Making the News

The Set Up:

Your school newspaper is seeking someone to write an advice column for students to give them practical tips on many consumer issues that face you and others your age. One of your best friends is the editor and if you apply for this position on the paper, you will get to spend more time together. The staff has reviewed the applications and selected you to write the column for *MO News.*

The Investigation:

As editor, your friend spends lots of time making sure the print and online versions are accurate and informative. Select one of the topics below for your first column in the *MO News*. Remember your editor wants your column to be *informative.* Space is limited, so be precise. Cite your references for editorial courtesy.

M E M O
MO News Editorial Desk

To: The Editorial Staff

From: Pape R. Chase, Editor

Re: Upcoming Issues: Topics for Advice Column

Based on our last staff meeting, I have summarized the topics/themes we agreed should be covered in *MO News* in the near future. Select one of the topics below and please submit your column to me before press time.

Remember to be concise, address the topic and use good grammar.

1. Advertising and the consumer. How does advertising inform the consumer and how can it be misleading? What advice or suggestions could you give our readers?

2. Consumers have rights and responsibilities. Our readers need to know how they should be protected when buying goods and services. Pick a favorite consumer item and write an editorial for the readers to explain how they can learn about their rights and their responsibilities when purchasing this item.

3. Young adults purchase items and resell them in the marketplace. Research the costs and benefits and give our readers some guidelines for buying, selling and even leasing. Cars and apartments or condos might be good examples for our readers.

4. Ownership or renting comes with the need for insurance. Help our readers understand the need for coverage and give them advice about their options.

Consumer Scene Investigation Grade Sheet
CSI 10 – Making the News

Competencies: SC.2: Evaluate information about products and services.

SC.11: Describe the rights and responsibilities of buyers and sellers under consumer protection laws.

Objectives: C: Analyze the rights and responsibilities of consumers in the marketplace. (SC.9, SC.11)

*Depends on the topic that the student chooses to research and write about.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Criteria:	5	4	2	1	Total:
Content	Contains required content and would be helpful to other students.	Contains required content but students may have minor questions.	Students may not understand the content presented.	Content was attempted but did not meet expectations.	
Information	Information was accurate, relevant, useful to other students and thorough. The topic was well researched.	Information was missing minor points but would mostly be useful to other students. The topic was researched.	Information included a lot of opinion; very little research was shown.	Information was inaccurate or primarily opinion and could not be used as a resource for other students.	
Organization	Organization of the column flowed smoothly and showed careful planning to create a logical sequence.	Organization of the column was present and allowed the narrative to flow smoothly.	Organization allowed the column to be easy to read.	Organization was not present and causes the column to be awkward an confusing.	
Writing Style	Clear and interesting to read, sentence structure was varied and allowed the writing to be read easily.	Clear and interesting to read, met the needs of the target audience.	Understandable, complete sentences were used but could have been more interesting.	Column was not understood due to poor writing style.	
Mechanics	Contained no mechanical errors.	Contained 1 error in grammar, punctuation or spelling.	Contained 2 errors in grammar, punctuation or spelling.	Contained 3-5 errors in grammar, punctuation or spelling.	
				Total:	