



Royal Rangers

Merit Requirements: Silver-Bordered Merit

JOURNALISM MERIT

1. List at least ten Scripture passages that describe the qualities of honesty and integrity, two important attributes of a Christian journalist.
2. Complete the following:
 - a. Choose ONE of the four examples listed below. Apply the six journalistic questions: Who? What? When? Where? Why? How? Then write a journalistic report as if you were at the site reporting on the event. State the facts without drawing conclusions that cannot be supported by the evidence. Direct your report to a specific audience.
 1. Healing of blind Bartimaeus (Mark 10:46-52)
 2. Feeding of the five thousand (John 6:1-15)
 3. Jesus' appearance to the disciples on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35)
 4. Healing of the lame man (Acts 3)
 - b. Write a report explaining the personal insights you gained from the journalistic report and how you can apply them to your life.
Note: Go deeper than just a surface reading. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you something important to your own spiritual growth in the story you have chosen.
3. Write two articles about your outpost. Submit one for publication in your school newspaper, community newspaper, or church newsletter. Possible topics include Pinewood Derby races, handcrafts, campouts, a Council of Achievement ceremony, Ranger of the Year competitions, etc. Place a copy of each article in your workbook.
4. Do ONE of the following:
 - a. Read an article from each of the following news sources about the same event on the same day: local newspaper, national newspaper, newsmagazine, and a computerized online news source.
 1. Clip the stories and attach each to a separate piece of paper.
 2. Write your observations of similarities and differences in the articles as to each article's purpose and audience.
 3. Determine whether each story is subject or objective. Give examples to support your conclusions.
 - b. Watch a local television newscast and a national newscast on the same date. Listen to a radio newscast and observe a computerized online news source.
 1. List the different news items, features, and editorials on the broadcasts.
 2. Record how much time was devoted to each story.
 3. Write an analysis of your observations by explaining how the stories are objective or subjective and why different news outlets treat their stories differently.
5. Do ONE of the following:
 - a. Visit a newspaper office. Write a report of your findings about the following:
 1. Tour the facility and observe the different areas (newsroom, pressroom, mail room, advertising department, accounting department, etc.)
 2. Talk to the editor or a reporter. Ask how he or she got started in the business, the educational requirements for the position, the entry-level requirements for a reporter, if on-the-job training is available, and the assignment process for stories.
 3. Ask the editor or reporter what makes a good story, what makes a good newspaper, and why local newspaper reports differ from a national newspaper.
 - b. Visit a television or radio station. Write a report of your findings about the following:
 1. Tour the facility and observe the different areas (studios, control rooms, business offices, etc.).
 2. Talk to the producer or a reporter. Ask if it is difficult to enter the business, the educational requirements for the position, the entry-level requirements for a broadcast journalist, and if on-the-job training is available.

3. Ask the producer or reporter what makes a good story, what makes a good broadcast station, and why a local report of a story is different from a national report.
6. Write an article three hundred to five hundred words long appropriate for the Royal Rangers, Rangers NOW magazine. Submit the article to the national Royal Rangers office to be considered for possible publication.
7. Use your skills and research from previous requirements to complete ONE of the following:
 - a. Write a feature article about a school event for your school's newspaper.
 - b. Prepare a videotape for a thirty-minute newscast with you as the anchorperson. The newscast can target a local or national audience. This videotape should be edited and in a finalized format.
 - c. Write a feature article about an event in your church that can be published in the church's newsletter or the local newspaper.
8. Write a two-hundred-word article about your relationship with Jesus Christ. Use your best writing style to give your personal testimony. Tell about his blessings in your life and on your family. Describe how He has blessed you spiritually, physically, and emotionally. In short, tell what Jesus had done for you.