

Présentation orale à préparer pendant l'été à destination des futurs élèves de Première AMC

Select and Present a Press Article

1/ How to choose your topic

Brainstorming: What subject(s) are you interested in? What would you like to talk about?
What event has struck you recently? What event would you like to know more about?

→ **Find a topic.**

2/ How to find your press article

There are two methods:

- You can type your subject directly into **Google News**,
- OR you can go to a news website and see what they have published on the topic.

Remember: The facts are important, but so is the way they are presented. Therefore, look for **editorials** or **opinion pieces** — it's easier to comment on an opinion than on just facts.

Example:

You want to know more about Brexit. Since it happened in the UK, you can go to a British news website → *The Guardian* → click on “Opinion” → type “Brexit”

What I found: *“It is hard to admit being wrong. But Brexit voters are doing so in droves.”*
 (“in droves” = in large numbers)

→ The title sounds interesting, let's read it!

Tip: Read several articles on your chosen topic before selecting one.

3/ Prepare your presentation

To prepare, answer the following questions:

Who? What? Where? When? How? Why? For whom?

Here are some guidelines to help you:

a. Introduce your document

- Title
- Nature: news article / opinion piece
- Source: nationality / political stance of the newspaper / quality press or tabloid
- Date → context → explain it
- Author: Who are they? Are they well-known?
- Visuals: Are there pictures, charts, etc.?

b. Present the topic

→ **Give an overview of the main topic of the article.**

c. Talk about the content of your article

→ Go into more detail about the article you studied.

You may include the following elements (if relevant):

- **Headline and subhead:** Is the topic clear or ambiguous?
- **Perspective:** Is it written in the first or third person?
- **Language:** Formal or informal?
- **Tone:** Serious, humorous, ironic, etc.?
- **Key elements:** Numbers, dates, places, people...
- **Textual markers:** Punctuation, italics, capital letters, colors...

d. What about the structure of the article?

- Identify the main idea in each paragraph.
- Pay attention to linking words — they help to understand the article's logic.

e. Are there any images?

If so, briefly describe and analyze them.

f. Identify implicit elements

- Is the author objective or biased?
- Does he/she present different points of view? Or take sides?
- Look for adjectives, adverbs, and expressions that show a specific point of view.
- Tone: serious, humorous, sarcastic, optimistic, pessimistic...
- Purpose: to inform, investigate, criticize, denounce, raise awareness, influence, persuade, entertain...

g. Do you agree with the author's point of view?

You may share your personal opinion at the end.

h. Why did you choose this article in particular?

Talk about how you found it, why it caught your interest, and how you feel about the article or the situation it describes.

4/ Come to the board and present your article to the class.

Your presentation should last **approximately 5 minutes**.

 Mistakes to avoid:

- Limiting yourself to news reports: to open a real discussion, focus on opinion pieces.
- Simply summarizing the content without analyzing it.

Tenez-vous prêt à présenter votre article la semaine de la rentrée. Vous pouvez vous aider d'un PowerPoint (non obligatoire) et/ou de notes mais vous ne devez en aucun cas en faire une lecture exhaustive. Remarque : votre présentation doit bien évidemment se faire en anglais, et être basée sur un article de presse de source anglophone, rédigé en anglais.