

Teacher Tool 360: Think Like a Reporter

Program Guide

Study Guide for Point to Point 4: Think Like A Reporter

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Think Like a Reporter

Expert: Sharon Stevens, Television and Newspaper Reporter

Targeted Grade Levels: The program can be targeted to grades 5-12.

Availability: Program requests must be made at least two weeks prior to your desired date. This program can be scheduled between 8 am and 1 p.m. Central Time on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. When enrolling, please let us know three possible dates and times you'd like to schedule your interaction.

Program Description:

Interact with veteran reporter Sharon Stevens as she shares insights into the world of news reporting, offers examples of her work for you to evaluate and learn from, and shares her thoughts about examples of your work as a reporter that you share with her. The program will focus on the importance of truthful reporting; fact vs. fiction, how to verify information and speak to interviewees. Clear writing and speaking will also be stressed.

If you would prefer a different direction, such as career exploration or specific aspects of journalism, Sharon is more than capable of providing that interaction. When you schedule your program, please let us know the direction you want to go. Advance questions are due to us no less than three days prior to your scheduled interaction.

The program's conversation will be guided entirely by the topics and questions you wish Sharon to address. For example, if your students are elementary or middle school students who send topics and questions focusing on general career exploration then that will be the direction of your interaction; if your students are high school broadcast journalism students wanting to focus on more specific aspects of that industry, then that will be the direction of your interaction. Your topic preferences and advance questions are due to us no less than three days prior to your scheduled interaction.

Meet Sharon in the Program Promo Video and View Additional Program Materials at:
<https://educate.today/videos/5966>

Program Objectives:

Participants will:

1. understand how to honestly report a story
2. evaluate sources and learn how to verify information
3. learn the importance of the first sentence/paragraph and begin developing good writing skills

Program Format:

1. The introduction will include a brief biography of Sharon Stevens and a short outline of the program's focus and goals.
2. Ms. Stevens will discuss how to be a good interviewer, how to verify facts and to craft the information into a clear, truthful report. Student interaction will be a featured element.
3. Ms. Stevens will conclude with a question/answer period. She will exhort students interested in writing and journalism to make it a habit to read and watch the news and write daily to develop skill.

Cost and Payment: \$110—Payment may be made via credit card or school district purchase order. Payment must be received prior to the scheduled program date.

How To Connect for the Program:

1. Via h.323 Videoconference
2. Via Skype, Zoom, or other similar desktop videoconference software

When you enroll for the program, please let us know your preferred method of connection.

To Enroll: Enrollment can occur in any of the following ways:

1. Go to our web page for the promo video for this program on our Educate.Today website at <https://educate.today/videos/5966> and click on the Sign Up button to send us your enrollment information.
2. E-mail us at info@educate.today and put “Enrolling for Reporter Point to Point Program” in the title of the e-mail. Please include your contact information in the e-mail and at least three proposed dates and times for your interaction.

We will respond to either method of enrollment to finalize a scheduled date for your interaction, make sure you have all program preparatory materials, and handle technical details for your method of connection including test calls.

Cancellation Policy: Once a date and time has been scheduled for your interaction, you can cancel or reschedule without penalty within 24 hours. After 24 hours and up to 7 days before your scheduled program, we’ll refund 50% of your original fee. Within 7 days of the scheduled date, we do not offer a refund. Should an uncontrollable emergency occur (i.e.: snow day, etc.), we will work with you to reschedule the program for a new date and time but should that prove impossible, we will refund 50% of your original fee. Should our program expert or other circumstance force a cancellation on our end from your original date, we will work with you to reschedule the program for a new date and time that works for you, or we will refund your purchase in full.

Pre-Program Activities:

1. Respond to Examples of Reporting—After enrolling for the program you will be sent examples of television and newspaper reporting for your students to watch/read in advance of the program to help them determine any specific topics or questions they want to ask Ms. Stevens. During the program, Ms. Stevens will also seek student feedback on the examples sent.

3. Send Us Your Advance Questions for Your Interaction:

Work with students in advance of their interaction to determine up to the ten (10) most important questions you’d like to ask Ms. Stevens during your program. Send these questions to us by completing the Reporter Point to Point Worksheet document sent to you with preparatory materials for this program and also available on our Educate.Today website at <https://educate.today/videos/5966>. E-mail it to us at info@educate.today no less than three days prior to your scheduled interaction. Additional spontaneous questions will be encouraged during the program, but these questions will be used to organize the conversation.

Post-Program Activity Suggestions:

1. Send a Thank You or Insight—Have students write a letter to Dr. Greaves detailing insight the student gained from hearing her story, an appreciation for her participation, and/or another focus area of their choice. E-mail the letter to us at info@educate.today or mail the letter to us at Educate.Today@HEC-TV 3221 McKelvey Rd #106, Bridgeton, MO 63044.

2. Interview a Local Newspaper or Television Reporter—Have students practice some of the skills they gained from the program by interviewing a local newspaper or television reporter. The interview could be done on video or students could write an article or essay based on the interview. As part of our mission, Educate.Today is dedicated to publishing student work for other students to learn from. If you'd like to submit a student article or video interview for possible publication, e-mail us at info@educate.today and put "Publish Student Work" in the title line. We'll respond with next steps for possible publication.

Featured National Standards:

Common Core College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards

Reading Information Text

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.introduction-for-6-12

Grade 6

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.6

Grade 7

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.7

Grade 8

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.8

Grade 9-10

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.9-10

Grade 11-12

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.11-12

Writing

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.introduction

Introduction for 6-12

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.introduction-for-6-12

Grade 6

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6

Grade 7

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.7

Grade 8

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.8

Grade 9-10

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-10

Grade 11-12

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.11-12

Speaking & Listening

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.introduction

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.introduction-for-6-12

Grade 6

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.6

Grade 7

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.7

Grade 8

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.8

Grade 9-10

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.9-10

Grade 11-12

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.11-12

American School Counselor Association National Standards for Students

American School Counselor Association (2004). ASCA National Standards for Students. A
Alexandria, VA: Author.

In the area of Career Development:

Standard A: Students will acquire the skills to investigate the world of work in relation to knowledge of self and to make informed career decisions.

Standard B: Students will employ strategies to achieve future career goals with success and satisfaction.