

**Journalism: Mrs. Tracy**  
**CHAPTER TWO: Gathering News**

**Objectives:**

- **Define primary and secondary sources**
- **Evaluate the worth of internet sources**
- **Identify “beats” and define a beat reporter**
- **Explain the process of completing a successful interview**
- **Create a repertoire of stock questions**
- **Generate various styles of interview questions**
- **Know how to create an “angle” for any news story**

1. What is one factor that separates a good story from an excellent story? Explain.

2. Identify each of the following as either a primary or a secondary news source:

\_\_\_\_\_ A history text

\_\_\_\_\_ A phone call from an eyewitness

\_\_\_\_\_ A scholarly journal

\_\_\_\_\_ An e-mail from a participant in an event

3. What is a beat reporter?

4. List at least 5 “beats” for *The Hawk* staff.

5. How do school papers obtain the news?

6. How can back issues of newspapers be a valuable source for school reporters?

7. Why should **all** members of *The Hawk* listen attentively to the announcements?

8. What should a reporter do before conducting any interview?

9. How should questions be arranged in an interview? Why?

10. Is small talk acceptable prior to beginning an interview?

11. What does the interviewee expect the reporter to know?
  
12. Define or write an example for the following:
  - Open-ended questions:
  
  - Close-ended questions:
  
  - Stock questions:
  
  - Filter questions:
  
13. What are a few vital skills a reporter should master while completing the interview?
  
14. What should a reporter *not do* during an interview?
  
15. What types of questions should the interviewer strive to avoid?
  
16. When are follow-up questions appropriate?
  
17. When is the appropriate time to clarify facts, opinions, or other ambiguities?
  
18. Why is it important to save interview notes?
  
19. When should the interviewee read the completed story?
  
20. List no fewer than 10 tips for conducting a successful interview.
  
  
21. What does it mean when an interviewee says something “off the record”?

22. What is the meaning of the following internet domains?

\_\_\_\_\_ .gov

\_\_\_\_\_ .org

\_\_\_\_\_ .edu

\_\_\_\_\_ .mil

23. Identify the person who would be the primary contact for each of the following topics: (Try to be specific)

\_\_\_\_\_ Varsity Football

\_\_\_\_\_ The morning announcements

\_\_\_\_\_ Varsity Field Hockey

\_\_\_\_\_ Sports scheduling

\_\_\_\_\_ building maintenance

\_\_\_\_\_ Band

\_\_\_\_\_ Drama

\_\_\_\_\_ Disciplinary issues

\_\_\_\_\_ National Honor Society

\_\_\_\_\_ Battle of the Bands

\_\_\_\_\_ The SDHS Blood Drive

\_\_\_\_\_ The amount of scholarship money earned by the senior class

\_\_\_\_\_ The annual food drive

\_\_\_\_\_ The senior class president

\_\_\_\_\_ 2002 Mens Soccer state championship

\_\_\_\_\_ Individual tennis state championships