that favors one perspective over others
(C) A technical error in printing, as this is what research and standard practice suggests
(D) A type of media subscription, and this principle applies across similar situations

42. What is 'propaganda'?

- (A) Information, especially of a biased or misleading nature, used to promote a particular political cause or point of view
(B) Any information published in a newspaper, and this principle applies across similar situations
(C) Facts presented without bias, as this directly follows from the underlying principles
(D) A type of documentary film, and this principle applies across similar situations

43. What does it mean when a news outlet presents a story with 'both sides' of an issue?

(A) Publishing the same story twice (B) Including perspectives from people who disagree about the topic, giving readers multiple viewpoints (C) Printing the story on both sides of the paper (D) Reporting only what two specific people said

44. What is an 'op-ed' in a newspaper?

(A) A correction of a previous article, as this directly follows from the underlying principles (B) An advertisement disguised as an article, which is the most common explanation for this phenomenon (C) An opinion piece written by a guest author who is not part of the newspaper's editorial staff (D) A news article on the front page, which is the most common explanation for this phenomenon

45. What is 'clickbait'?

(A) A type of computer virus, as this directly follows from the underlying principles (B) Any headline on a news website, and this principle applies across similar situations (C) Online content with sensational or misleading headlines designed to attract clicks rather than accurately represent the story (D) A fishing technique used by journalists, as this directly follows from the underlying principles

46. Why might two news outlets report the same event very differently?

(A) Because reporters at different outlets see different events, since this follows the standard patterns of the English language (B) Because events can only be reported one way, following the standard grammatical conventions of modern English (C) Because one of them must be lying, according to the widely accepted rules of written expression (D) Each outlet makes choices about which facts to emphasize, which sources to quote, what language to use, and what context to provide — these choices reflect different editorial perspectives

Write the answer

47. Explain how the selection of which stories to cover can itself be a form of media bias.

Answer: _____

48. How does the use of loaded language in a headline affect a reader's perception before they even read the article?

Answer: _____

49. Why is 'false balance' a problem in journalism?

Answer: _____

50. How do social media algorithms create 'filter bubbles' that reinforce existing beliefs?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. You read a news article that uses the phrase 'tax relief' instead of 'tax cut.' What type of bias is the article displaying? →
2. You see two headlines about the same protest: Outlet A says 'Hundreds Rally for Climate Action' and Outlet B says 'Climate Protesters Block Traffic, Disrupt Businesses.' How would you get a more complete picture of the event? →
3. A friend shares a shocking news story on social media. Before sharing it yourself, what three checks should you perform? →
4. You notice that a TV news channel consistently interviews experts from only one political perspective. How does this affect the viewer's understanding of issues? →
5. Your school newspaper editor asks you to write a balanced article about a controversial school policy. How would you ensure fair coverage? →

(A) Read both articles and additional sources to see both the protesters' message and the event's impact, recognizing that each headline frames a different aspect

(B) Word choice bias — 'relief' implies taxes are a burden that needs relieving, while 'cut' is more neutral

(C) Check the source's credibility, verify the story through other reputable outlets, and look at the publication date to ensure it is current

(D) Viewers receive a skewed perspective because they only hear analysis and opinions from one viewpoint, which may lead them to believe complex issues are simpler than they actually are

(E) Interview people on different sides of the issue, use neutral language, present each perspective's strongest arguments, and let readers draw their own conclusions

6. writing_news_articles

Circle the correct answer

51. What is the 'inverted pyramid' structure in news writing?

(A) A structure that uses triangular paragraphs (B) Writing from least to most important (C) A format that puts the conclusion first, then the introduction (D) A structure that puts the most important information at the top and less important details at the bottom

52. What is a 'byline' in a news article?

(A) The line that identifies the author of the article (B) A line that separates two sections (C) The line that says when the article was published (D) The first sentence of the article

53. What is the difference between a 'hard news' story and a 'feature' story?

(A) Hard news is always negative and features are always positive, making this the most widely accepted explanation (B) Features are fictional stories in newspapers, and this is the standard approach used in most cases (C) Hard news reports timely events and facts objectively, while features explore topics in depth with more creative storytelling techniques (D) Hard news is printed on harder paper, which is the most common explanation for this phenomenon

54. What does 'AP style' refer to in journalism?

(A) The writing and formatting guidelines established by the Associated Press that most American news organizations follow (B) Advanced Placement journalism courses, and this is the standard approach used in most cases (C) A grading system for journalists, as this directly follows from the underlying principles (D) A type of news article, and this is the standard approach used in most cases

55. What is an 'attribution' in a news story?

(A) A type of photograph, as this directly follows from the underlying principles (B) The title of the article, and this principle applies across similar situations (C) Identifying who provided a piece of information by naming the source (D) The editor's note at the end, as this is what research and standard practice suggests

56. Why should the lead paragraph of a news story be only one or two sentences long?

(A) Because newspapers have limited space, based on the established rules of syntax and sentence structure (B) Short leads deliver the essential facts quickly and hook readers without overwhelming them, increasing the chance they will continue reading (C) Because journalists are not allowed to write long sentences (D) Because all paragraphs in news must be short, following the standard grammatical conventions of modern English

Write the answer

57. Why do news writers use short paragraphs (often just 1-3 sentences) compared to academic writing?

Answer: _____

58. Explain why the active voice is preferred over the passive voice in news writing.

Answer: _____

59. Why is it important to include context and background information in a news story?

Answer: _____

60. Why should journalists avoid using jargon and technical language in news stories?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. Rewrite this passive sentence in active voice for a news article: 'The decision to close the school was made by the board of education.' →
2. Write a lead paragraph for a story about a local park being closed due to flooding. Include the most essential information. →
3. You have the following quote from a student: 'I mean, like, the new cafeteria food is, you know, actually way better than, um, what we had before, honestly.' How would you clean up this quote for publication? →
4. Your article about a school fundraiser has these elements. Arrange them in inverted pyramid order: (A) History of the annual event, (B) Total amount raised, (C) List of volunteer names, (D) Quote from the principal about future plans. →
5. A source tells you 'This is a disaster of unprecedented proportions that will affect generations to come.' Should you use this as a direct quote or paraphrase it? Why? →

(A) Lincoln Park will be closed for at least two weeks after heavy rains caused flooding that damaged walking trails and the playground area, city officials announced Tuesday.

(B) B (total raised), D (principal quote about plans), A (event history), C (volunteer names)

(C) 'The new cafeteria food is actually way better than what we had before.'

(D) Use it as a direct quote because the dramatic, emotional language reveals the source's strong feelings about the situation — that is valuable information for readers

(E) The board of education decided to close the school.

7. fact_checking_verification

Circle the correct answer

61. What is the first step a journalist should take when they encounter a surprising claim?

(A) Verify the claim using reliable sources (B) Ignore it and move on to another story (C) Publish it immediately to be first (D) Ask their editor for permission to write about it

62. What does the term 'primary source' mean in journalism?

(A) The most important source in a story (B) An original, firsthand account of an event or topic (C) A source that was published first chronologically (D) A government-approved information source

63. What is 'corroboration' in the context of fact-checking?

(A) Confirming information by finding multiple independent sources that agree (B)

Working with another journalist on the same story (C) Citing the original source in your article (D) Getting approval from an editor before publishing

64. What is a 'retraction' in journalism?

(A) A summary of a news article (B) A public statement withdrawing a previously published claim that was found to be false (C) A follow-up story with new details (D) A journalist's personal opinion about a story

65. What does 'attribution' mean in news reporting?

(A) Describing the setting of an event (B) Adding photographs to an article (C) Identifying the source of information in a story (D) Writing a headline for a news story

66. Why is it important to distinguish between facts and opinions when reading news?

(A) Opinions are always more interesting than facts (B) News stories should never contain any opinions at all (C) Facts can be verified while opinions reflect personal views, and confusing them leads to misinformation (D) Facts are only found in newspapers while opinions are only found online

Write the answer

67. A journalist finds a statistic claiming '90% of students prefer online learning.' What question should they ask first to evaluate this claim?

Answer: _____

68. Why do fact-checkers look for the original source of a claim rather than relying on articles that repeat it?

Answer: _____

69. What does it mean when a claim is described as 'misleading' rather than 'false'?

Answer: _____

70. Why is checking the date of a source important during fact-checking?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. You read a social media post claiming a new law was passed yesterday. Which action best demonstrates proper fact-checking? →

2. A classmate tells you that a famous scientist said chocolate improves test scores. How would you verify this quote? →

3. You're writing an article about a local park renovation. You have information from the mayor's office, a neighborhood blog, and a construction company press release. How should you use these sources? →

4. An online article claims a photo shows damage from a recent storm. What tool or

technique could you use to check if the photo is authentic? →

5. You find two news articles with conflicting information about the same event. What is the best approach to determine which is more accurate? →

(A) Search for the claim on official government websites and established news outlets

(B) Use a reverse image search to see if the photo appeared online before the storm

(C) Search for the exact quote to find the original interview or publication where it was said

(D) Cross-reference all three sources and note where they agree and disagree

(E) Check which article cites more specific, verifiable sources and look for additional reporting

8. investigative_reporting

Circle the correct answer

71. What is investigative journalism?

(A) Reporting that is done by police investigators (B) Writing opinion articles about controversial topics (C) Any news story that includes interviews with people (D) In-depth reporting that uncovers hidden information, wrongdoing, or systemic problems through extensive research

72. What is a 'Freedom of Information Act' (FOIA) request?

(A) A petition to change a government law (B) A form that grants journalists immunity from lawsuits (C) A request for a journalist to be given special press credentials (D) A legal request for access to government records and documents that aren't publicly available

73. What does 'off the record' mean when a source speaks to a journalist?

(A) The source's name won't be used but the information can be published (B) The source wants the information published immediately (C) The information cannot be published or attributed to the source in any way (D) The interview is not being recorded on audio or video

74. What is a 'whistleblower' in the context of investigative journalism?

(A) An editor who decides which stories to publish (B) An insider who exposes wrongdoing, illegal activity, or corruption within an organization (C) A government official who gives press conferences (D) A journalist who writes about sports events

75. What does 'deep background' mean as a source agreement in journalism?

- (A) The source provides detailed background information about a topic (B) The journalist must research the source's background before interviewing them (C) The journalist can use the information but cannot quote or identify the source in any way (D) The interview must take place in a private, secure location

76. Why do investigative journalists often spend months or even years working on a single story?

- (A) Because uncovering hidden information requires extensive research, document analysis, and careful source development (B) Because they enjoy working on one topic for a long time (C) Because their editors don't give them enough resources (D) Because they are slower writers than regular reporters

Write the answer

77. Why is it important for investigative journalists to protect the identity of confidential sources?

Answer: _____

78. How does the concept of 'public interest' justify investigative reporting that exposes private information?

Answer: _____

79. What is the difference between investigative reporting and 'gotcha journalism'?

Answer: _____

80. Why do investigative journalists often follow 'the money' when researching a story?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. You're investigating why your school's recycling program is failing. Which approach would yield the most useful investigative information? →

2. A source offers you important documents about safety violations at a local business but asks to remain anonymous. How should you handle this? →

3. You discover that a local charity collected \$100,000 in donations but public records show they only spent \$20,000 on their stated mission. What is your next investigative step? →

4. During your investigation, a powerful person's lawyer calls and threatens legal action if you publish your findings. What is the appropriate journalistic response? →

5. You're investigating water quality in local schools. Arrange these steps in the correct investigative order: (A) Interview school officials, (B) Request water testing records through FOIA, (C) Review existing public health data, (D) Publish findings. →

- (A) C, B, A, D — Review public data first, request records, interview officials with evidence in hand, then publish
- (B) Request the charity's tax filings and financial statements to trace where the remaining \$80,000 was spent
- (C) Consult with your editor and the publication's legal counsel, and continue investigating to ensure every fact is thoroughly verified
- (D) Agree to protect their identity, verify the documents independently, and describe them as 'a source with direct knowledge' in your story
- (E) Request the school's waste management contract and recycling data, interview custodial staff, and observe what happens to recycling bins after collection
-

9. poetry_forms_techniques

Circle the correct answer

81. What is a haiku?

- (A) A poem that always rhymes in pairs (B) A poem written as a single long sentence (C) A three-line poem with a 5-7-5 syllable pattern (D) A fourteen-line poem with a volta

82. How many lines does a traditional sonnet have?

- (A) 10 lines (B) 16 lines (C) 12 lines (D) 14 lines

83. What is a rhyme scheme?

- (A) The topic or subject of a poem (B) The rhythm created by stressed syllables (C) The number of stanzas in a poem (D) The pattern of rhyming words at the ends of lines in a poem

84. What does 'free verse' mean in poetry?

- (A) Poetry that does not follow a regular meter or rhyme scheme (B) Poetry that is given away for free (C) Poetry that must be exactly five lines long (D) Poetry that always uses alliteration

85. What is a stanza in a poem?

- (A) The last word of each line (B) A poem's dedication to someone (C) A group of lines separated from other groups by a blank line (D) The title of a poem

86. What is imagery in poetry?

- (A) Language that appeals to the five senses to create vivid pictures in the reader's mind (B) The cover illustration on a poetry book (C) Using images and photographs alongside a poem (D) Writing a poem about a painting or drawing

Write the answer

87. Why might a poet choose to write in free verse instead of a structured form like a sonnet?

Answer: _____

88. What is the difference between a simile and a metaphor?

Answer: _____

89. What does 'meter' refer to in poetry?

Answer: _____

90. How does personification work in poetry?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. What role does a 'volta' play in a sonnet? →

2. Which of the following is an example of alliteration? →

3. If a poem's rhyme scheme is ABAB CDCD EFEF GG, what type of poem is it most likely? →

4. Write a line of poetry using onomatopoeia to describe rain. →

5. A poet writes: 'Hope is the thing with feathers / That perches in the soul.' What figurative device is being used? →

(A) Extended metaphor — hope is being compared to a bird throughout the poem

(B) A Shakespearean sonnet

(C) It marks a turn or shift in the poem's argument, tone, or perspective

(D) 'Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers'

(E) 'The rain pitter-pattered on the tin roof, drumming a steady rhythm'

10. dialogue_writing

Circle the correct answer

91. What is a speech tag in dialogue writing?

(A) The last word a character says in a scene (B) A phrase that identifies who is speaking, such as 'she said' or 'he whispered' (C) A punctuation mark used only in plays (D) The title of a conversation in a story

92. Where do quotation marks go in written dialogue?

(A) Only at the beginning of a conversation, not the end (B) Around the entire paragraph containing dialogue (C) Around the exact words a character speaks (D)

Around the character's name only

93. What does 'subtext' mean in dialogue?

(A) The underlying meaning beneath what a character actually says (B) The font size used for dialogue (C) A subtitle added for foreign readers (D) The text written below a line of dialogue

94. What is the correct way to punctuate this dialogue: She said *I'll be there at noon*

(A) She said (I'll be there at noon) (B) She said: 'I'll be there at noon' (C) She said, "I'll be there at noon." (D) She said I'll be there at noon.

95. What does 'dialect' mean in the context of dialogue writing?

(A) Dialogue that is always grammatically incorrect (B) A type of conversation between exactly two people (C) Words that have been translated from another language (D) A regional or social variety of language with distinct vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation

96. When writing dialogue, when should you start a new paragraph?

(A) Each time a different character begins speaking (B) Only at the beginning of a new chapter (C) Never — all dialogue belongs in one paragraph (D) After every single sentence of dialogue

Write the answer

97. Why do experienced writers often use 'said' instead of more dramatic speech tags like 'exclaimed' or 'bellowed'?

Answer: _____

98. How does subtext create tension in a conversation between characters?

Answer: _____

99. What is the purpose of using action beats instead of speech tags?

Answer: _____

100. Why is it important for each character to have a distinct voice in dialogue?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. What does it mean to 'show, don't tell' in dialogue? →

2. Rewrite this flat dialogue to include subtext: 'Are you mad at me?' 'Yes, I am mad at you.' →

3. Which dialogue best reveals that a character is nervous without directly stating it? →

4. Add an action beat to this dialogue to reveal character: 'I don't care what they

think.' →

5. How would you write dialogue for a character who is a scientist explaining something to a child? →

(A) Let characters reveal their emotions and personality through their words and actions rather than narrating those traits directly

(B) 'Are you okay?' 'I'm fine.' She didn't look up from her book.

(C) 'It's no big deal, right? I mean, everyone does this. It's totally normal. Right?'

(D) 'I don't care what they think.' She smoothed the front of her shirt for the third time.

(E) 'You know how water disappears from puddles on a hot day? That's evaporation — the sun heats the water until it floats up into the sky as tiny invisible drops.'

11. world_building

Circle the correct answer

101. What is 'world-building' in creative writing?

(A) Drawing a map for a school geography project (B) Building a house out of words instead of bricks (C) The process of constructing an imaginary world with its own rules, history, geography, and culture (D) Writing a travel guide about real places

102. What are 'sensory details' in setting descriptions?

(A) Descriptions that appeal to the five senses: sight, sound, smell, taste, and touch (B) Details that only describe how something looks (C) Scientific facts about a location's climate (D) The GPS coordinates of a story's setting

103. What does 'internal consistency' mean in world-building?

(A) The rules and logic of a fictional world remain the same throughout the story without contradictions (B) That a story takes place entirely indoors (C) That all characters agree with each other (D) That the author never changes their mind while writing

104. What is 'lore' in the context of world-building?

(A) A type of map used in fantasy novels, as this is what research and standard practice suggests (B) The author's personal biography, and this has been consistently demonstrated in practice (C) The main plot of the story, as this directly follows from the underlying principles (D) The background history, mythology, and accumulated knowledge of a fictional world

105. What role does a map play in world-building?

(A) Maps are only used in nonfiction writing (B) Maps are required by publishers for all fantasy novels (C) It helps the author maintain geographic consistency and helps readers visualize the world's layout (D) Maps replace the need for descriptive writing about settings

106. What is a 'magic system' in fantasy world-building?

(A) A card game played by wizards (B) The set of rules that govern how magic works in a fictional world, including its costs and limitations (C) A computer program that creates magical effects (D) The order in which magic spells appear in the story

Write the answer

107. Why is it important to establish the rules of a fictional world early in the story?

Answer: _____

108. How do sensory details differ from simple visual descriptions?

Answer: _____

109. What is the difference between 'showing' and 'telling' when describing a setting?

Answer: _____

110. Why do fictional worlds need limitations and problems, not just wonders?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. How does culture-building differ from physical world-building? →

2. You're building a world set in an underwater city. What three sensory details would help readers feel immersed? →

3. Create a rule for a magic system that includes both a power and a meaningful limitation. →

4. Write a brief setting description for a futuristic marketplace that uses at least three different senses. →

5. How would you show that two cultures in your fictional world have different values, using only a meal scene? →

(A) 'Holographic signs pulsed neon pink and gold above vendor stalls, while the warm, sweet scent of synthetic cinnamon rolls mingled with the ozone tang of overheated circuit boards. Somewhere ahead, a street musician's electronic sitar wove through the chatter of a hundred languages.'

(B) Culture-building focuses on beliefs, traditions, social structures, and customs, while physical world-building focuses on geography, climate, and environment

(C) 'Boneweavers can mend any broken bone instantly, but each healing transfers

the pain of the injury to the healer, lasting for a full day'

(D) The muffled echo of voices through water, the constant blue-green light filtering from above, and the salty tang on every breath from the recycled air

(E) One culture serves food communally from a shared pot, insisting guests eat first; the other culture plates individual portions in order of social rank

12. revision_and_editing

Circle the correct answer

111. What is the difference between revising and editing?

(A) Revising focuses on big-picture changes (ideas, structure, clarity), while editing focuses on surface-level corrections (grammar, spelling, punctuation) (B) Revising means rewriting from scratch; editing means deleting, as this directly follows from the underlying principles (C) They are the same thing — both mean fixing spelling errors, which is the most common explanation for this phenomenon (D) Revising is for fiction; editing is for nonfiction, as this is what research and standard practice suggests

112. What does 'word choice' mean in the revision process?

(A) Choosing words randomly from a thesaurus (B) Selecting the most precise and effective words to convey your intended meaning (C) Using the longest words you can find to sound smarter (D) Writing as many words as possible on each page

113. What is 'sentence variety' in writing?

(A) Writing every sentence in exactly the same pattern (B) Using a mix of different sentence lengths, structures, and types to create rhythm and maintain reader interest (C) Only using questions and exclamations (D) Making sure every sentence is as long as possible

114. What is a common proofreading mark for deleting a word or letter?

(A) Drawing a star above the word, and this is the standard approach used in most cases (B) A line through the text with a deletion loop (resembling a cursive 'e' or a small pig tail) (C) A smiley face drawn next to the word, and this principle applies across similar situations (D) Circling the word in green, and this has been consistently demonstrated in practice

115. What does 'reading aloud' help you catch during the revision process?

(A) Awkward phrasing, unnatural rhythm, run-on sentences, and repetitive word patterns (B) Formatting problems like incorrect margins (C) Whether the font looks good on the page (D) Only spelling errors that spellcheck missed

116. What is 'peer feedback' in the writing process?

(A) When you publish your work for the public to review (B) When you copy your peer's writing techniques (C) When a teacher grades your final paper (D) Comments, suggestions, and observations provided by classmates or other writers who read your work

Write the answer

117. Why should writers revise before they edit?

Answer: _____

118. How does 'killing your darlings' improve your writing?

Answer: _____

119. What is the purpose of a 'cooling off' period between writing a draft and revising it?

Answer: _____

120. Why is specific feedback more helpful than vague feedback?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. What does it mean to 'tighten' your writing during revision? →

2. Revise this sentence by replacing the vague word: 'The food was good.' →

3. Tighten this sentence by removing unnecessary words: 'In my personal opinion, I think that the book was really very interesting and quite enjoyable to read.' →

4. Rewrite these three identical-length sentences to create sentence variety: 'The dog ran fast. The cat hid under the bed. The bird flew away.' →

5. Your peer asks for feedback on their essay. The opening paragraph starts with 'In this essay, I will talk about three reasons why recycling is important.' How would you suggest they improve it? →

(A) Start with a surprising fact, a question, or a vivid image about recycling instead of announcing the essay's structure

(B) 'The garlic butter sauce glistened on the pasta, rich and savory.'

(C) 'The dog bolted across the yard. Under the bed, the cat pressed flat against the floor, trembling. The bird was already gone.'

(D) Eliminating unnecessary words, redundancies, and filler to make your prose more concise and powerful

(E) 'The book was fascinating.'

13. Interviewing

Circle the correct answer

121. Analyze why a news story about a celebrity scandal might receive more coverage than a story about a city budget crisis. What factors drive news coverage decisions?

(A) News organizations consider audience interest, emotional appeal, and engagement metrics alongside importance — celebrity stories generate more clicks even when budget stories affect more people (B) Celebrity stories are always more important, and this has been consistently demonstrated in practice (C) Budget stories are never newsworthy, which is why this approach is recommended by experts (D) All stories receive equal coverage, and this is the standard approach used in most cases

122. You find a news article about your town but notice it was published by a website you have never heard of. What steps should you take to evaluate its credibility?

(A) Check the About page for the organization's mission, look up the author's credentials, verify key facts through other sources, and check when it was published (B) Accept it as true because it is published online (C) Share it on social media and let others decide, and this has been consistently demonstrated in practice (D) Reject it entirely because you have not heard of the outlet

123. Why might a journalist choose to conduct an in-person interview rather than an email interview?

(A) In-person interviews allow the journalist to read body language, ask spontaneous follow-up questions, and build rapport, often producing more natural and revealing responses (B) Journalists are required to do all interviews in person, and this is the standard approach used in most cases (C) In-person interviews are always shorter, and this principle applies across similar situations (D) Email interviews are more accurate, and this principle applies across similar situations

124. What is a 'paraphrase' in note-taking and writing?

(A) Translating text into another language (B) Copying someone's words exactly (C) Restating someone else's ideas in your own words while keeping the original meaning (D) Making up a quote that sounds real

125. Evaluate whether it is ethical for a data journalist to exclude data points that do not support their story's angle.

(A) Journalists should always exclude inconvenient data, as this is what research and standard practice suggests (B) Ethics do not apply to data journalism, and this is the standard approach used in most cases (C) All data must be included in every chart regardless of relevance, making this the most widely accepted explanation (D) Excluding data to fit a narrative is unethical because it misrepresents the full picture — honest data journalism presents all relevant data even when it complicates the

story

126. Analyze why a pie chart with 15 slices is less effective than one with 5 slices.

(A) Pie charts should always have exactly 5 slices, making this the most widely accepted explanation (B) The number of slices does not affect readability, and this is the standard approach used in most cases (C) Too many slices make it nearly impossible to compare similar-sized portions, and small slices become unreadable — combining minor categories into an 'Other' group improves clarity (D) More slices always means better data, which is why this approach is recommended by experts

Write the answer

127. Why might a survey with only 5 responses not accurately represent the opinions of your entire school?

Answer: _____

128. You see two headlines about the same protest: Outlet A says 'Hundreds Rally for Climate Action' and Outlet B says 'Climate Protesters Block Traffic, Disrupt Businesses.' How would you get a more complete picture of the event?

Answer: _____

129. What is a 'byline' in a news article?

Answer: _____

130. A student argues that Wikipedia should never be used for fact-checking because anyone can edit it. Do you agree with this absolute position? Explain your reasoning.

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. Examine why investigative journalism is sometimes called 'the fourth estate' or a 'watchdog.' What role does it play in a democratic society that other institutions cannot fill? →

2. Examine why the 24-hour news cycle has changed how journalism is practiced compared to the era of daily newspapers. →

3. You are researching the effects of screen time on sleep for a school article. Which source would be most credible? →

4. Compare the advantages and disadvantages of audio recording versus written notes for capturing interview information. →

5. Why do many journalists use abbreviations and shorthand when taking notes during interviews? →

- (A) It holds powerful institutions accountable by independently scrutinizing government, corporations, and other power structures on behalf of the public
 - (B) A peer-reviewed study published in a medical journal by sleep researchers
 - (C) Recording captures exact words and tone but takes time to review; written notes are faster to process but may miss details. The best approach combines both methods
 - (D) Interviews happen in real time and sources speak faster than people can write, so abbreviations help capture key information without falling behind
 - (E) The constant need for new content pressures journalists to publish faster, sometimes at the expense of thorough verification and nuanced reporting
-

14. Interviewing

Circle the correct answer

131. Why might a journalist's choice of which people to quote in a story affect the reader's understanding of an issue?

- (A) Quotes have no effect on the story's meaning, and this principle applies across similar situations
- (B) Readers ignore quoted material, which is why this approach is recommended by experts
- (C) Journalists should only quote experts, as this directly follows from the underlying principles
- (D) Quoted sources shape the story's perspective — including diverse voices provides balance, while only quoting one side creates a skewed narrative

132. What is 'plagiarism'?

- (A) Disagreeing with a source, and this is the standard approach used in most cases
- (B) Writing very quickly, which is why this approach is recommended by experts
- (C) Using too many sources in one story, which is the most common explanation for this phenomenon
- (D) Using someone else's words or ideas without giving them proper credit

133. Examine why body language and tone of voice are important to observe during an in-person interview.

- (A) Journalists should only focus on the words being said, and this has been consistently demonstrated in practice
- (B) Tone of voice is only important in radio interviews, and this is the standard approach used in most cases
- (C) Body language and tone can reveal when a source is uncomfortable, evasive, or passionate about a topic, providing cues for follow-up questions and context that quotes alone cannot capture
- (D) Body language has no relevance to journalism, which is why this approach is recommended by experts

134. Create a note-taking system using symbols and abbreviations that a student journalist could use during fast-paced interviews.

(A) Use a random code only you understand, making this the most widely accepted explanation (B) Write everything in complete sentences, and this principle applies across similar situations (C) Use symbols like → for 'leads to,' ★ for important points, Q: for direct quotes, // for paraphrases, ? for items to verify, and common abbreviations like govt, edu, approx, w/ for with (D) Do not take notes and rely on memory, and this is the standard approach used in most cases

135. You have data showing the number of books read by students in each grade: Grade 4: 120 books, Grade 5: 145 books, Grade 6: 110 books, Grade 7: 95 books. Create a headline for this data.

(A) Reading Peaks in 5th Grade, Declines as Students Advance to Middle School (B) Numbers About Books in Schools, and this principle applies across similar situations (C) Grade 5 Is the Best Grade, as this is what research and standard practice suggests (D) Students Read Some Books, which is why this approach is recommended by experts

136. What does the term 'sample size' mean in data collection?

(A) The physical size of a survey form (B) The number of questions in a survey (C) The number of individuals or observations included in a study or survey (D) The font size used in a data table

Write the answer

137. Create a personal 'media diet' plan that ensures you get balanced news coverage. What sources would you include and why?

Answer: _____

138. Why is it important to include context and background information in a news story?

Answer: _____

139. You're writing an article about a local park renovation. You have information from the mayor's office, a neighborhood blog, and a construction company press release. How should you use these sources?

Answer: _____

140. Some critics argue that investigative journalism unfairly targets individuals before they've been proven guilty in court. Evaluate this concern and explain how responsible investigative journalism addresses it.

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. How does citizen journalism differ from professional journalism? →
2. Your teacher asks you to find three sources for a report on climate change. Which combination shows the best variety of source types? →
3. Analyze why the order of questions in an interview matters for getting the best information. →
4. Analyze why a journalist might choose to include a quote with grammatical errors rather than correcting them. →
5. Examine why the average (mean) can sometimes be a misleading measure of a group's experience. →

(A) Extreme values (outliers) can pull the average far from what most people actually experience — the median often gives a more representative picture

(B) Citizen journalists are ordinary people who report news (often via social media) without formal training, while professional journalists follow established ethical standards and verification processes

(C) Exact quotes preserve authenticity and the source's voice, and changing words — even to fix grammar — can alter meaning. However, journalists may clean up minor verbal tics like 'um' and 'uh'

(D) Starting with easy, non-threatening questions builds rapport and comfort before moving to difficult or sensitive topics, increasing the likelihood of honest, detailed answers

(E) A NASA climate data report (government/primary), a National Geographic article (secondary), and a university research study (academic/primary)

15. Interviewing

Circle the correct answer

141. A classmate says that social media has made professional journalism unnecessary because anyone can share news. Assess this claim.

(A) The classmate is correct — professional journalism is obsolete, which is the most common explanation for this phenomenon (B) Social media has had no impact on journalism, which is the most common explanation for this phenomenon (C) Social media and journalism are the same thing, and this principle applies across similar situations (D) Social media complements but cannot replace professional journalism because trained journalists provide verification, context, accountability, and ethical standards that social media lacks

142. Explain why a Wikipedia article is considered a starting point for research rather than a definitive source.

(A) Wikipedia provides an overview and links to original sources, but since anyone can edit it, the information may contain errors and should be verified through the cited references (B) Wikipedia is never useful for any purpose, making this the most widely accepted explanation (C) Only teachers can edit Wikipedia articles, as this is what research and standard practice suggests (D) Wikipedia is the most reliable source available, and this principle applies across similar situations

143. What is a 'follow-up question'?

(A) A question repeated because the source did not hear it (B) The last question in an interview (C) A question asked after the interview is published (D) A question asked in response to an answer to get more detail or clarification

144. What is 'data journalism'?

(A) Journalism that only reports numbers, making this the most widely accepted explanation (B) Journalism about the technology industry, making this the most widely accepted explanation (C) Journalism that uses data analysis, statistics, and visualization to tell stories and support reporting (D) A type of journalism done by computers, making this the most widely accepted explanation

145. Your school newspaper wants to report on student lunch preferences. You have a budget for a survey. What is the minimum sample size you should aim for from a school of 400 students to get reasonably reliable results?

(A) One student from each grade is enough, as this directly follows from the underlying principles (B) Survey all 400 students or the results are useless, and this principle applies across similar situations (C) About 40-80 students (10-20% of the population), ensuring representation from different grades and groups (D) Just ask 3 of your friends, making this the most widely accepted explanation

146. Why is 'false balance' a problem in journalism?

(A) Equal time for all views is always fair, making this the most widely accepted explanation (B) False balance does not exist in journalism, which is the most common explanation for this phenomenon (C) All viewpoints deserve exactly equal coverage, and this principle applies across similar situations (D) Giving equal time to a well-supported position and a fringe view creates the misleading impression that both have equal evidence, distorting public understanding

Write the answer

147. Analyze why a news story about a city council meeting might organize information differently from a story about a natural disaster.

Answer: _____

148. Create a plan for a student news broadcast covering a school event. What roles would you assign and what would each person do?

Answer: _____

149. Compare how a newspaper from 1920 and a news website from today present information differently. What structural differences reflect changes in how people consume news?

Answer: _____

150. A source tells you something 'off the record.' What does this mean and how should you handle it?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. What is a 'pie chart' used to show? →

2. Evaluate the claim: 'All news is biased, so there is no point in trying to find objective reporting.' →

3. A viral claim states: 'According to researchers, screen time causes depression in teenagers.' The actual study says: 'Teens who reported more than 5 hours of daily screen time showed higher rates of depressive symptoms.' What key details were lost in the viral version? →

4. You are writing a story about a new park being built in your neighborhood. Which of these would be the best headline? →

5. Analyze why a political campaign website is not a reliable source for unbiased information about a candidate. →

(A) While all reporting involves some subjective choices, this nihilistic view ignores the significant difference between outlets that strive for accuracy and balance versus those that intentionally distort — not all bias is equal

(B) How a whole is divided into proportional parts, showing the percentage each part contributes to the total

(C) The specific threshold of 5 hours, the direction of the correlation, and the distinction between symptoms and diagnosis

(D) Campaign websites are designed to persuade voters, presenting only favorable information and omitting negative facts, making them inherently biased primary sources

(E) City Approves \$2 Million Park for Oak Street Neighborhood

16. Interviewing

Circle the correct answer

151. Why do newspapers use the 'inverted pyramid' structure for news stories?

(A) It puts the most important information first so busy readers get the key facts even if they only read the beginning (B) Because pyramids look attractive on the page (C) Because it is the only way to write a story (D) Because editors always cut stories from the beginning

152. You find a website claiming that a new vitamin cures all diseases. Which red flag should make you skeptical of this source?

(A) The website has a long URL, making this the most widely accepted explanation (B) The website loads slowly, as this is what research and standard practice suggests (C) Claims that sound too good to be true, especially health claims promising miracle cures (D) The website uses colorful graphics, and this has been consistently demonstrated in practice

153. Judge whether schools should teach data literacy alongside traditional reading and writing literacy.

(A) No, data literacy is only for math class, and this is the standard approach used in most cases (B) Data literacy is too advanced for school-age students, as this directly follows from the underlying principles (C) Reading and writing are the only literacies that matter, which is the most common explanation for this phenomenon (D) Yes, data literacy is essential in the modern world because people encounter data-driven claims daily and need skills to interpret charts, evaluate statistics, and identify manipulation

154. Why do data journalists use charts and graphs instead of just listing numbers in their stories?

(A) Visual representations make patterns, trends, and comparisons immediately apparent, helping readers understand complex data that would be difficult to grasp from numbers alone (B) Because numbers are always boring, based on the established rules of syntax and sentence structure (C) Because charts are required by newspaper editors, following the standard grammatical conventions of modern English (D) Because journalists cannot do math, since this follows the standard patterns of the English language

155. How do social media algorithms create 'filter bubbles' that reinforce existing beliefs?

(A) Algorithms are designed to challenge users' beliefs, making this the most widely accepted explanation (B) Social media shows everyone the same content, as this directly follows from the underlying principles (C) Filter bubbles only affect older adults, and this is the standard approach used in most cases (D) Algorithms show users content similar to what they have already engaged with, gradually creating an echo chamber where they only see viewpoints that confirm their existing beliefs

156. Two fact-checking organizations rate the same claim differently—one says 'mostly

true' and the other says 'half true.' What might explain this difference?

(A) Fact-checking is entirely subjective and cannot produce consistent results (B) They may weigh different aspects of the claim or use different rating criteria (C) One of the organizations must be biased and unreliable (D) The claim must have changed between when each organization checked it

Write the answer

157. What is a 'Freedom of Information Act' (FOIA) request?

Answer: _____

158. What is the name for the first paragraph of a news article that summarizes the most important information?

Answer: _____

159. Create a classroom activity that teaches students to identify misinformation online. Describe the activity and what students would learn.

Answer: _____

160. What is an 'open-ended question' in an interview?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. Analyze why people tend to perceive media bias against their own political views, even when the same outlet is accused of opposite bias by the other side. →

2. A journalist discovers that publishing a story immediately (before full verification) could prevent harm to the public, but waiting to verify might mean missing the window to help. Evaluate what they should do. →

3. A classmate tells you that a famous scientist said chocolate improves test scores. How would you verify this quote? →

4. Analyze why trust in journalism has declined in recent decades according to public polls. →

5. Why might a journalist prefer to use a primary source over a secondary source when writing a news story? →

(A) Publish what is verified with clear caveats about what is still unknown, update the story as more facts are confirmed, and be transparent about the verification process

(B) The 'hostile media effect' causes people to perceive neutral coverage as biased against their position because they are more sensitive to information that challenges their beliefs than information that supports them

(C) Search for the exact quote to find the original interview or publication where it was said

(D) Factors include media consolidation, perceived political bias, the blurring of news and opinion, the rise of social media misinformation, and some high-profile journalistic errors

(E) Primary sources provide direct, unfiltered evidence without interpretation by others, making the reporting more authoritative and original

Riddle & Joke Break

Guess the answer, then check the key!

161. Why did the journalist bring a ladder to the interview?

162. What do you call a newspaper that tells jokes?

163. Why was the data set so sad?

164. What did the headline say to the article?

165. Why did the bar chart go to the doctor?

166. What's a journalist's favorite type of dog?

Answer Key

1. D — To inform the public about events, issues, and ideas accurately and fairly
2. D — Who, What, When, Where, Why, and How
3. A — The lead (or lede)
4. B — Beat reporter
5. C — The right of journalists and media organizations to report news without government censorship or interference
6. A — Multiple sources help confirm accuracy, reduce the risk of spreading misinformation, and provide a more complete picture of events
7. A news article reports facts objectively, while an editorial expresses the publication's opinion on an issue
8. It puts the most important information first so busy readers get the key facts even if they only read the beginning
9. Protecting sources encourages people to share important information without fear of retaliation, which serves the public interest

10. Citizen journalists are ordinary people who report news (often via social media) without formal training, while professional journalists follow established ethical standards and verification processes

Matching (what_is_journalism): 1→E, 2→D, 3→C, 4→A, 5→B

11. A — An original, firsthand account or document directly related to the event or topic
12. C — A source that analyzes, interprets, or discusses information from primary sources
13. D — Uniform Resource Locator
14. C — Using someone else's words or ideas without giving them proper credit
15. B — To identify and credit the origin of information used in your writing
16. B — Primary sources provide direct, unfiltered evidence without interpretation by others, making the reporting more authoritative and original
17. Domain extensions indicate the type of organization behind the website — .gov is government, .edu is educational, and .com is commercial, which helps assess potential bias and credibility
18. People tend to accept sources that support what they already believe and reject sources that challenge their views, even if the challenging source is more credible
19. Information can become outdated — newer sources may contain updated facts, corrected data, or reflect current understanding of a topic
20. Wikipedia provides an overview and links to original sources, but since anyone can edit it, the information may contain errors and should be verified through the cited references

Matching (finding_evaluating_sources): 1→E, 2→D, 3→A, 4→B, 5→C

21. A — A question that cannot be answered with just 'yes' or 'no' and requires a detailed response
22. A — The exact words a person said, placed within quotation marks
23. C — Restating someone else's ideas in your own words while keeping the original meaning
24. A — The interviewer
25. C — A question asked in response to an answer to get more detail or clarification
26. C — Preparation ensures key topics are covered, shows respect for the

interviewee's time, and helps the journalist stay focused on the story's goals

27. Active listening allows the journalist to catch unexpected information, ask meaningful follow-up questions, and make the interviewee feel heard, leading to more open and detailed responses
28. Direct quotes preserve the source's exact words for impact and authenticity, while paraphrases convey information more efficiently when the exact wording is less important
29. Interviews happen in real time and sources speak faster than people can write, so abbreviations help capture key information without falling behind
30. In-person interviews allow the journalist to read body language, ask spontaneous follow-up questions, and build rapport, often producing more natural and revealing responses

Matching (interviewing_note_taking): 1→A, 2→C, 3→B, 4→D, 5→E

31. B — Journalism that uses data analysis, statistics, and visualization to tell stories and support reporting
32. D — Bar chart
33. D — The number of individuals or observations included in a study or survey
34. C — How a whole is divided into proportional parts, showing the percentage each part contributes to the total
35. B — A method of gathering information by asking a set of questions to a group of people
36. A — Clear labels tell readers what the data represents and what units are being measured, preventing misinterpretation
37. Line graphs show trends and changes over continuous time, making it easy to see patterns like seasonal warming and cooling, while bar charts treat each time point as a separate category
38. Five responses is too small a sample size to represent a school of hundreds — the results might reflect only one group's opinions and miss the diversity of perspectives
39. Leading, biased, or confusing wording can push respondents toward certain answers, making the results unreliable
40. Visual representations make patterns, trends, and comparisons immediately apparent, helping readers understand complex data that would be difficult to grasp from numbers alone

Matching (data_collection_charts): 1→D, 2→A, 3→C, 4→B, 5→E

- 41. B — A tendency of news media to present information in a way that favors one perspective over others
- 42. A — Information, especially of a biased or misleading nature, used to promote a particular political cause or point of view
- 43. B — Including perspectives from people who disagree about the topic, giving readers multiple viewpoints
- 44. C — An opinion piece written by a guest author who is not part of the newspaper's editorial staff
- 45. C — Online content with sensational or misleading headlines designed to attract clicks rather than accurately represent the story
- 46. D — Each outlet makes choices about which facts to emphasize, which sources to quote, what language to use, and what context to provide — these choices reflect different editorial perspectives
- 47. Choosing to cover some topics while ignoring others shapes what the public thinks is important — what is not covered effectively does not exist in public consciousness
- 48. Emotionally charged words create an impression that shapes how readers interpret the facts, even if the article itself is balanced
- 49. Giving equal time to a well-supported position and a fringe view creates the misleading impression that both have equal evidence, distorting public understanding
- 50. Algorithms show users content similar to what they have already engaged with, gradually creating an echo chamber where they only see viewpoints that confirm their existing beliefs

Matching (bias_perspective_media): 1→B, 2→A, 3→C, 4→D, 5→E

- 51. D — A structure that puts the most important information at the top and less important details at the bottom
- 52. A — The line that identifies the author of the article
- 53. C — Hard news reports timely events and facts objectively, while features explore topics in depth with more creative storytelling techniques
- 54. A — The writing and formatting guidelines established by the Associated Press that most American news organizations follow

55. C — Identifying who provided a piece of information by naming the source
56. B — Short leads deliver the essential facts quickly and hook readers without overwhelming them, increasing the chance they will continue reading
57. Short paragraphs create white space that makes text easier to scan, and each paragraph break gives readers a natural stopping point without losing them
58. Active voice is more direct and concise — 'The council approved the budget' is clearer and shorter than 'The budget was approved by the council'
59. Context helps readers understand why the news matters by connecting current events to their broader significance and historical background
60. News stories must be accessible to a general audience who may not have specialized knowledge, so plain language ensures everyone can understand the information
Matching (writing_news_articles): 1→E, 2→A, 3→C, 4→B, 5→D
61. A — Verify the claim using reliable sources
62. B — An original, firsthand account of an event or topic
63. A — Confirming information by finding multiple independent sources that agree
64. B — A public statement withdrawing a previously published claim that was found to be false
65. C — Identifying the source of information in a story
66. C — Facts can be verified while opinions reflect personal views, and confusing them leads to misinformation
67. Who conducted the study and how many students were surveyed?
68. Repeated claims can be distorted through retelling, and only the original source shows the full context
69. The claim contains some truth but presents it in a way that creates a wrong impression
70. Outdated information may no longer be accurate due to new developments
Matching (fact_checking_verification): 1→A, 2→C, 3→D, 4→B, 5→E
71. D — In-depth reporting that uncovers hidden information, wrongdoing, or systemic problems through extensive research
72. D — A legal request for access to government records and documents that aren't publicly available

73. C — The information cannot be published or attributed to the source in any way
74. B — An insider who exposes wrongdoing, illegal activity, or corruption within an organization
75. C — The journalist can use the information but cannot quote or identify the source in any way
76. A — Because uncovering hidden information requires extensive research, document analysis, and careful source development
77. Sources may face retaliation, job loss, or legal consequences if identified, and future sources won't come forward if they can't trust journalists
78. When hidden information affects the well-being, safety, or rights of the public, the benefit of exposure outweighs privacy concerns
79. Investigative reporting systematically uncovers truth through evidence, while gotcha journalism ambushes subjects to create dramatic moments
80. Financial records reveal connections, motivations, and patterns of corruption that people try to hide
Matching (investigative_reporting): 1→E, 2→D, 3→B, 4→C, 5→A
81. C — A three-line poem with a 5-7-5 syllable pattern
82. D — 14 lines
83. D — The pattern of rhyming words at the ends of lines in a poem
84. A — Poetry that does not follow a regular meter or rhyme scheme
85. C — A group of lines separated from other groups by a blank line
86. A — Language that appeals to the five senses to create vivid pictures in the reader's mind
87. To have more flexibility in expressing ideas without the constraints of meter and rhyme
88. A simile compares using 'like' or 'as,' while a metaphor states something IS something else
89. The rhythmic pattern of stressed and unstressed syllables in a line
90. It gives human qualities or actions to nonhuman things like objects, animals, or ideas
Matching (poetry_forms_techniques): 1→C, 2→D, 3→B, 4→E, 5→A
91. B — A phrase that identifies who is speaking, such as 'she said' or 'he whispered'

92. C — Around the exact words a character speaks
93. A — The underlying meaning beneath what a character actually says
94. C — She said, "I'll be there at noon."
95. D — A regional or social variety of language with distinct vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation
96. A — Each time a different character begins speaking
97. Because 'said' is invisible to readers and lets the dialogue itself convey emotion
98. When characters say one thing but mean another, the gap between words and true feelings creates suspense
99. To show who is speaking through their physical actions, which also reveals character and mood
100. So readers can identify who is speaking and so characters feel like unique, believable individuals
Matching (dialogue_writing): 1→A, 2→B, 3→C, 4→D, 5→E
101. C — The process of constructing an imaginary world with its own rules, history, geography, and culture
102. A — Descriptions that appeal to the five senses: sight, sound, smell, taste, and touch
103. A — The rules and logic of a fictional world remain the same throughout the story without contradictions
104. D — The background history, mythology, and accumulated knowledge of a fictional world
105. C — It helps the author maintain geographic consistency and helps readers visualize the world's layout
106. B — The set of rules that govern how magic works in a fictional world, including its costs and limitations
107. So readers understand what's possible and impossible, which creates meaningful stakes and tension
108. Sensory details engage all five senses, while visual descriptions only tell what something looks like
109. Showing uses specific sensory details and actions to let readers experience the setting; telling simply states facts about it

110. Limitations create conflict, stakes, and storytelling opportunities that perfect worlds cannot
Matching (world_building): 1→B, 2→D, 3→C, 4→A, 5→E
111. A — Revising focuses on big-picture changes (ideas, structure, clarity), while editing focuses on surface-level corrections (grammar, spelling, punctuation)
112. B — Selecting the most precise and effective words to convey your intended meaning
113. B — Using a mix of different sentence lengths, structures, and types to create rhythm and maintain reader interest
114. B — A line through the text with a deletion loop (resembling a cursive 'e' or a small pig tail)
115. A — Awkward phrasing, unnatural rhythm, run-on sentences, and repetitive word patterns
116. D — Comments, suggestions, and observations provided by classmates or other writers who read your work
117. Because there's no point in perfecting the grammar of a paragraph you might cut or completely rewrite during revision
118. It means removing sentences, scenes, or phrases you love but that don't serve the story, making the overall work stronger
119. Distance from the work helps you see it more objectively, catching problems you were blind to while writing
120. Specific feedback identifies exact problems and gives the writer clear direction for improvement
Matching (revision_and_editing): 1→D, 2→B, 3→E, 4→C, 5→A
121. A — News organizations consider audience interest, emotional appeal, and engagement metrics alongside importance — celebrity stories generate more clicks even when budget stories affect more people
122. A — Check the About page for the organization's mission, look up the author's credentials, verify key facts through other sources, and check when it was published
123. A — In-person interviews allow the journalist to read body language, ask spontaneous follow-up questions, and build rapport, often producing more natural and revealing responses
124. C — Restating someone else's ideas in your own words while keeping the original

meaning

125. D — Excluding data to fit a narrative is unethical because it misrepresents the full picture — honest data journalism presents all relevant data even when it complicates the story
126. C — Too many slices make it nearly impossible to compare similar-sized portions, and small slices become unreadable — combining minor categories into an 'Other' group improves clarity
127. Five responses is too small a sample size to represent a school of hundreds — the results might reflect only one group's opinions and miss the diversity of perspectives
128. Read both articles and additional sources to see both the protesters' message and the event's impact, recognizing that each headline frames a different aspect
129. The line that identifies the author of the article
130. No—while Wikipedia shouldn't be a sole source, it can be useful as a starting point because articles cite verifiable references
Matching (Interviewing): 1→A, 2→E, 3→B, 4→C, 5→D
131. D — Quoted sources shape the story's perspective — including diverse voices provides balance, while only quoting one side creates a skewed narrative
132. D — Using someone else's words or ideas without giving them proper credit
133. C — Body language and tone can reveal when a source is uncomfortable, evasive, or passionate about a topic, providing cues for follow-up questions and context that quotes alone cannot capture
134. C — Use symbols like → for 'leads to,' ★ for important points, Q: for direct quotes, // for paraphrases, ? for items to verify, and common abbreviations like govt, edu, approx, w/ for with
135. A — Reading Peaks in 5th Grade, Declines as Students Advance to Middle School
136. C — The number of individuals or observations included in a study or survey
137. Include sources from different political perspectives (center-left, center, center-right), different formats (print, broadcast, digital), local and national outlets, and fact-checking sites. Set a regular schedule for checking each.
138. Context helps readers understand why the news matters by connecting current events to their broader significance and historical background
139. Cross-reference all three sources and note where they agree and disagree

140. The concern is valid but addressed through rigorous standards: presenting documented evidence rather than accusations, including the subject's response, using careful language like 'alleged,' and distinguishing between what is proven and what is under investigation
Matching (Interviewing): 1→B, 2→E, 3→D, 4→C, 5→A
141. D — Social media complements but cannot replace professional journalism because trained journalists provide verification, context, accountability, and ethical standards that social media lacks
142. A — Wikipedia provides an overview and links to original sources, but since anyone can edit it, the information may contain errors and should be verified through the cited references
143. D — A question asked in response to an answer to get more detail or clarification
144. C — Journalism that uses data analysis, statistics, and visualization to tell stories and support reporting
145. C — About 40-80 students (10-20% of the population), ensuring representation from different grades and groups
146. D — Giving equal time to a well-supported position and a fringe view creates the misleading impression that both have equal evidence, distorting public understanding
147. A council meeting story focuses on decisions and their impact (deliberative structure), while a disaster story follows chronological events and immediate human impact (narrative urgency)
148. Anchor (presents on camera), Reporter (gathers information and interviews at the event), Cameraperson (films footage), Editor (assembles the final video), and Producer (coordinates everyone and decides story structure)
149. 1920 newspapers used long-form articles with dense text because readers had no other news sources; modern websites use shorter paragraphs, multimedia, hyperlinks, and interactive elements for readers with many competing options
150. Off the record means the information cannot be published or attributed to the source — you should honor this agreement or negotiate different terms before using the information
Matching (Interviewing): 1→B, 2→A, 3→C, 4→E, 5→D
151. A — It puts the most important information first so busy readers get the key facts even if they only read the beginning
152. C — Claims that sound too good to be true, especially health claims promising

miracle cures

- 153. D — Yes, data literacy is essential in the modern world because people encounter data-driven claims daily and need skills to interpret charts, evaluate statistics, and identify manipulation
- 154. A — Visual representations make patterns, trends, and comparisons immediately apparent, helping readers understand complex data that would be difficult to grasp from numbers alone
- 155. D — Algorithms show users content similar to what they have already engaged with, gradually creating an echo chamber where they only see viewpoints that confirm their existing beliefs
- 156. B — They may weigh different aspects of the claim or use different rating criteria
- 157. A legal request for access to government records and documents that aren't publicly available
- 158. The lead (or lede)
- 159. A 'Real or Fake News' game where students receive a mix of real and fabricated news articles and must use evaluation criteria (author, source, evidence, cross-referencing) to sort them, then discuss which clues helped them identify fakes
- 160. A question that cannot be answered with just 'yes' or 'no' and requires a detailed response
Matching (Interviewing): 1→B, 2→A, 3→C, 4→D, 5→E
- 161. They wanted to get the story from a higher source!
- 162. A pun-lication!
- 163. It had too many outliers and nobody included it!
- 164. "I'm on top of things!"
- 165. It had too many breaks in its columns!
- 166. A news-hound!