

# News Groups

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## **APPENDIX**

Three sample worksheets for the roles of Reporter, Commentator, and Language Maven

**ROLE 1: NEWS REPORTER: Reporting Facts**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Today's date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Before class:* Read the article your group has selected. Your job is to report the facts in your own words. Take notes like a journalist: who, what, where, when, and why. Use your own words as much as possible.

*In class:* Summarize the article in your own words so that your classmates can understand it. Refer to your notes, but don't read them. Turn in your notes to the instructor for feedback.

Title of the article: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of the article: \_\_\_\_\_

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1. This article is about . . . (who) . . .

2. The article is about . . . (what).

Look at the title. Look at any photos and captions and/or graphs or charts. This is important because . . .

3. The place the article talks about is . . .

This is important because . . .

4. The time period the article refers to is . . .

This is important because . . .

5. This article is in the news in this country because . . .

It might be (might not be) in the news in my country because . . .

**ROLE 2: COMMENTATOR: Expressing Opinions**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Today's date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Before class:* Read the article your group has selected. Your job is to give your opinion of the facts in your own words. Take notes on these opinion questions. Add specific examples. Use your own words as much as possible.

*In class:* Summarize your opinion of the facts in your own words. Make sure that your classmates can understand you. Refer to your notes, but don't read them. Turn in your notes to the instructor for feedback.

Title of the article: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of the article: \_\_\_\_\_

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What I like is . . .

What interests me is . . .

Example(s)

I like this article because . . .

What I don't like is . . .

What bothers me is . . .

Example(s)

The journalist should/shouldn't . . .

In the future, if this happens  
in my country, . . .

Explanation/Reason(s)

This happened in my country.  
Let me explain . . .

In my opinion, you should/shouldn't read  
this article because . . .

Reason(s)

If you have time, you should read  
this article, because . . .

**ROLE 3: LANGUAGE MAVEN: Noticing Language**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Today's date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Before class:* Read the article your group has selected. Your job is to select language that is interesting or useful. Take notes in the chart below. Give reasons for your choices.

*In class:* Teach the language to your classmates. Explain why these words, phrases, and sentences are interesting or useful. Turn in your notes to the instructor for feedback.

Title of the article: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of the article: \_\_\_\_\_

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<b>My favorite sentence in the article is . . .</b>	<b>(Paraphrase the sentence.) In other words, this means . . .  What the sentence means is . . .</b>
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<b>My favorite vocabulary words or phrases are . . .</b>	<b>These are my favorites because . . .  In other words, these mean . . .</b>
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<b>For me, the most meaningful sentence is . . .</b>	<b>This is the most significant sentence because . . .</b>
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<b>The most useful word or phrase is . . .</b>	<b>This is the vocabulary item I want to learn because . . .  These items are worth learning because . . .</b>
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<b>The least interesting sentence is . . .</b>	<b>This is an uninteresting sentence because . . .  As a result, I'm not going to . . .</b>
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