

Blog Unit

Day 1

Brainstorm – What are Blogs?

Why do people Blog?

<https://www.lifewire.com/what-is-a-blog-3476707> Blog Basics

<https://www.lifewire.com/what-is-a-blog-3476707> Discussion of What Blogs are & Why Blog

Create anchor chart for wall of the class

Give handout summarizing blogs and why people blog

Show some vlogs posts by Kold that will engage students

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sv-l7YTbSGk> Hawaii Vlog Sam Kolder

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uXgWQSx-yRk> My Year 2015 Vlog Sam Kolder

Day 2 Viewing Teen Blog Examples

<http://anamesjustastringofletters.blogspot.ca> 15 year old blog

<http://alwaysabbynoel.blogspot.ca/2011/06/25-ways-to-entertain-yourself-during.html>

<http://voiceofanerd.blogspot.ca>

<https://thelifeofatroubledteen.wordpress.com>

<http://elshuckle.blogspot.ca> Blog of Someone With Diabetes

<http://www.penmachine.com> Derek Miller Blog Post After Death

Day 3 Getting Started

Hand out blog assignment and rubric. Be sure to book computers for the next 3 weeks.

Using Weebly to Create Blog Post

<https://hc.weebly.com/hc/en-us/articles/201405086-Create-a-Blog-Post>

Introduction

What Is a Blog?

A blog is a frequently updated online personal journal or diary. It is a place to express yourself to the world. A place to share your thoughts and your passions. Really, it's anything you want it to be. For our purposes we'll say that a blog is your own website that you are going to update on an ongoing basis. Blog is a short form for the word weblog and the two words are used interchangeably.

Here are a couple of other definitions:

"...the first journalistic model that actually harnesses rather than merely exploits the true democratic nature of the web. It's a new medium finally finding a unique voice."—Andrew Sullivan

"[a] collection of posts...short, informal, sometimes controversial, and sometimes deeply personal...with the freshest information at the top."—Meg Hourihan

Terminology

Blogger (noun) — a person who keeps a blog — Bloggers are revolutionizing the way news is shared.

Blog (verb) — to write a blog — I am going to blog before breakfast this morning.

Blogging (verb) — the action of writing a blog — Blogging is my way of sharing my passions with the world.

Originally blogs were known primarily as places for people to write about their day-to-day activities. Their mundane, everyday tasks became fodder for journal entries. Somehow these writers gained a following and the hobby of blogging was born.

Why Do People Blog?

You may be asking why anyone would want to have their own blog. The answer lies in the fact that every human has a voice and wishes their voice to be heard. The Internet is a medium that is unparalleled in its reach. Never before have average people been able to reach a global audience with so little trouble.

Bloggers have the opportunity of reaching hundreds or even thousands of people every day.

There are still many people who like to share the details of their days. They may post twenty or thirty times a day, detailing when they ate lunch and when they headed home from work. On the other hand there are bloggers who give almost no detail about their lives, but write instead about a hobby or interest of theirs. They may dedicate their blog to something they are passionate about.

In fact, today's blogs can provide hair tips, up-to-date news, technical information, celebrity scandal, political rumor, gets people involved in volunteering, advice on investments as well as there being blogs about niche topics like cooking, health, gardening, sport, blogging blogs (this blog) and of course many personal blogs and quite

Blog Writing Anchor Chart

- Is usually written in first person
- Usually written in present tense, but may be written in past tense
- Is a person diary or journal that reflects on topics of relevance to you
- Expresses personal opinions
- Can include video or supporting images
- Purpose is both to entertain and to inform
- Quality blogs will hopefully cause people to react, reflect and respond
- Distinctive, quality blogs stand out from others with their topic and content
- Be free of spelling and grammar errors. These errors undercut the message and make the blogger appear to be less informed and believable
- Be sure to keep in mind your target audience
- Include the "voice" of the writer
- Keep a reader coming back to the blog