

Daily Independent Reading

Learning Activity

Read a Short Story, Article, or News Report

Time

Up to 20 minutes per day

Instructions

Students can read a short story, magazine article, or newspaper article (either online or in print) OR watch a news report.

There are lots of short articles at this link:

<http://www.kellygallagher.org/aow-archive>

And short stories by teens at this link:

<https://www.teenink.com/magazine>

Choose 3 of the following 8 writing options to complete

Considerations

As you read, ask yourself these questions:

- How might the public benefit from this published work?
- What types of details do authors and journalists need to consider when sharing their work with the public?

Interview

Create questions and interview a grandparent or family member by phone or technology. Is there a hobby or job they do, or something they have experienced that would be interesting to talk about?

- What is the main purpose of this interview?
- What sorts of questions will get the most interesting answers?
- What unique experiences or advice can your family member share?

Letter/E-Mail

Write a letter or email to a future employer.

- Why is it in their best interest to hire you? What can you

offer to their business/place of employment?

- What strengths/skills about yourself can you highlight?
- What experiences do you have that will be beneficial?

Describe a Process

Create an instruction manual that outlines a step-by-step process that you have accomplished recently. You could look at your car owner's manual, or Lego instructions as an example.

- Students may be helping with household tasks and repairs.
- What pictures/diagrams would be helpful?
- Pretend your audience has never attempted what you have; be clear and descriptive.

Evaluate the Pros and Cons of Social Media

Write a compare and contrast piece that highlights the positives and negatives of social media.

- How much time do you spend on social media?
- Has social media changed aspects in your life (school, communication with friends and family, workplace, etc).

Create a Visual Representation

Draw, paint or use technology to capture an important moment or person in your life.

- How will you use colour (or not)?
- Will you use different textures?
- Will you fill the space (or not)?

Compose a Scene

Compose a scene for a story, movie or drama that involves two or more characters talking to each other.

- How could you create a comical or emotional moment?
- What will you do to make your scene interesting?

Compare and Contrast

Compare and contrast 'home learning' with traditional learning.

- What positives are there to learning at home?
- What challenges are there?
- How might you share your ideas

Video Diary or Podcast

Create a video diary or podcast reflecting on a day in your life. You could listen to some podcasts or watch some blogs on You tube to get ideas.

- What will you do to make your video or podcast entertaining?
- What can you take from other podcasts or blogs that you could include in yours?