

ING1-GM

CURRENT AFFAIRS PRESENTATION: PROJECT DESCRIPTION for Students

Aim – to produce a 17-20-minute television news/current affairs broadcast

Situation: You work for a British or American television channel. Your boss has asked you and your team to produce a news broadcast. Four groups of 4-5 students will work together to produce a high quality English broadcast. On **Thursday, April 16th** each **group will present** a live edition of their news magazine in front of their class. Each student will vote for their favourite magazine and the winner will be announced.

INSTRUCTIONS

Each student will speak for approximately 4-5 minutes, **using notes only. **NB: STUDENTS WILL NOT READ FROM A PREPARED TEXT...ONLY NOTES/NOTE CARDS WITH KEY WORDS/PHRASES WILL BE ALLOWED (TOLERATED!!)**

Each group has to cover the 2 obligatory subjects and 4 of the optional subjects from the following list:

OBLIGATORY TOPICS

An item relating to a company you would like to work for

A light-hearted subject of your choice

OPTIONAL TOPICS

1. Local, national, international news which has to be of interest to the other students (YOU MAY DO 2 OF THESE SUBJECTS IF YOU WISH)
2. Sport
3. A commercial (= TV ad)
4. Current affairs
5. Business news
6. Recruitment
7. Weather

****NB: Although the subjects of your news items may be based on/inspired by real current events, you must INVENT your stories, NOT COPY existing items in the news today.**

ORGANISATION

Choose a project manager. Allocate roles to each team member. Think about the following points – **choosing interesting topics**, researching and analyzing information, selecting and rejecting information to make your broadcast interesting, writing skills, proof-reading skills.

****NB:** It is highly recommended that you begin working on your project immediately. Lack of preparation will be obvious and will affect your grade. ALL participants must contribute and be present for the presentation. Anything to the contrary will result in a ZERO for the project and a very poor final grade.

FORMAT

The format of the magazine is totally free. You may vary the style, and you may spend more time on the main story (using more than one presenter?). Feel free to include different types of subjects (factual, hard-hitting headlines, softer human interest topics, etc). Try watching existing British and American news programmes and notice the differences in style. You may choose to broadcast in either British or American style, but be consistent!

****NB: You are expected to use some kind of visual aid during your broadcast (visual or audiovisual)**

Some ideas for presentation styles:

1. Each person speaks for 4-5 minutes.
2. One person introduces the topics and finishes with the light-hearted topic.
3. Three groups of 2 people (interview style)
4. Group presentation – (debate)
5. Any combination of the above

TIMING

Use the form below to assign responsibilities for each group member. Be sure to organise meetings and time for **DRESS REHEARSALS**

Introduction to project, choose subjects, allocate project manager and roles to other students

GROUP NUMBER	
PROJECT MANAGER	
TEAM MEMBER	ROLE

TOPICS
1. A COMPANY YOU WOULD LIKE TO WORK FOR
2.
3.
4.
5.
6. A LIGHT HEARTED SUBJECT OF YOUR CHOICE

SOME USEFUL EXPRESSIONS

To introduce your subjects

Hello and welcome to our special news magazine.

As our business specialist explains, the best company to work for is ABC.

Still ahead, the sports news and we meet the 'African woman claiming to be the world's oldest woman. But first,

Our headline tonight is

Changing presenters and/or subjects

Still ahead/Next up, the sports news and we meet the 'African woman claiming to be the world's oldest woman. But first,

And now over to you, John.

But now it's back to James for today's other news.

Next, our political editor, Mr Jones, with an update for you.

Listen to what we will be reporting in the bulletin.

Back to you.

Here's Richard Pallet with more details.

To finish

And finally,

Emma Murphy, news at 10.

Well that's it from Peter.

Thank you and goodbye.

ASSESSMENT: Each student will receive an individual mark for their participation in the role play, which will contribute to your continuous assessment mark for the semester. You will be marked on the following criteria:

- **Content:** Do you know the subject well? Is your 'reporting' accurate?
- **Language:** Do you demonstrate a wide grammatical and lexical range? Do you speak fluently and accurately?
- **Interaction:** Do you interact appropriately and share your roles appropriately? Are your interactions natural?