



## Lesson Plan 3:

# Key Phrases and Thematic Writing

**Subject:** Language Arts

**Course/Grade:** 4-8

**Objectives/Outcomes:**

- Students identify the various section of an online “newspaper” with special note of the section termed “Sports”
- Students identify key phrases and words in article titles and an article.
- Students identify theme of an article
- Students identify main theme points of an article
- Students effectively analyze media messages in articles involving African Americans and Pro football.

**Curriculum Framework Standard(s):** 5.W.3, 5.W.4, 5.L.1, 6.RL.2, 6.RL.4

**Procedure:**

### 1. “Frontloading”- (Before)

#### a. Preparation & Planning

- i. Teacher suggested articles
- ii. Review online newspapers from different cities
- iii. Access to the Internet
- iv. Access to Patriots website at [www.patriots.com](http://www.patriots.com)
- v. Access to the school and/or public library

#### b. What will you do to assist students:

- i. Students will first complete a series of exercises involving examination and interpretation of numerous articles in online newspapers involving African Americans. Some will have subscription only access so students should do their best to find free sites.
- ii. As a beginning activity, students will be asked to gather review articles that mention and deal with African American pro football players. Students are asked to especially note if any players are identified as African Americans.
- iii. Secondly, the instructor will share articles that lend themselves to an easy identification of themes, main points and key words and phrases. The instructor will use at least one article as an example of what students are to do and how they are to accomplish the lesson’s goal of discovering themes, main points and key words and phrases.





## 2. Assistance and Associations (During)

- a. Next, the class will be provided with one article to individually identify the theme, main points and key words. After this is complete, the instructor will lead a virtual class discussion of this article to arrive at a consensus.
- b. Finally, the students will be assigned to can choose their own article to identify theme, main points and key words to present to the class.
- c. Students would be encouraged to access the Patriots' official site: [www.patriots.com](http://www.patriots.com)
- d. On this site, students can examine articles to analyze, discuss and import for use in their presentation and discussion.
- e. Students should also be encouraged to use other credible sites like Profootballhof.com as a source for other stories and articles. Students may gather information to add to their presentations.

## 3. Reflection & Readiness for Application (After)

- a. Teacher created format for student use and evaluation of articles.
- b. Students will deliver a formal virtual presentation on their news article.
- c. Teacher posts news articles and student assessments.

*"Newspaper Articles: What Are They Saying About Us?", Pro Football Hall of Fame Youth and Education, English & Language Arts Teacher Activity Guide 2019-2020 pg. 24-25. [https://www.profootballhof.com/assets/1/6/LA\\_2019.pdf](https://www.profootballhof.com/assets/1/6/LA_2019.pdf).*





## Sports News: What is it saying?

Article Title:

Author (If Given):

Player (s)

Mentioned:

Theme (Message):

Main Points:

Key Words:

Article or copy should be attached to the back of this sheet.

