



Changing life stories

The My Words, My World journalists

A National Literacy Trust resource

To provide some inspiration for your students, we have linked up with four hugely experienced journalists who have shared their experiences in a series of short film clips. These clips are a great stimulus for discussion to focus your students' attention before they begin the competition task.

Read on to find out more about our journalists and read some of their work - which you could share with your students as examples of feature writing.

Nick Bentley



Nick is a senior editor at Opta Sports where he has spent the last six years of his career. During that time he has covered a host of major tournaments and events providing editorial content for all the leading TV broadcasters and newspapers. Prior to this he spent short spells at various regional and national newspapers.

Nick studied for a Sports Science degree before going on to gain a MA in Print Journalism, as well as attending a Freelance Journalism course at the London School of Journalism along the way.

View example of Nick's work from ESPN online: [Brumbies must improve scrum and goal kicking](#)

Maurice McLeod



In an 18 year career Maurice has worked for a range of national newspapers including The Guardian, The Independent, The Voice and The Daily Express. He also launched contract publishing company, Snowmedia, and briefly worked on The Sunday Times, The Evening Standard, The Morning Star, Channel 4's Website and Red Pepper.

Maurice was a finalist in the Best Print Journalist category at the EMMA awards and is a member of the Media Diversified collective.

View example of Maurice's work from The Guardian: [In Swaziland, Coca Cola has the power to make democracy the real thing](#)

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Catherine O'Dolan



Catherine O'Dolan is a journalist and editor, who specialises in family lifestyle, fashion, travel and interiors across print and digital platforms. Formerly Editor in Chief of the glossy lifestyle title, Junior magazine, she now writes for a range of publications and websites, including Time Out. She has also contributed to various newspapers including The Guardian and The Independent.

Judy Yorke



Judy Yorke has wanted to be a journalist for as long as she can remember. She wrote a daily newsletter for her family when she was 8, started a magazine at her primary school when she was 10 and edited her secondary school magazine too. She has written about everything from celebrities to fashion, travel, news features and food, and for everyone, from the Daily Express to Closer, Boots

Health and Beauty, Real People and work.

Judy is also a journalism tutor, and has worked for the British College of Journalism's online course for four years, giving feedback to students on everything from feature ideas to complete articles.

View an example of Judy's work from The Mirror: [How spoiling our children is making them lazy brats](#)