

Magazine reports: personality profiles/biographical essays (Note: your job is to find a well-written profile. Sometimes a piece of writing may be advertised as a profile but it is just a chronological listing of events. A real profile is an essay with an introduction, thesis, and secondary theme.)

due dates (**circle one**): #1 Thurs 9/11, #2 Thurs 10/2, #3 Thurs 10/23, #4 Thurs 11/20

Author or editor:

Title of article (always use quotation marks “ ” for magazine article titles):

Magazine title and/or reference source (always underline complete magazine/book name):

Issue, date, and page numbers of magazine:

Full name of subject of profile (= person article is about):

Introduction: Copy exactly the one or more sentences the writer uses to catch your attention and show you this subject is worth your time. (If there is an intro, it **always** starts with the first word of the text: never title or subtitle.)

Thesis statement: Copy exactly the one sentence (rarely several) where the writer stresses the main point about this subject of this profile. In this same sentence the writer usually, but not always, identifies the topic, the name of the person in the profile. The person is the topic. (Thesis statement= Topic + Thesis). Later in the article, the writer supports this thesis with many sentences of facts and details.

Theme: In addition to the main thesis, writers like to show other less-important sides of a person. To do this, the writer uses repetition. The writer simply includes something extra, something NOT in the thesis, but something that shows up again and again in different ways in a person's life and/or career. Copy and list the **similar** words or phrases that show the author is weaving a theme. You know it is a theme because it repeats similar key words and ideas beginning, middle, and end. These are NOT the same key words that are in the thesis. These words are different from and in addition to key words of the thesis and later thesis support. Show 3-10 repeats.

Choose only one by circling the number. Fit your writing onto the front **and back** of this paper.

1. Write a letter to the editor of the magazine where you comment on the profile.
2. Tell what the subject of the interview or profile learned from his or her experiences. Tell how the subject grew or changed from his or her experiences. (The subject is the person the article is about, not the student!)
3. Write a letter to the author.
4. Write a review about the profile or interview, a review that can be published in our ESL newspaper The Seal.
5. Write a letter to the subject of the profile or interview.