

Lesson 1.3: Journalism Ethics

Subjects

Journalism, Language Arts, Social Studies

Estimated Time

One 45-minute class period

Grade Level

Middle and High School

Materials

[Worksheet 1.3](#)

Overview

Students will explore, engage and develop a thorough understanding of the theories and ethics related to journalism.

Warm Up Activity

General Ethics

Ask students “What are ethics?” “How can you tell if someone is being ethical?”

Write student answers on the board.

Main Activities

Journalism Ethics

Hand out [Worksheet 1.3](#) and read through page one with the class. Give students time to create their own definition for journalism ethics and examples. Then ask students to volunteer their best answers and share them with the class.

Next have students complete page two on their own and then put them in groups to compare answers.

Have students write a “Top Ten Journalism Ethics List” and post it on the walls of their classroom.

Standards

ISTE: Electronic Media Production, 9.0 Students will demonstrate ethics in the industry.

Common Core Standards:

Reading for Informational Text

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.7.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of a specific word choice on meaning and tone.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.8.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.9-10.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone (e.g., how the language of a court opinion differs from that of a newspaper).

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.11-12.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze how an author uses and refines the meaning of a key term or terms over the course of a text (e.g., how Madison defines faction in Federalist No. 10).

Speaking and Listening

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.7.1 and 8.1 Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 7 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.9-10.1 and 11-12.1 Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grades 9–12 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.