Newspaper research project

1. In pairs, students research an element of creating a quality newspaper. (4 days)

Elements include:

* Fonts
* Photography
* Photo illustrations
* Info-graphics
* Cover design
* Page design
* Sidebars
* Packages
* Polls, surveys
* Reviews
* Shorts
* Writing (can be more specific if more elements are needed: news, sports, opinion, etc.)

Each pair will type a report based on their findings: Minimum two pages, double-spaced, on Google Docs. Include a source list.

1. Each pair traces one person on a piece of butcher paper. They write their element of the newspaper at the top of the paper. Inside the traced body they write what they believe the staff is doing well as it pertains to their specific element. On the outside of the traced body they write what the staff could do to improve the use of this element as discovered through their research. (2 days)
2. Each pair presents their findings to the staff. (2-3 days depending on the size of the staff)

\*This project can be adapted to any length of time. But, I have found that the more time the students have to research, the more they find and the better the presentations.

Newspaper research project rubric

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 20 rare | 25 med. rare | 30 medium | 35 med. well | 40 well done! |
| Paper |  |  |  |  |  |
| Project |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 5 rare | 10 med. rare | 15 medium | 20 med. well | 25 well done! |
| Presentation |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total: |  |  |  |  |  |