

## UNIT II: ETHICS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF JOURNALISTS & WRITING WITH

### APPOSITIVES

**Institute Session: “Ethical Concerns” Dr. Sylvie**

**Institute session: “Copyediting”: Kathleen McElroy**

#### ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- What are the responsibilities of a journalist?; How have journalists abused their power?
- What are the ethics of journalism?; How do we use appositives in our writing?

#### CONTENT KNOWLEDGE OBJECTIVES

Students will gain knowledge and initial understanding by:

- Learning about the functions the media must fulfill in modern society, the criteria to evaluate the performance of various media, the ethical principals of journalism, major criticisms of the press, understand libel laws and what defenses journalists have.
- Recognizing noun phrase appositives in published writing and to using them.

Students will gain and develop interpretation by:

- Reading and discussing several articles about The New York Times’ Rick Bragg, a Pulitzer prizewinning correspondent who was let go for plagiarism and Jayson Blair, a young reporter whose plagiarism scandal prompted a reorganization of the New York Times. Additionally, students will read articles covered by Jayson Blair and an article about Senator Joseph Biden who plagiarized a speech for the 1988 presidential race. Students will be able to make connections, synthesize and extrapolate by: Exploring the causes of plagiarism, how and when it happens in the high school and how to prevent it both at the high school level (in the classroom and school newspaper) and in the commercial media.

Students will be able to take a critical stance by: Experimenting with plagiarism in order to recognize it; Researching a topic and writing a one-page article on it plagiarizing and then one where they don’t plagiarize; Noting the difference between the articles and the implications of plagiarizing.

VOCABULARY: Ethics; composite characters; credibility; libel; prior restraint; objectivity; right of reply; plagiarism; slander; privileged statements; sentry; fair comment

## ACTIVITIES

Students will engage in the following activities: Complete appositive handouts; Read and discuss pages chapter 2 of textbook; Read an article from Reuters on Jayson Blair, Rick Bragg and Joseph Biden. Read articles “written” by Jayson Blair; Research a new topic. Write a one-page article consciously plagiarizing. Then write an original article on this topic, using appositives and edit the original piece using editing symbols.

## PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

Reading Quizzes; Homework; Class Participation; Writing Exercises