

WRITING A FEATURE ARTICLE

What are the differences between a news article and a feature article?

NEWS ARTICLE	FEATURE ARTICLE
<ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ just facts❖ broad coverage of a topic❖ can't argue facts❖ not as interesting❖ purpose is to inform	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ facts and opinion❖ focuses on a specific aspect of a topic❖ debatable❖ more interesting; facts, emotion, opinion❖ purpose is to inform AND entertain

VOCABULARY:

1. **ANGLE:** The angle is one way of looking at a topic that you can report on. The author chooses exactly what he/she wants the readers to know about the topic.
2. **AUDIENCE:** The audience is who will read your article.
3. **ORGANIZATION:** The organization of a feature article is as follows:
 - ❖ **LEAD:** You want to hook your reader right from the start. Use a question, quote, personal story, startling fact, or create a scene.
 - ❖ **BODY:** This will be a combination of facts and opinion.
 - ❖ **CONCLUSION:** This will summarize your article and leave the reader with a final thought. The reader should remember what you have said in the article.
4. **TOPIC:** This is what you have decided to write about. It should be something you know well, and you should be able to develop an angle about the topic and back it up with research.
5. **FOCUS:** Writers may use a number of terms for focus: main point, thesis, theme, position statement, and controlling idea. What these terms have in common—and what focus is really all about—is informally known as sticking to the point.

Sticking to the point involves having a clear idea of what you want to write and how you want to write about your topic. While you write, you'll want to keep in mind your supporting details to help your readers better understand your main point.

6. **VOICE:** "In writing, voice is the way your writing 'sounds' on the page. It has to do with the way you write, the tone you take-- friendly, formal, chatty, distant--the words you choose-- everyday words or high-brow language--the pattern of your sentences, and the way these things fit in--or not--with the personality of the narrator character and the style of your story."
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