

JOURNALISM, LANGUAGE, AND NARRATIVE TECHNIQUES FOR SCHOOL PAPER ADVISERS

by: **Lizette Christine L. Dulo**

Teacher III, Magsaysay National High School

In journalism, language serves as the bedrock upon which narratives are built, allowing journalists to weave compelling stories that captivate audiences. As journalism teachers, the responsibility lies not only in imparting the technical aspects of the field but also in nurturing the linguistic and narrative skills essential for effective communication.

Ghassemi et al. (2019) stated that language, being the medium through which journalists convey information, must be wielded with precision and artistry. Journalism teachers play a pivotal role in instilling an understanding of the nuances of language – its tone, style, and impact. By emphasizing the importance of clarity and accuracy, educators empower students to craft narratives that resonate with diverse audiences. Language is not merely a tool but a vehicle for conveying truth, fostering connections, and influencing societal discourse.

Narrative techniques elevate journalism from a mere relay of facts to a compelling storytelling endeavor. Teachers must guide students in mastering techniques such as framing, pacing, and character development to create narratives that are both informative and engaging. An understanding of narrative arcs, plot structures, and the art of suspense enhances a journalist's ability to hold readers' attention, ensuring that the message is not only conveyed but also remembered.

Journalism teachers are tasked with cultivating a creative and critical mindset in their students. By encouraging experimentation with language and narrative forms, educators help aspiring journalists discover their unique voice and storytelling style. Workshops, assignments, and collaborative projects can serve as platforms for honing these skills, allowing students to apply theoretical knowledge to practical, real-world scenarios.

In the era of digital journalism, language and narrative techniques have found new dimensions. Teachers must equip students with the skills to navigate multimedia storytelling, where words, images, and interactive elements converge. Embracing technologies such as podcasts, videos, and immersive storytelling platforms becomes imperative, ensuring that journalism education remains relevant in an ever-evolving media landscape.

The synergy between journalism, language, and narrative techniques forms the essence of impactful storytelling. Journalism teachers play a pivotal role in nurturing these skills, shaping the next generation of communicators who not only report the news but also craft narratives that inspire, inform, and resonate with audiences. By instilling a deep appreciation for language and narrative techniques, educators contribute to the continual evolution of journalism as a powerful medium for societal engagement and change.

References:

Ghassemi, R., & Hemmatgosha, Z. (2019). Language in Media: A Tool for Expressing Political Views. Advances in Language and Literary Studies, 10(5), Advance access: October 2019. https://www.alls.aiac.org.au