

## Socials Final Project – Guidance Regarding Texts

As you are working toward completing your text/script, please bear the following in mind:

- the writing process we have been exploring:
  - clear statement/opinion/announcement of topic/idea
  - context—what does the reader/viewer need to know in order to follow what comes next?
  - evidence
  - exploration and explanation of how your evidence supports/proves your statement/idea/opinion
- writing in your own voice—be you; you are enough
- use your own words—beware of unintentional plagiarism: it is a crime when you are a grown-up; it’s a do-over and notify your parents when you are a kid
- citing sources: state where your facts are coming from; if it’s a quote, put it in quotation marks and say who said it (person or news source)
- visuals: think about what you learned from our first Socials presentation: how do you use visuals to help support your story?
- visuals: consider how charts/graphs/short animations can help bring more depth and even more content to your work
- Jim Lehrer’s Principles of Journalism:
  - Write about your topic in the way you would hope others would write about you if you were the topic
  - Assume there are at least two sides to the story
  - Assume the reader is as smart, caring, and good as you are
  - Assume the same about the people you are writing about
  - Carefully separate opinion and analysis from straight news stories and label them as such