Writing the Op-Ed piece

Mass Communications

Mr. Brocato

The Op-Ed piece (opinion-editorial) is one of the most popular sections of the newspaper. Everybody loves to read about the opinions of others. Here are some suggestions for writing an op-ed piece for our newspaper:

1. Choose a classmate with whom you share a FIESTY opinion
2. Brainstorm a hot topic that effects our school, community or society
3. Once you settle on a topic, start to LIST elements of support/metaphors for it to be used in your piece. For example, if your Op-Ed piece is about block scheduling, start to haphazardly list things you might say to support an argument against it:

*\*walking zombies*

*\*schedule like a straight jacket*

*\*supposed to cut down on hw…not*

*\*school lacks socialization..important for adolescents*

*\*etc etc etc etc*

1. Once you accomplish that, develop a memorable hook for your piece. Grab your reader by the throat from the start and never let go
2. Your writing should be spirited, passionate and…
3. well, controversial in some ways
4. These are generally between 400-500 words (two pages typed)
5. Should have a combination of opinion, factual support and ZEST. Be convincing.