

9th Grade Lit/Comp - Rumfelt

Nonfiction Unit – Comparing Editorials and News Articles

Earlier this week, we read “The Man in the Water,” an essay that looked at the heroic actions of one man after a devastating plane crash. Last night, you read “Special Report: Air Florida Flight 90,” which covered the same event, but in a different way.

Part One: Finding Differences in the Articles

Editorial Essay: “The Man in the Water”

We talked about LOADED LANGUAGE, or language that an author uses to evoke emotion. List some examples of loaded language from “The Man in the Water” below:

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| EXAMPLES OF LOADED LANGUAGE |
|-----------------------------|

News Article: “Special Report: Air Florida Flight 90”

This article uses more OBJECTIVE language, or language that just states the facts. Below, list FOUR facts that the article tells us on the first page.

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|----|
| 1. |
| 2. |
| 3. |
| 4. |

This article also uses a lot of technical language, or jargon, to explain what happened during the plane crash. Find at least two examples of the technical language in the article. For example, in the second paragraph, the author talks about “de-icing” the runway.

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| 1. |
| 2. |

Part Two: Finding Similarities in the Articles

Now, look at BOTH articles and find two examples of similar facts or phrases. Look for information that the articles have in common.

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| 1. |
| 2. |

Part Three: Drawing Conclusions

Which article did you think was more effective? Which one kept your attention the best? Write a paragraph below and explain which article you liked better and why. Use examples from the article to support your response.