

Honors Journalism

FEATURE GRADE SHEET

Word count of at least 800 words: _____ 10 points

Journalistic grammar/conventions: _____ 30 points

- Short sentences and paragraphs
- Doesn't stack quotes on top of quotes
- Uses at least three sources, one of whom is an expert source
- Doesn't interview friends, family or people in class

Feature style _____ 50 points

- Tightly written
- Variety of sentence structure
- Tone matches topic and style doesn't overcome substance
- No first person and avoids second person unless talking directly to your reader
- Doesn't editorialize
- Use a microscope not a telescope to tell the story
- Uses sensory and emotional detail and description
- Recreates scenes, captures details and uses quotes and dialogue judiciously

Compelling, relevant lead: _____ 10 points

- Focused on a person
- Uses a relevant, anecdote based on a real person

Well-organized body: _____ 10 points

- Doesn't stack quotes on top of quotes
- Story follows a logical pattern

Logical, interesting ending: _____ 10 points

- Isn't a conclusion
- Brings story full circle by using a quote from the person introduced in the lead

Total _____ **120 points**

