



# Scoutmaster Bucky

## JOURNALISM

### Merit Badge Workbook

This Workbook has been developed to help aid in organizing notes and references while working on the Journalism Merit Badge Requirements.

Visit [www.ScoutmasterBucky.com](http://www.ScoutmasterBucky.com) for more information

| SCOUT'S INFORMATION  | MERIT BADGE COUNSELOR INFORMATION |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Name _____   | Name _____                        |
| Phone _____  | Address _____                     |
| Organization _____   | City State Zip _____              |
| <b>WORKBOOK INFORMATION</b>  | Phone _____                       |
| Scoutmaster Bucky Workbook based off of<br><i>Boy Scout Requirements – 2011 Edition</i>            | Mobile _____                      |
| Visit <a href="http://www.ScoutmasterBucky.com">www.ScoutmasterBucky.com</a> for more information. | Email _____                       |

**REQUIREMENT 1:** EXPLAIN WHAT FREEDOM OF THE PRESS IS...

Notes:



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**REQUIREMENT 1:** ...AND HOW THE FIRST AMENDMENT GUARANTEES THAT YOU CAN VOICE YOUR OPINION...

Notes:

**REQUIREMENT 1:** ...TELL HOW TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN FACT AND OPINION...

Notes:



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**REQUIREMENT 1:**

...AND EXPLAIN THE TERMS LIBEL, SLANDER, DEFAMATION, FAIR COMMENT AND CRITICISM, PUBLIC FIGURE, PRIVACY, AND MALICE.

Libel:

Slander:

Defamation:

Fair Comment and Criticism:

Public Figure:



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Privacy:

Malice:

**REQUIREMENT 1:** DISCUSS HOW THESE MATTERS RELATE TO ETHICS IN JOURNALISM.

Notes:



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|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>REQUIREMENT 2:</b>  | DO EITHER A OR B:   |
| <b>REQUIREMENT 2A:</b>   | NEWSPAPER AND MAGAZINE JOURNALISM   |
| <b>REQUIREMENT 2A1:</b>  | ALL ON THE SAME DAY, READ A LOCAL NEWSPAPER, A NATIONAL NEWSPAPER, A NEWSMAGAZINE, AND (WITH YOUR PARENT'S PERMISSION) AN ONLINE NEWS SOURCE. FROM EACH SOURCE, CLIP, READ, AND COMPARE A STORY ABOUT THE SAME EVENT. TELL YOUR COUNSELOR HOW LONG EACH STORY IS AND HOW FAIR AND ACCURATE THE STORIES ARE IN PRESENTING DIFFERENT POINTS OF VIEW. TELL HOW EACH SOURCE HANDLED THE STORY DIFFERENTLY, DEPENDING ON ITS PURPOSE OR AUDIENCE |
| News Story Selected:   | _____   |
| Local Newspaper:   | _____   |
| How long is the Story?:  |   |
| How Fair and Accurate is the Story?:                                       |   |
| How is this news source different in its presentation from the others?:    |   |
| How is this news source's purpose and audience different from the others?: |   |



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National Newspaper: \_\_\_\_\_

How long is the Story?:

How Fair and Accurate is the Story?:

How is this news source different in its presentation from the others?:

How is this news source's purpose and audience different from the others?:



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Newsmagazine: \_\_\_\_\_

How long is the Story?:

How Fair and Accurate is the Story?:

How is this news source different in its presentation from the others?:

How is this news source's purpose and audience different from the others?:



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Online News Source: \_\_\_\_\_

How long is the Story?:

How Fair and Accurate is the Story?:

How is this news source different in its presentation from the others?:

How is this news source's purpose and audience different from the others?:





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**REQUIREMENT 2A2:**

VISIT A NEWSPAPER OR MAGAZINE OFFICE. ASK FOR A TOUR OF THE VARIOUS DIVISIONS (EDITORIAL, BUSINESS, AND PRINTING). DURING YOUR TOUR, TALK TO AN EXECUTIVE FROM THE BUSINESS SIDE ABOUT MANAGEMENT'S RELATIONS WITH REPORTERS, EDITORS, AND PHOTOGRAPHERS AND WHAT MAKES A "GOOD" NEWSPAPER OR MAGAZINE

Notes:



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**REQUIREMENT 2B:** RADIO AND TELEVISION JOURNALISM

**REQUIREMENT 2B1:** ALL ON THE SAME DAY, WATCH A LOCAL AND NATIONAL NETWORK NEWSCAST, LISTEN TO A RADIO NEWSCAST, AND (WITH YOUR PARENT'S PERMISSION) VIEW A NATIONAL BROADCAST NEWS SOURCE ONLINE. LIST THE DIFFERENT NEWS ITEMS AND FEATURES PRESENTED, THE DIFFERENT ELEMENTS USED, AND THE TIME IN MINUTES AND SECONDS AND THE ONLINE SPACE DEVOTED TO EACH STORY. COMPARE THE STORY LISTS, AND DISCUSS WHETHER THE STORIES ARE FAIR AND ACCURATE. EXPLAIN WHY DIFFERENT NEWS OUTLETS TREATED THE STORIES DIFFERENTLY AND/OR PRESENTED A DIFFERENT POINT OF VIEW

News Story Selected: \_\_\_\_\_

Local Newscast: \_\_\_\_\_

News Items and Features presented:

The different elements that were used:

In minutes and seconds, how much time was provided for coverage?:

How much online space (web site for this local newscast) was devoted to this news story?:

How Fair and Accurate is the Story?:



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How is this news source different in its presentation from the others?:

How is this news source's purpose and audience different from the others?:

National Network Newscast: \_\_\_\_\_

News Items and Features presented:

The different elements that were used:

In minutes and seconds, how much time was provided for coverage?:

How much online space (web site for this local newscast) was devoted to this news story?:



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How Fair and Accurate is the Story?:

How is this news source different in its presentation from the others?:

How is this news source's purpose and audience different from the others?:

Radio Newscast: \_\_\_\_\_

News Items and Features presented:

The different elements that were used:



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In minutes and seconds, how much time was provided for coverage?:

How much online space (web site for this local newscast) was devoted to this news story?:

How Fair and Accurate is the Story?:

How is this news source different in its presentation from the others?:

How is this news source's purpose and audience different from the others?:

National Online News Source: \_\_\_\_\_

News Items and Features presented:



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The different elements that were used:

In minutes and seconds, how much time was provided for coverage?:

How much online space (web site for this local newscast) was devoted to this news story?:

How Fair and Accurate is the Story?:

How is this news source different in its presentation from the others?:

How is this news source's purpose and audience different from the others?:



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**REQUIREMENT 2B2:**

VISIT A RADIO OR TELEVISION STATION. ASK FOR A TOUR OF THE VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS, CONCENTRATING ON THOSE RELATED TO NEWS BROADCASTS. DURING YOUR TOUR, TALK TO THE STATION MANAGER OR OTHER STATION MANAGEMENT EXECUTIVE ABOUT STATION OPERATIONS, PARTICULARLY HOW MANAGEMENT AND THE NEWS STAFF WORK TOGETHER, AND WHAT MAKES A "GOOD" STATION. IF POSSIBLE, GO WITH A REPORTER TO COVER A NEWS EVENT

Notes:



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**REQUIREMENT 3:** DISCUSS THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN A HARD NEWS STORY AND A FEATURE STORY.

Notes:

**REQUIREMENT 3:** EXPLAIN WHAT IS THE "FIVE W'S AND H."

W #1

W #2

W #3

W #4

W #5

H #1

Notes:





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**DO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING (3A, 3B, 3C, OR 3D) IN REQUIREMENT 3**

**REQUIREMENT 3A:** CHOOSE A CURRENT OR AN UNUSUAL EVENT OF INTEREST TO YOU, AND WRITE EITHER A HARD NEWS ARTICLE OR A FEATURE ARTICLE ABOUT THE EVENT. GEAR THE ARTICLE FOR PRINT OR AUDIO OR VIDEO JOURNALISM. SHARE YOUR ARTICLE WITH YOUR COUNSELOR.

Notes:

**REQUIREMENT 3B:** WITH YOUR PARENT'S PERMISSION AND COUNSELOR'S APPROVAL, INTERVIEW SOMEONE IN YOUR COMMUNITY WHO IS INFLUENTIAL BECAUSE OF HIS OR HER LEADERSHIP, TALENT, CAREER, OR LIFE EXPERIENCES. THEN PRESENT TO YOUR COUNSELOR EITHER A WRITTEN OR ORAL REPORT TELLING WHAT YOU LEARNED ABOUT THIS PERSON

Person to interview:

Notes:

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| _____                 | _____                                   |
| Counselor's Name      | Phone                                   |
| _____                 | _____ <input type="checkbox"/> approved |
| Counselor's Signature | Date                                    |
| _____                 | _____                                   |
| Parent's Name         | Phone                                   |
| _____                 | _____ <input type="checkbox"/> approved |
| Parent's Signature    | Date                                    |



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**REQUIREMENT 3C:**

WITH YOUR PARENT'S PERMISSION AND COUNSELOR'S APPROVAL, READ AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY WRITTEN BY A JOURNALIST YOU WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT. WRITE AN ARTICLE THAT TELLS WHAT YOU LEARNED ABOUT THIS PERSON AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS THIS PERSON HAS MADE TO THE FIELD OF JOURNALISM

Autobiography of:

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| _____                 | _____                                   |
| Counselor's Name      | Phone                                   |
| _____                 | _____ <input type="checkbox"/> approved |
| Counselor's Signature | Date                                    |
| _____                 | _____                                   |
| Parent's Name         | Phone                                   |
| _____                 | _____ <input type="checkbox"/> approved |
| Parent's Signature    | Date                                    |

Notes:

Notes:



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**REQUIREMENT 3D:**

ATTEND A SCOUTING EVENT AND WRITE A 200-WORD ARTICLE (FEATURE OR HARD NEWS) ABOUT THE EVENT. USE EITHER THE INVERTED PYRAMID STYLE OR THE CHRONOLOGICAL STYLE. REVIEW THE ARTICLE WITH YOUR COUNSELOR, THEN SUBMIT IT TO YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER OR BSA LOCAL COUNCIL OR DISTRICT NEWSLETTER FOR CONSIDERATION

Scouting Event:

\_\_\_\_\_

Counselor's Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone

\_\_\_\_\_

Counselor's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

reviewed

News Source submitted to:

Notes:



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**DO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING (4A, 4B, OR 4C) IN REQUIREMENT 4**

**REQUIREMENT 4:** ATTEND A PUBLIC EVENT AND DO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

Public Event (include Date, Time, and Location):

**REQUIREMENT 4A:** WRITE TWO NEWSPAPER ARTICLES ABOUT THE EVENT, ONE USING THE INVERTED PYRAMID STYLE AND ONE USING THE CHRONOLOGICAL STYLE

Notes:

**REQUIREMENT 4B:** USING A RADIO OR TELEVISION BROADCASTING STYLE WRITE A NEWS STORY, A FEATURE STORY, AND A CRITICAL REVIEW OF THE EVENT

Notes:

**REQUIREMENT 4C:** TAKE A SERIES OF PHOTOGRAPHS TO HELP TELL THE STORY OF THE EVENT IN PICTURES. INCLUDE NEWS PHOTOS AND FEATURE PHOTOS IN YOUR PRESENTATION. WRITE A BRIEF SYNOPSIS OF THE EVENT AS WELL AS CAPTIONS FOR YOUR PHOTOS

Notes:



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**REQUIREMENT 5:**

FIND OUT ABOUT THREE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN JOURNALISM. PICK ONE AND FIND OUT THE EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED FOR THIS PROFESSION. DISCUSS THIS WITH YOUR COUNSELOR, AND EXPLAIN WHY THIS PROFESSION MIGHT INTEREST YOU.

Career Opportunity #1: \_\_\_\_\_

Career Opportunity #2: \_\_\_\_\_

Career Opportunity #3: \_\_\_\_\_

Selected Career Opportunity: \_\_\_\_\_

Education:

Training:

Experience:

Notes: