

**Grading Rubrics
Newspaper
April 2008**

CATEGORY	Excellent (4)	Good (3)	Satisfactory (2)	Poor (1)
1. Requirements (Ideas) (Organization)	Newspaper format is authentic and includes more than 10 (250 word) 3-paragraph articles: each based on one or two chapters of the novel; the combination of articles presents a thorough analysis of the characters and events of the novel. The title and author of the novel are clearly identified within the newspaper.	Newspaper format is authentic and includes 10 (250 word) 3-paragraph articles: each based on the novel; the combination of articles presents an analysis of the characters and events of the novel. The title and author of the novel are clearly identified within the newspaper.	Newspaper format is authentic and includes 10 3-paragraph articles: each based on the novel; the articles discuss the characters and events of the novel. The title and author of the novel are identified within the newspaper.	Newspaper format is not authentic or is missing one or more article(s). Article(s) may lack relevance with regard to the characters and / or events of the novel. The title and author of the novel may not be clearly identified within the newspaper.
2. Authentic Format (Organization) (Conventions)	The title of the newspaper is centered and stands out from other content. The date, edition of the newspaper, city, state, editor's name and title appear below the paper title in a smaller font. Headlines capture the reader's attention and accurately describe the content. All articles have sub-headings and bylines and all graphics have captions that adequately describe the people and the action.	The title of the newspaper stands out from other content. The date and edition of the newspaper appear below the name in a smaller font. Headlines accurately describe the content. All articles have sub-headings and bylines and all graphics have captions .	The title of the newspaper stands out from other content. The date or the edition of the newspaper appears below the name in a smaller font. Headlines accurately describe the content. All articles have bylines .	The title of the newspaper does not stand out OR both the name and edition of the newspaper are missing on one or more pages. Articles are missing bylines OR many articles do not have adequate headlines OR many graphics do not have captions .

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<p>3. Articles - Purpose (Organization) (Sentence Fluency)</p>	<p>The first paragraph of every article clearly describes the purpose of the article and answers the questions: who, what, where, when and how.</p>	<p>One article does not describe the purpose of the article or does not answer the questions who, what, where, when and how.</p>	<p>Two articles do not describe the purpose of the article or do not answer the questions who, what, where, when and how.</p>	<p>More than two articles do not describe the purpose of the article or do not answer the questions who, what, where, when and how.</p>
<p>4. Articles - Supporting Details (Organization) (Sentence Fluency) (Ideas)</p>	<p>Specific, relevant and accurate details from the book are used effectively to support and enhance the main idea of each article. The examples used always make sense in the context of the news story.</p>	<p>Specific, relevant and accurate details from the book are used to effectively support the main idea of each article. The examples used make sense most of the time.</p>	<p>Specific, relevant and accurate details from the book are used to support the main idea of each article. The examples used make sense at least half the time.</p>	<p>Few details from the book are used to support the main idea of each article. The examples do not make sense in many of the articles.</p>
<p>5. Articles - Interest (Voice) (Word Choice)</p>	<p>The articles contain facts, figures, and/or word choices that make the articles exceptionally interesting to readers. Articles are enhanced with illustrations or other relevant graphics.</p>	<p>The articles contain facts, figures, and/or word choices that make the articles interesting to readers. Graphics or illustrations add to the effectiveness of the articles.</p>	<p>The articles contain some facts or figures but may be of marginal interest to read. The reporter has utilized clear and concise language, but lacks flair or variety.</p>	<p>The articles do not contain facts or figures that might make for interesting reading. Word choice and language lack appeal.</p>
<p>6. Editorials (Voice) (Ideas)</p>	<p>Editorials, letter(s) to the editor and/or political cartoons reflect accurate information, related to a theme; the writer clearly identifies and supports an opinion about the theme.</p>	<p>Editorials, letter(s) to the editor and/or political cartoons accurately and clearly express an opinion about a theme of the novel.</p>	<p>Editorials, letter(s) to the editor and/or political cartoons express an opinion about a theme of the novel.</p>	<p>Editorials, letter(s) to the editor and/or political cartoons present inaccurate or misleading information or fail to express an opinion.</p>

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<p>7. Advertising (Voice) (Ideas)</p>	<p>The newspaper authentically presents a relevant and representative collection of advertisements and/or want ads, used to enhance the content of the newspaper. The ads utilize more than 5 identifiable propaganda techniques.</p>	<p>The newspaper authentically presents a relevant collection of advertisements and/or want ads. The ads utilize at least 5 identifiable propaganda techniques.</p>	<p>The newspaper presents a collection of advertisements and/or want ads, related to the story. The ads utilize at least 4 identifiable propaganda techniques.</p>	<p>The newspaper presents a random collection of advertisements and/or want ads. The ads utilize fewer than 4 identifiable propaganda techniques.</p>
<p>8. Mechanics (Conventions)</p>	<p>No spelling, grammar, or usage errors detract from the reader's ability to enjoy the newspaper.</p>	<p>No more than a couple of spelling, grammar, or usage errors detract from the reader's ability to enjoy the newspaper.</p>	<p>No more than 4 spelling, grammar, or usage errors detract from the reader's ability to enjoy the newspaper.</p>	<p>Several spelling, grammar, or usage errors detract from the reader's ability to enjoy the newspaper.</p>
<p>9. Presentation (Conventions)</p>	<p>The editor has shown obvious care and pride through the neatness, accuracy and overall appearance of the newspaper.</p>	<p>The editor has shown care and pride through the neatness, accuracy, and overall appearance of the newspaper.</p>	<p>The editor has attempted to present a neat and accurate newspaper.</p>	<p>The editor appears to have thrown together the newspaper haphazardly with little effort or concern for the overall presentation.</p>

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Points Possible: 32

Points awarded	Grade % (A)	Points awarded	Grade % (B)
36	100	27	93
35	99	26	92
34	98	25	91
33	97	24	90
32	96	23	89
31	95	22	88
30	95	21	87
29	94	20	86
28	94	19	85
Points awarded	Grade % (C)	Points awarded	Grade % (D)
18	84	12	75
17	83	11	74
16	82	10	72
15	81	9	70
14	80		
13	76		
Less than 9 points	69 (F)		
No project submitted	0		
** Project will count as a test grade in language arts.			