



Big City, Big Country Road Show Students' Final Projects Instructions and Due Dates

Required Component:

News Writing: You are a reporter for the *El Paso Times*. The following information consists of notes (see attached news events "Notes") concerning three news events that you covered. Pick any one set of notes and write one news story of at least three sentences. If you wish, you may write a second or third story, using the other sets of notes.

Remember:

- In the first sentence, begin with the *Who* ... tell *What* the *Who Did* or *Said* ... and tell *Why* the *Who Did* or *Said* that;
- In the second sentence, tell *Where* and *When* the news event took place and, perhaps, *How* the action would be done; and
- In the third sentence, provide essential *details*.
 - Do not begin with *today*.
 - Each sentence should be a separate paragraph, for ease of reading in a 2-inch-wide newspaper column.
 - You may use the dictionary.
 - After you write your story, and before you turn it in, read it aloud and listen to the flow of language. Revise as necessary.
- Save your news stories on your CD.
- Send an electronic copy of your news stories (as an e-mail attachment) to Dr. Starr.
- Print hard copies of your news stories and mail them by the deadline: **July 18, 2008**.
- Publish your Story: after your Story is reviewed, BC2BC project partners will publish it on the project site: <http://www.ag-communicators.org/BC2BC/projects.htm>
- **PROJECT DUE on July 18, 2008.**

E-mail your News Story to:

Douglas Perret Starr
d-starr@tamu.edu

Mail a hard copy of your News Story to:

Douglas Perret Starr
2116 TAMU
College Station, TX
77843-2116

Big City, Big Country Road Show

News Writing Notes

Douglas Perret Starr

Your Notes No. 1:

Muse Air Corporation announced today that the airline is for sale. CEO Sam Coates said the reason was that the company was losing money. CEO Sam Coates said that Muse Air wanted to protect stockholders by keeping the company operating rather than declaring bankruptcy. CEO Sam Coates said he hired the investment firm of Salomon Brothers, Inc. to contact suitable purchasers and assist in the sale. CEO Sam Coates said that if Muse Air were bought by a larger and stronger company, it would be able to operate more efficiently and pay dividends to stockholders.

Your Notes No. 2:

Milford Wood, 32, white, 5 feet, 10 inches tall, 165 pounds, crew cut, blond hair, mustache. County Jail on a charge of armed robbery. Walked away from jail, wearing a blue shirt, blue denim trousers, black running shoes. Sheriff John Ritter said that Milford Wood walked out the jail today by merging with a group of visitors. Milford Wood is considered dangerous. Sheriff John Ritter ordered a full search and alerted sheriff's and police departments in surrounding counties.

Your Notes No. 3:

Jamie is a German shepherd dog, 4 years old. He is accused of biting two people and attacking four pet dogs in the neighborhood. Jamie has been held in an isolation cage at the County Animal Shelter since he bit a 10-year-old girl. Jamie's owners, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sobolski, said that they tried to keep the dog penned up, but he escaped several times. County Judge Alan Shepherd ruled that Jamie is vicious and dangerous and ordered the dog killed Tuesday. Jamie was examined and found not to have rabies.

Required: (choose 1 option from the following 3 projects)

Digital Photo Essay:

- Create a Digital Photo Essay with 15-20 original photos capturing agriculture's role in your city.
- Use imaginative, striking photos related to food and agriculture in your city. The following questions may help form your essay, but please use your imagination when submitting photos!
 1. Who feeds the world?
 2. Who works in food production, distribution, and consumption?
 3. What are the essential elements of food production, water, shelter, air, and clothing?
 4. How does the preparation, cooking and enjoyment of food from traditional cuisine to gourmet dinners and fast food to community kitchens?
- Capture the buying, selling, trading, or exchanging of food, animals, or plants from all possible markets: farmer's markets, supermarkets, specialty stores, service organizations or government supplies.
- Use Photoshop editing techniques to enhance the photos message.
- Write an Artist's Statement: 250-400 words describing your purpose for the photo essay.
 - Your essay should help viewers understand your perspective and choice of photos.
 - The viewer may not see what you saw, but they should have a reaction to the piece.
 - Viewers' reactions may be emotional or intellectual.
 - All your photos, not just a few of them, should create a response.
- Save your photos individually to your CD.
- Save the Artist's Statement to your CD.
- Create a PDF portfolio presentation of your essay. Save it to your CD.
- Mail your CD by the deadline: **July 18, 2008**.
- Publish the Digital Photo Essay: after your Photo Essay is reviewed, BC2BC project partners will publish it on the project site at <http://www.ag-communicators.org/BC2BC/projects.htm>
- **PROJECT DUE on July 18, 2008.**

Send the Digital Photo Essay CD and Artist's Statement to:

Tracy Rutherford
2116 TAMU
College Station, TX
77843-2116

Digital Video:

- Create a Digital Video: total length is 45-seconds to one minute (**maximum**), set to music, and uses digital photos you took in the BC2BC workshop.
- Photos must pertain to agriculture in some manner.
- May include horticulture, livestock, crops, aquaculture, food safety, water conservation, or any other agriculturally-related topic.
- Your video must tell a story.
 - Developing a storyboard of your idea helps guide your creative process.
 - Use titles or credits and place photos in a logical order to help tell your story.
- Edit Your Video: music enhances videos by stimulating auditory and visual senses.
 - Choose music from a CD you own or from a legally-downloaded MP3 file.
- Music track needs to relate to your storyline, not distract from it.
- Save Digital Video to the CD.

- Publish the Digital Video: after your Video is reviewed, BC2BC project partners will publish it on the project site at <http://www.ag-communicators.org/BC2BC/projects.htm>
- **PROJECT DUE on July 18, 2008.**

Send the Digital Video CD to:

Erica Irlbeck
Box 42131
Lubbock, TX
79409-2131

Web site:

- Develop a Web site: (**two page minimum**) your site should inform a specific audience (maybe other teens) about one of life's basic necessities (water, food, shelter, or clothing) and how it is affected during a crisis. All Web site files need to be in one folder:
- Web site folder: name the folder using your last name only.
- Create the Home Page: the "index.html" page is your Home page, the first page visitors see on your Web site. The Home page should be:
 - Brief in content, but visually-appealing to encourage visitors' return.
 - Colorful, maybe include several graphics that illustrate your site's purpose.
 - Navigational, so visitors can see the other page.
 - Linked to an e-mail so visitors can request more information.
- Create a Support Page: support pages provide more information about your topic (water, food, shelter, or clothing). This page may include:
 - Graphics that add meaning to your content (message).
 - Factual information so visitors are informed about the topic.
 - External links to noted authorities (USDA, EPA, etc.) on your topic.
 - Navigation links to the other pages in your Web site.
 - Communication links so visitors can contact you or the BC2BC project partners.
- Save your folder and files to your CD; save often so you will not lose your work.
- Publish the Web site: after your Web site is reviewed, BC2BC project partners will publish it on the project site at <http://www.ag-communicators.org/BC2BC/projects.htm>
- **PROJECT DUE on July 18, 2008.**

Mail your Web site (with folder and all files) CD to:

Gary Wingenbach
2116 TAMU
College Station, TX
77843-2116