

03 Feature Writing

Instructions:

Your feature story must be written on one side of your own 8 1/2-by-11-inch paper. Write neatly and use blue or black ink for final copy.

**DO NOT WRITE
YOUR NAME OR
SCHOOL NAME ON
YOUR PAPER.**

INCLUDE YOUR
CONTESTANT ID
NUMBER ON EACH
SHEET.

WHAT JUDGES LOOKFOR

- Feature lead that make reader want to read on
- Feature-style development of lead
- Colorful details
- Use of direct quotes and anecdotes
- Feature copy that appeals to the readers' interest
- Emotional impact of copy
- Accuracy, completeness and elimination of extraneous material
- Elimination of libelous statements
- Few convention errors; consistent use of journalistic style.

Assignment:

You are to listen to a presentation of no more than 30 minutes. After a 15-minute question-and-answer period, write a story of no more than 350 words, following the instructions from the moderator. You may **NOT** make up additional facts or quotes. You may select from the information below and from the speaker information.

Topic: Motivational Comedy

Speaker: Kevin Wanzer

Information:

Motivational comedian Kevin Wanzer is noted nationally as a speaker who entertains, inspires and empowers audiences.

Wanzer (pronounced WAND-zer) began his speaking career in 10th grade. Since then, he's spoken to more than 3,000 audiences and reached countless students, educators and parents in 49 states, Canada, China, Europe and Singapore. His programs help people discover hidden passions, embrace diversity and celebrate laughter.

An honors graduate of Butler University in Indianapolis, Wanzer has appeared on "The David Letterman Show" and served on its staff.

He also has addressed the United Nations and spoken at the White House. After working with First Lady Nancy Reagan, Wanzer was appointed as a delegate to the White House Conference for a Drug Free America. That made him one of the youngest presidential appointees in U.S. history.

Wanzer is the author of the book "Choose to Love," a message about life, love and choices. He is a member of the National Speaker's Association, and he is a Certified Speaking Professional, a designation held by fewer than 10 percent of the thousands of speaking professionals worldwide.

