THE ROLE OF A NEWS PRODUCTION TEAM

When you think about the news, the person you will likely think of first is the news presenter - the person who delivers the news to the public, typically through television or radio. However, a news production team is made up of many, many more roles such as researchers, journalists and camera operators.

News production teams hold very important roles within our society as news broadcasts are often how we first hear of many really important events that have occurred across the globe.

Use the space below to list 3 news stories (past or present) that you think have been very important. Why do you think it was so important that we became aware of them?

1.___________________________________________________________
2.___________________________________________________________
3.___________________________________________________________

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF A NEWS REPORTER

As the news is such a wide-reaching and trusted source, news production teams have a responsibility to ensure that what they are reporting is correct. News features that are not correct are called fake news.

What do you think the dangers are of reporting fake news?
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

ROLES WITHIN NEWS

This booklet has taken a closer look at the role of a news presenter. However, as mentioned before, there are lots of other people that work within a news production team. Use the space below to list as many of these roles as you can think of. If you are struggling, you may want to put your research skills to good use!

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

Pick one of the roles listed above. What skills do you think they have that make them good at their job?
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

Within any team there are lots of different people with lots of different skills - this is what makes a team so strong! However, there are some skills that all members of a team may have to help them work together well. What skills do you think these are?
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

What skills do you think you have that make you a valuable member of a team?
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
WHAT’S YOUR STORY

On lined paper, create your script using the flow chart below.

Start
Introduce the story and outline the basic information

Middle
The bulk of the story is presented here and may include an interview or some statistics

End
Ties up what has been said and usually includes a memorable take home message.

Once your script is complete, work together to present your news reports. If possible, film your report considering the different camera angles used.

Before a news report has even begun, we often already know we are watching a news broadcast. This is because we are able to recognize the eye-catching logo or the introduction music sequence.

Using the logo design worksheet to help you, use the space below to create your very own news programme logo.

GETTING A FEEL FOR IT

Think back to a recent news program you have watched or ask your teacher to show you a clip on the internet.

You will notice that when switching between stories, news presenters will alter their tone and body language to suit the feature they are presenting. This helps to captivate the audience and makes the audience feel a certain way.

When reporting on a positive story the presenter may appear excited with a higher pitched voice and lots of enthusiastic body language. When presenting a negative news story, the presenter will have a much more serious facial expression with a monotone voice and minimal body movement.

Use the space below to describe the change in behavior of a presenter reporting the following story:

- An owner has lost her cat and despite a desperate search with help from the entire neighborhood the cat cannot be found.
- After days of searching with no success, the owner has lost hope and decides to call off the search.
- Just when all hope is lost, the cat returns and is reunited with the overjoyed owner.

Show the journey of emotion implemented through body language and change in tone throughout the feature. Consider things like tone of voice, body language, facial expressions and the kind of language used.

Start: ______________________________________________________

Middle: ______________________________________________________

End: ______________________________________________________
OVER TO YOU

Now you know the basics of what makes a good news presenter, it’s over to you!

Considering the previous section and your own opinion of what makes a good news presenter, use the script below to have a go yourself. Maybe you could use a tablet to record yourself?

[NEWS PRESENTER TO CAMERA]
Hello and welcome, my name is _____________ and you are watching UCLan News.

Join us this evening as we talk to the superhero of school students, the young boy who proved the dog really did eat his homework.

[Show image of Bill Bloggs smiling proudly next to his pet dog.]

Bill claims that when he went to pack his homework ready for school one Monday morning he was shocked to find it no longer on the dining room table where he had left it. Upon further investigation it became clear to Bill that his pet dog, Alfie, had in fact eaten his homework.

[Play clip of a typical classroom whilst news reporter reads]

Unsurprisingly, Bill’s teacher did not believe such a story and issued the innocent school boy with a detention. In his frustration, Billy set out to clear his name and prove his innocence which as I’m sure you can imagine was no mean feat.

We have our local correspondent, Milly Brown with Billy at his school in Lancashire to tell us all about this really quite spectacular situation. Over to you Milly.

[SWITCH TO INTERVIEW WITH LOCAL CORRESPONDANT, MILLY AND SCHOOL BOY, BILLY]

RESEARCH

So, you've had a go at presenting a ready-made news script- how about writing your own?

When writing a news report, you should make sure you always follow the 3 C’s- to be clear, concise and correct.

Why do you think it is important for a news report to be clear and concise?

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

Time for some research- ask your teacher to present you with some news articles from a news website. Choose one article to base your news report on. Read the article carefully to determine the following key points.

What's happening? __________________________________________________________

Who's involved? ____________________________________________________________

Where is it happening? _____________________________________________________

When is it happening? _____________________________________________________

Why is it happening? _____________________________________________________

What will your headline be? This should be eye catching and give a brief description about the story.

__________________________________________________________________________