

NEWS AND ME

OBJECTIVE

Students learn how to distinguish the different parts of a newspaper and explore the roles of the news media in civic life.

INSTRUCTIONS

- ★ Have a discussion with your class about newspapers. Explain to your students why people read them. Also make sure you describe various newspaper components: advertisements, sports articles, news articles (local, national and international), travel articles, cooking articles, and so on.
- ★ Mention to students that newspapers used to always be printed on paper. Now, many news sources are found online. This helps to save paper and deliver the news faster.
- ★ Divide the class into 6 groups. Give each group one of the following*:
 - Image/photo
 - Political cartoon
 - Headline
 - Letter to the editor
 - News story
 - Editorial
- ★ Give students a few minutes to review and be ready to discuss. (They do not have to read and understand the articles.)

* Find clips and examples in the resource database at www.GenerationNation.org/learn

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- ★ Describe what you see. Why might this be part of a newspaper?
- ★ What is the difference between news and opinion?
- ★ Why does a newspaper include photos and political cartoons?
- ★ What is the role of a headline? Is it easy or hard to write a headline? Why?
- ★ Can only paid journalists contribute to the news? Or can citizens play a role? (writing opinions, using social media to cover breaking news, etc.)
- ★ Why do we have newspapers?
- ★ What did you learn about a newspaper that you didn't know before?
- ★ Why is it important to understand what the different parts of a newspaper mean?
- ★ How do we know if information in the newspaper is true?

MORE RESOURCES AND ACTIVITIES

Help your students to learn about government, find and analyze information, understand how informed, active citizens participate in democracy through elections and more. Find curriculum alignment guides, candidate and debate information, video, text, images, and more activities plus information about the student vote at www.GenerationNation.org/learn