



Lesson 3 - Pre-Visit In The Press Box: Female Reporters

Objectives: Students will be able to:

- Express their opinions on the equality of men and women in the field of sports journalism.
- Survey various types of sports media to find out whether or not men and women equally contribute to sports journalism.
- Graph and compare the results of their surveys.

Time Required: One class period for lesson, longer for survey project.

Materials Needed:

- Copies of (5) Sports Journalism Media Analysis Worksheets (included)
- Graph Paper - or - Computer software with graphing ability

Vocabulary

Journalism - the collection and editing of news for presentation through the media

Journalist - a writer or editor for a news medium



Applicable Common Core State Standards (ELA & Literacy):

W.6.1., W.7.1., W.8.1. Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.

W.6.2., W.7.2., W.8.2. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.

SL.6.1., SL.7.1., SL.8.1. Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade-appropriate topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

SL.6.2., SL.7.2., SL.8.2. Interpret information presented in diverse media and formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) and explain how it contributes to a topic, text, or issue under study.

SL.6.4., SL.7.4., SL.8.4. Present claims and findings, sequencing ideas logically and using pertinent descriptions, facts, and details to accentuate main ideas or themes; use appropriate eye contact, adequate volume, and clear pronunciation.

SL.6.5. SL.7.5., SL.8.5. Include multimedia components (e.g., graphics, images, music, sound) and visual displays in presentations to clarify information.

SL.6.6. SL.7.6., SL.8.6. Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.

Applicable Common Core State Standards (Mathematics):

6.SP.1. Recognize a statistical question as one that anticipates variability in the data related to the question and accounts for it in the answers.

6.SP.5. Summarize numerical data sets in relation to their context, such as by:

- Reporting the number of observations.
- Describing the nature of the attribute under investigation, including how it was measured and its units of measurement.



Lesson

1. To begin the lesson, write the following sentence on the board, using the name of a school team or a local or favorite sports team for the first blank, and the name of that team's rival in the second blank:
The _____ won the game against the _____.
2. Ask students how a sports reporter might present the same information – about who won and lost the game – in a more interesting way?
3. Divide students into pairs and have each pair brainstorm a list of as many different ways as they can think of to rewrite this sentence with verbs, adjectives, adverbs, nouns and descriptive phrases.
4. Have pairs read out some of their best descriptions and write them on the board. Invite students to nominate a description as the best one, and why.
5. Ask students how sports writers and broadcasters help add to the experience of reading about or watching a game. It is the job of a sports writer or broadcaster to help bring a sporting event to life.
6. Hold a classroom discussion about gender equality in sports journalism. Ask students if both men and women have the ability to report on sporting events either as writers or as broadcasters on television or on the radio. Then ask students if they believe men and women are equally represented as writers and broadcasters in different types of media.

Optional Invite a local female sports journalist or sports reporter to come into your class and present. Have her talk about her background and her experiences in sports journalism. Ask her to share her views on gender equality in sports journalism.



Activity

1. Explain that students will be doing surveys of different types of media to determine the numbers of male and female sports journalists represented.
2. Divide students into 5 groups. Each group will be responsible for analyzing a different type of sports media.
 - Newspaper sports pages (either local or national)
 - Sports magazines
 - Sports websites
 - Cable sports networks
 - Local television networks
3. Provide each group with the appropriate Sports Journalism Media Analysis Worksheet.
4. You may choose to have students work on the survey project using the resources of your school's library or media center, or you may have students complete the project outside of school.

Conclusion:

To conclude this lesson, have each team report to the class on their survey findings. How do the numbers of men and women in sports journalism compare in each of the different media categories? Were there any sports or sporting events that were primarily covered by men or women in each of the media categories?

To check for understanding, have students write a journal response about this project. Were the survey results what they expected? Were they surprised by any of the results?



Names: _____

Date: _____

Sports Journalism Media Analysis Worksheet: Newspapers

Examine at least 3 newspaper sports pages. You may look at local newspapers, or national newspapers such as USA Today. Record your answers to the following questions.

1. List the titles and dates of the newspapers you examined:

Title: _____	Date: _____
Title: _____	Date: _____
Title: _____	Date: _____

2. For each newspaper, list the number of articles written by male and female journalists.

Title: _____
of Articles by a Male Journalist: _____
of Articles by a Female Journalist: _____

Title: _____
of Articles by a Male Journalist: _____
of Articles by a Female Journalist: _____

Title: _____
of Articles by a Male Journalist: _____
of Articles by a Female Journalist: _____

3. Now examine which sports or sporting events were covered in the newspapers. How many male journalists covered each sport? How many female journalists covered each sport?

Sport/ Sporting Event	# of Male Journalists	# of Female Journalists

4. Look more closely at your results from Question 3. Which sports were covered by mostly male journalists? Which sports were covered by mostly female journalists? Were there any sports covered by only men or only women?

5. To complete this survey project, create two graphs using graph paper or computer software with graphing ability.
- Graph #1 - A pie chart - This graph should compare the total numbers of male and female sports journalists.
 - Graph #2 - A bar graph - This graph should compare the numbers of male and female journalists covering the sports or sporting events you listed in Question 3.

Make sure that each graph indicates the type of sports media you examined.



Names: _____

Date: _____

Sports Journalism Media Analysis Worksheet: Magazines

Examine at least 3 magazines dedicated to sports. Some ideas include: Sports Illustrated for Kids, ESPN the Magazine, or The Sporting News. Record your answers to the following questions.

1. List the titles and dates of the magazines you examined:

Title: _____	Date: _____
Title: _____	Date: _____
Title: _____	Date: _____

2. For each magazine, list the number of articles written by male and female journalists.

Title: _____
of Articles by a Male Journalist: _____
of Articles by a Female Journalist: _____

Title: _____
of Articles by a Male Journalist: _____
of Articles by a Female Journalist: _____

Title: _____
of Articles by a Male Journalist: _____
of Articles by a Female Journalist: _____

3. Now examine which sports or sporting events were covered in the magazines. How many male journalists covered each sport? How many female journalists covered each sport?

Sport/ Sporting Event	# of Male Journalists	# of Female Journalists

4. Look more closely at your results from Question 3. Which sports were covered by mostly male journalists? Which sports were covered by mostly female journalists? Were there any sports covered by only men or only women?

5. To complete this survey project, create two graphs using graph paper or computer software with graphing ability.
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Date: _____

Sports Journalism Media Analysis Worksheet: Sports Websites

Examine articles published to 3 sports websites. For each website, you must examine at least 10 articles.

Some ideas include:

- ESPN - <http://www.espn.go.com/>
- Sports Illustrated for Kids - <http://www.sikids.com/>
- Sporting News - <http://www.sportingnews.com>
- Yahoo Sports - <http://www.thepostgame.com/>
- Women's Sports Report - <http://www.womensportreport.com>

Record your answers to the following questions.

1. List the titles of the sports websites you examined, and the date you accessed them.

Website: _____

Date: _____

Website: _____

Date: _____

Website: _____

Date: _____

2. For each website, list the number of articles you read that were written by male and female journalists.

Website: _____

of Articles by a Male Journalist: _____

of Articles by a Female Journalist: _____

Website: _____

of Articles by a Male Journalist: _____

of Articles by a Female Journalist: _____

Website: _____

of Articles by a Male Journalist: _____

of Articles by a Female Journalist: _____

3. Now list which sports or sporting events were covered in the articles you read online. How many male journalists covered each sport? How many female journalists covered each sport?

Sport/ Sporting Event	# of Male Journalists	# of Female Journalists

4. Look more closely at your results from Question 3. Which sports were covered by mostly male journalists? Which sports were covered by mostly female journalists? Were there any sports covered by only men or only women?

5. To complete this survey project, create two graphs using graph paper or computer software with graphing ability.
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Make sure that each graph indicates the type of sports media you examined.



Names: _____

Date: _____

Sports Journalism Media Analysis Worksheet: Cable Sports Networks

Watch at least 3 television shows on a cable sports network that are devoted to general sports news. Some ideas include: SportsCenter on ESPN or Final Score on Fox Sports Net. *Important - Read all questions before beginning your survey.* You may also want to record the shows in case you need to double-check your answers later.

Record your answers to the following questions.

1. List the names of the shows you watched and the dates that you watched them:

Show: _____	Date: _____
Show: _____	Date: _____
Show: _____	Date: _____

2. For each show, list the number of male and female reporters who contributed to the program.

Show: _____
of Male Reporters: _____
of Female Reporters: _____

Show: _____
of Male Reporters: _____
of Female Reporters: _____

Show: _____

of Male Reporters: _____

of Female Reporters: _____

3. Write down which sports or sporting events were covered in each of the shows you watched. How many male or female reporters covered each sport?

Sport/ Sporting Event	# of Male Reporters	# of Female Reporters

4. Look more closely at your results from Question 3. Which sports were covered by mostly male reporters? Which sports were covered by mostly female reporters? Were there any sports covered by only men or only women?

5. To complete this survey project, create two graphs using graph paper or computer software with graphing ability.
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Make sure that each graph indicates the type of sports media you examined.



Names: _____

Date: _____

Sports Journalism Media Analysis Worksheet: Local Television News

Watch at least 3 sports reports on local television news. *Important - Read all questions before beginning your survey.* You may also want to record the shows in case you need to double-check your answers later.

Record your answers to the following questions.

1. List the names of the shows you watched and the dates that you watched them:

Show: _____	Date: _____
Show: _____	Date: _____
Show: _____	Date: _____

2. For each show, list the number of male and female reporters who contributed to the program.

Show: _____
of Male Reporters: _____
of Female Reporters: _____

Show: _____
of Male Reporters: _____
of Female Reporters: _____

Show: _____
of Male Reporters: _____
of Female Reporters: _____

3. Write down which sports or sporting events were covered in each of the shows you watched. How many male or female reporters covered each sport?

Sport/ Sporting Event	# of Male Reporters	# of Female Reporters

4. Look more closely at your results from Question 3. Which sports were covered by mostly male reporters? Which sports were covered by mostly female reporters? Were there any sports covered by only men or only women?

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Make sure that each graph indicates the type of sports media you examined.