



Funded by
the European Union



2022-1-CZ01-KA220-SCH-000084941

Opening Digital World's Doors to # Next Digital Generations

LESSON PLAN 2 – NEWS CREATING STRATEGIES

Objective: To develop English language skills through the practice of news writing, including conducting research, developing a compelling angle, planning the structure and format, and writing a news story.

Level: Intermediate to Advanced

Time: 90 minutes

Materials:

News articles or examples of news stories from reputable sources (print or online).

Pens/pencils and paper for students to take notes.

Audio or video recording equipment (optional).

Whiteboard

Procedure:

Warm-up activity (10 minutes):

Ask students to share their understanding of the news writing process based on the information provided in Step 2 to Step 5. (curriculum)

Discuss as a class and elicit students' prior knowledge about news writing, including the importance of accurate research, compelling angles, structure, and language use.

Review any relevant vocabulary and grammar concepts related to news writing.

Research activity (20 minutes):

Provide students with examples of news articles or news topics related to their interests or relevant to the class.

Instruct students to conduct thorough research on their chosen topic, using reputable sources, such as news websites, interviews, documents, or data, to gather accurate and reliable information.

Encourage students to fact-check their information to ensure accuracy and credibility.

Angle development activity (15 minutes):

Discuss with students the importance of a compelling angle in news writing and how it helps capture the interest of the audience.

Instruct students to brainstorm and develop a unique and compelling angle for their news story based on the information they have gathered in Step 2.

Encourage students to consider different perspectives, viewpoints, and angles to provide a well-rounded and engaging story.

Structure and format planning activity (15 minutes):

Introduce the **inverted pyramid structure**, which places the most important information in the lead paragraph, followed by supporting details in descending order of importance.

Discuss with students the importance of planning the structure and format of their news story before writing.

Instruct students to plan the structure and format of their news story based on the angle they have developed in Step 3, using the inverted pyramid structure.

News writing activity (30 minutes):

Instruct students to start writing their news story, following the structure and format they have planned in Step 4.

Emphasize the importance of starting with a clear and concise lead paragraph that summarizes the main points of the story.

Instruct students to use simple and understandable language, avoiding jargon or technical terms that may confuse the audience.

Encourage students to revise and edit their news story for accuracy, coherence, and clarity.

Follow-up activity (10 minutes):

Optional: Have students share their news stories with the class or in pairs for peer review and feedback.

Lead a class discussion on the challenges and strategies of news writing, including conducting research, developing angles, and structuring news stories effectively.

Wrap up the lesson by summarizing the key concepts covered and providing feedback on students' overall performance.

Extensions/Adaptations:

For lower-level students, provide simpler news articles or topics for research, and scaffold the angle development and news writing process with more guidance.

For higher-level students, encourage them to explore more complex news topics, conduct interviews or analyze data to support their news story.

Incorporate multimedia resources, such as news videos or podcasts, for listening practice and analysis of news stories.

Assign homework for students to read and analyze news articles from reputable sources independently and discuss them in the next class.

Assessment:

Observation of students' participation in class discussions and group

Reference to Curriculum:

Step 2: Conduct thorough research: Gather accurate and reliable information from reputable sources. Conduct interviews, review documents, and collect data to support your news story. Fact-check all information to ensure accuracy and credibility.

Step 3: Develop a compelling angle: Determine a unique and compelling angle for your news story that will capture the interest of your audience. Consider different perspectives, viewpoints, and angles to provide a well-rounded and engaging story.

Step 4: Plan the structure and format: Decide on the structure and format of your news story. Follow the inverted pyramid structure, which places the most important information in the lead paragraph, followed by supporting details in descending order of importance.

Step 5: Write the news story: Start with a clear and concise lead paragraph that summarizes the main points of the story. Follow with additional paragraphs that provide more details and context. Use simple and understandable language, avoiding jargon or technical terms that may confuse your audience.