

Judging News Value—Exercise One

Directions: Read each item below. List the news determinants that would help identify each item as a potential news story for your school newspaper.

1. The schedule of events for next week's homecoming is announced.
2. Squirrels have built a nest and are raising their young in a tree in the school courtyard.
3. A candidate for governor will address the student body next month.
4. The School Board has voted to increase graduation requirements beginning next year.
5. Spanish Club members have scheduled a noon-time taco sale.
6. The superintendent of schools has announced faculty cuts for next fall.
7. The Student Council has adopted new guidelines for next spring's election of officers.
8. Drama Club members recently returned from a trip to a Broadway play.
9. PTA members are challenging high school grading policies and practices.
10. A local junior was injured while participating in a foreign exchange program in France.

Judging News Value—Exercise Two

Directions: Below are ten pairs of news stories available for inclusion in the next edition of your school newspaper. Because of space limitations, you have room for only one item from each pair. Place an X in the blank beside the one item in each pair that you would choose to include in your newspaper. On the line following each pair, list the news determinant(s) which you used to make your selection.

1. a. Local senior wins DAR good citizen award.
 b. Local senior refuses Presidential Scholarship to protest U.S. military policy.

2. a. Mayor shoots hole-in-one.
 b. Principal shoots hole-in-one.

3. a. School Board increases student fees by \$10 per semester.
 b. School Board approves new textbook for Calculus class.

4. a. Health food line added to school cafeteria selections.
 b. Principal closes campus during lunch hour.

5. a. Locker thefts increase.
 b. PE lockers to be painted during Christmas break.

6. a. Changes have been made in next semester's registration procedure.
 b. Changes have been made in next year's registration procedure.

7. a. Principal to address student body.
 b. Television celebrity, an alumna from your school, to address student body.

8. a. Red Cross encourages student participation in city-wide blood drive.
 b. Student Council plans blood drive to benefit a member of the junior class.

9. a. Clubs announce winners of this year's officer elections.
 b. Janitor discovers \$500 in discarded lunch bag.

10. a. Homecoming dance decorations are described.
 b. Student Council votes to cancel homecoming queen contest because it feels the contest is sexist.
