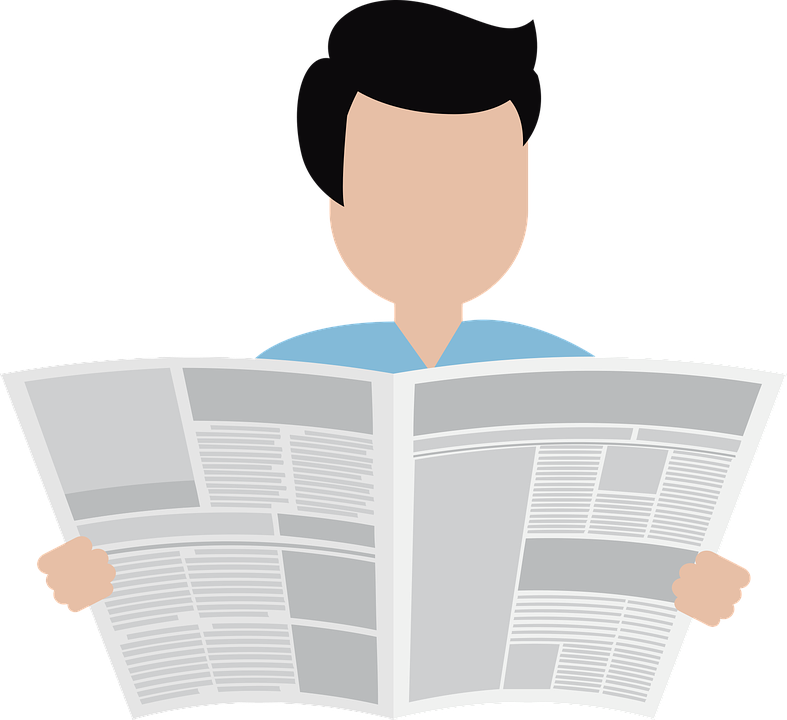
**ENG-110S TIP Assignment #2 Part One: Voice**



**Part One: Voice**

Newspapers, both in print and online, both local and national, publish letters from readers. These people usually write to express their opinions on issues in the news or to agree or disagree with the paper’s editorial or opinion columns. Sometimes people write in response to other letter writers. The letters may be as short as a few sentences or as long as several paragraphs. Because most of the letters are not by professional writers, they can vary widely in reasoning and writing style, including voice. Thus, the letters pages of any newspaper can serve as a laboratory for studying different voices and evaluating writers’ abilities to use voice effectively.

**For this part of the assignment, you will analyze a writer’s voice by looking at “Letters to the Editor.”** Look at a couple of different newspapers (online or print, local or national) for a few days, and you can gather some examples of good and not-so-good use of voice. Some examples of places to look for Letters to the Editor are:

[The Washington Post](https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/letters-to-the-editor/) (National)

[The Arizona Republic](http://www.azcentral.com/topic/7199935e-0c98-4954-967d-ae184ddca881/) (Local)

**STEP 1: Find a letter to analyze. You may use the websites above, or you may find your own letters to the editor from other sources. As you are reading the letter, answer the following questions in complete sentences:**

# Title of Letter to the Editor: Americans need to get with the contact-tracing program

**Paste the link to this letter here:** [**https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/letters-to-the-editor/americans-need-to-get-with-the-contact-tracing-program/2020/11/27/de35acc0-2f44-11eb-9dd6-2d0179981719\_story.html**](https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/letters-to-the-editor/americans-need-to-get-with-the-contact-tracing-program/2020/11/27/de35acc0-2f44-11eb-9dd6-2d0179981719_story.html)

**STEP 2: Analyze the Letter**

|  |
| --- |
| **How does the writing sound? Describe the voice you hear. What types of words, details, or facts stand out to you as a reader?** |
| I think I’m hearing a mixture of disappointment and irony. Specially the part where the author asks “People will purchase an Amazon Alexa but will not download an app that is both anonymous and safe for the well-being of themselves and their family members?” As is, I already don’t comprehend what is the big deal with the Amazon Alexa or why anyone would waste money on it to begin with.  “Privacy concerns seem to highlight how Americans are getting more cautious, but not necessarily more educated, about big tech.” Very accurate depiction of a trend I have seen too. More and more posts highlight privacy and security, but more and more do people get immersed in the big tech’s plans. Kind of like a magic act: You know it is not real magic, but you want it to be real magic, so you make yourself believe it is. |
| **What is the subject matter of the letter?** |
| The subject matter of this author is contact-tracing applications. |
| **What do you think the author’s purpose is for writing the letter?** |
| “It’s impressive how big tech companies are able to sell us on their potentially harmful software, but the government can’t persuade us to use these contact-tracing apps.” – It seems like the author is building up to imply that the government should be stricter in requiring citizens to use the contact-tracing apps. |
| **Who do you think is the intended audience of the letter? Describe the types of readers who might be interested in reading this letter.** |
| United States citizens in general, specially, but not limited to, those that worry most about the situation with the coronavirus. |
| **What do you think is the author’s “angle,” or main point, in the letter?** |
| The author’s main point is that people should use the contact tracing apps, not just for their own safety but also for the ones of relatives and acquaintances. |
| **Do you think the author succeeded or failed in getting the purpose and angle across to the audience? Why or why not?** |
| Yes. The author is pointing out a strong example of evidence of how illogical it is for some Americans to trust so blindly in the tech from big companies like Apple, Google and Amazon but neglect the use of an app that could potentially help in withholding back the spread of the virus, which is the most critical dilemma these days because it is taken so many lives already. |

Save this document and submit it with Part Two when complete.