

Honors Journalism

EDITORIAL ASSIGNMENT SHEET

draft due: March 14; final copy due March 21

The assignment

Write an 450-550 word editorial about a topic relevant to Grosse Pointe South. This editorial story should be written using standard journalism conventions including short paragraphs, clear language and AP style. A finished version of the editorial is due to turnitin.com and as a GoogleDoc by midnight, March 21.

Things to remember when writing your editorial

- Write tightly
- Vary your sentence structure
- Match your tone to your topic
- Don't allow style to overcome substance
- Editorials can use the editorial "we." Generally, use this sparingly.
- Editorials usually follow a fairly predictable structure. See the editorial handout on my website that we talked about in class.

Things to avoid when writing your editorial

- Attacking people rather than issues
- Rambling
- Ranting
- Jumping on the bandwagon
- Writing about insignificant topics

Assessment

Your grade for this assignment will be based on the following criteria

Word count: 10 points

Journalistic grammar/conventions: 30 points

Editorial style as detailed above and on the handout: 50 points

Compelling, relevant lead: 10 points

Well-organized body: 10 points

Logical, interesting ending: 10 points

