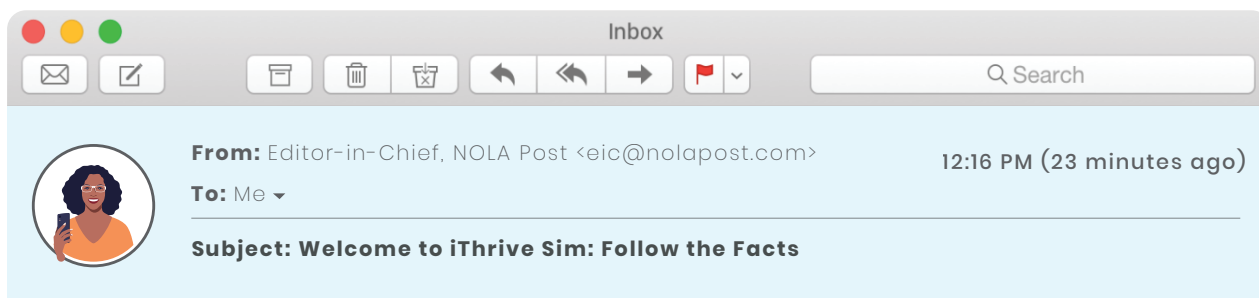


IMPORTANT DOCS



**FOLLOW
THE FACTS!**



Hi! We're glad to have you on board as a member of the news team here at **The NOLA Post**, proudly serving New Orleans, Louisiana.

Your five-person team includes: a **News Editor**, two national reporters (a **Government Reporter** and an **Opinion Reporter**), and two local reporters (a **Lifestyle Reporter** and a **Metro Reporter**).

Here's what you need to know about your upcoming assignment:

Two children died recently from an unknown illness in **St. Bernard Parish**, a county in the greater New Orleans area of Louisiana. They came to the hospital with fever, headache, nausea, and hallucinations. The New Orleans community is concerned about what caused these deaths. The public wants information and expects the newspaper to provide the facts.

At the same time, New Orleans is under a tropical storm watch. **Tropical Storm Teddy** is approaching Florida. Its path is predicted to stay in the Florida Panhandle. The outer edge is predicted to hit New Orleans, bringing some wind and rain but not much damage.

At the upcoming meeting at the news office to address these current events, you need to: **(1) gather information, (2) report on the recent deaths described above and surrounding events, and (3) keep an eye on Tropical Storm Teddy.**

Gathering information from good sources is **KEY** to getting an accurate story about this out quickly. As part of your investigation, you will do research. You need to decide whom to **contact for information, what questions to ask, and how to ask your questions.**

Remember what we stand for. The **NOLA Post** is committed to sharing diverse voices that are sometimes overlooked by major institutions. As you investigate, make sure that you're talking to members of the community with personal experience. You'll need their points of view as well as facts from trustworthy organizations.

You will be choosing longer articles to post for the paper's online and print editions. You also will post chirps on social media. You can post your own chirps at any time you'd like.

You want the public to trust The NOLA Post. Keep an eye on the trust meter as you post articles and chirps to see how you're doing.

You need to be accurate in your reporting. The public counts on you to be right because they act on what you tell them. Good luck!

P.S. I've attached a few documents with more information [on your team](#), [your role](#) for this assignment, and [a tool to help you check the quality of your sources](#). Read them before your team meeting and be sure to also watch [this trailer](#) and [tutorial](#) before the news office meeting begins.

LOUISE ARMSTRONG

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, THE NOLA POST



+444 215 6792



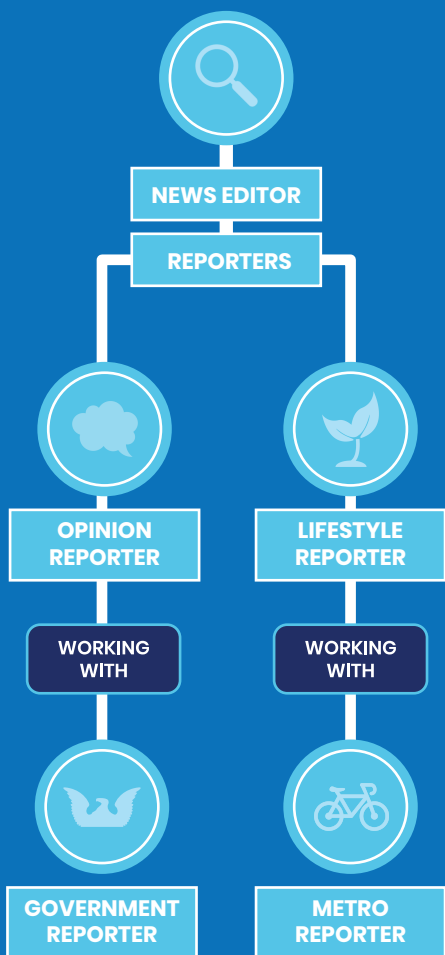
eic@nolapost.com

REMINDER:

- ☐ WATCH THE FOLLOW THE FACTS TRAILER.
- ☐ WATCH THE ITHRIVE SIM PLATFORM TUTORIAL.

PLAYING FOLLOW THE FACTS:

While you play, you should talk out loud and collaborate with **your news team**. You will decide together what information to collect and what news to post. Your news posts will take the form of social media chirps and news articles.



The **News Editor** will oversee the **Reporters** on the news team. This player will help you make sure you are evaluating your sources and posting accurate, balanced news.

The **Reporters** will work in groups of two to decide which sources to contact for information.

You, the **Opinion Reporter**, will work with the **Government Reporter**. The two of you will focus on what's happening nationally.

The **Lifestyle and Metro Reporters** will work together. They will focus on what's happening locally.



All members of the news team will talk to each other to share the information they have received. **Together, you all will decide what to post as news.**



The managing editor will respond to your news posts using the **Messages** on the *Sim* platform. The public will respond using **Chirp** and the **News Feed**.

PUBLIC TRUST METER



Watch how your news postings affect the **Public Trust Meter**. Does the public trust your news team? If not, you'll need to work differently.

NOLA POST

PRESS BADGE



YOUR ROLE:
OPINION REPORTER

PRESS ASSOCIATION

EXPIRES ON: 04/21/2028
MEMBER ID: #45671823



OPINION REPORTER, NOLA POST



Bio: You want to take your talents to a more national presence in a larger market. You have lived in New Orleans your whole life, but you want to move to another city. You feel it's time for a change. Making a name for yourself is important. You want to get the attention of papers in other big cities.

You are the **OPINION REPORTER** for the **NOLA Post**. You present your opinion on how issues affect the New Orleans community. You research the topics you write about. You also **write from the perspective of how people will feel about the topics**. The News Editor oversees your work. Your partner for this assignment is the Government Reporter.

With the Government Reporter, you will investigate cases of the mysterious illness nationwide. You will share your findings with the news team. You will help the team decide what to publish for your readers in New Orleans.

You are especially concerned that news in New Orleans does not focus enough on perspectives within the African-American community. This illness is affecting this community in New Orleans, so make sure to focus on this in your reporting.

Being assigned to the news team (instead of the opinion team) is new for you. **You are excited to work on a more national scale to get a story.**

Remember: You want the public to trust **The NOLA Post**. **Keep an eye on the trust meter as you post articles and social media.**

THE C.R.A.A.P. TEST: A TOOL FOR EVALUATING THE QUALITY OF YOUR SOURCES**

COMPONENT	MAIN QUESTION	CHECKLIST
<u>C</u>URRENCY	Is it timely?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The information matches the timing of the event in question <input type="checkbox"/> If it's important that it's up-to-the-minute, it's been updated recently
<u>R</u>ELEVANCE	Does it answer my question?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The information helps me answer my question; it's directly related <input type="checkbox"/> I know whether the information is fact or opinion, and it matches my needs <input type="checkbox"/> My audience needs or will care about this information
<u>A</u>UTHORITY	Does it come from a reputable, knowledgeable source?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> It's clear who is providing this information (I know who the author, publisher, speaker, etc. is) <input type="checkbox"/> The source has the right background, experience, and knowledge to provide this information <input type="checkbox"/> I have good reasons to trust the source's reputation
<u>A</u>CCURACY	Is it factual and correct?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The information is based in fact, not just opinion (unless it's opinion I need) <input type="checkbox"/> I can confirm the information by looking at another authoritative source <input type="checkbox"/> The information seems objective and credible (believable)
<u>P</u>URPOSE	Why was it written or shared?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The information is meant to document or inform <input type="checkbox"/> The source is not just trying to sell me something or to persuade, entertain, or provoke me <input type="checkbox"/> The source is providing objective, unbiased information, or it's their opinion I need <input type="checkbox"/> If the source is motivated by money or ownership by another organization, I know about it and use that knowledge to help me determine the value of their information

**This tool is an adaptation of the C.R.A.A.P. Test developed by the Meriam Library at California State University, Chico.

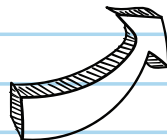
TO DO LIST

WATCH THE
FOLLOW THE
FACTS TRAILER.

- POSSIBLE
LEADS?



WATCH THE
ITHRIVE SIM
TUTORIAL.



COMPLETE THE
'SNAPSHOT OF TWO
COMMUNITIES'
ACTIVITY.



- WHO HAS
THE ANSWERS?

COMPLETE
THE ROLE
REFLECTION
EXERCISE.