

Sensationalized!

*Inspired by: Jon Kolkin, David A. Haughton, and
The Good News Network*



Giving Hands-Giving Heart, photograph by Jon Kolkin

Objectives

- Students will observe and compare artworks by Jon Kolkin and David A. Haughton.
- Students will define sensationalism.
- Students will analyze texts and identify techniques that create sensationalism in the media.

Warm Up



Warm-Up

alternative

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The Weekend West

We're for you

WA'S TOP DOCTOR FEARS 1-IN-4 TO BE INFECTED

YOU WILL GET VIRUS

PETER LAW

WA has started preparing for a coronavirus pandemic as doctors warn that one in four West Australians could contract the potentially fatal disease. The State's chief health officer, Andrew Robertson, said current projections suggested a "hit rate" of about 25 per cent. Based on the outbreaks overseas, 82 per cent would be mild cases, 4-5 per cent of patients would need intensive care and 2-3 per cent would die.

CORONAVIRUS SPECIAL P4-5



FREE BON SCOTT POSTER
PLUS THE WEST RANKS
BAND'S TOP 50 SONGS



STARRY EYED
ALL THE FUN FROM STATE OF
ORIGIN BLOCKBUSTER
IMAGES & ANALYSIS SPORT

TV & COMPUTER CRAZE IS GIVING KIDS CANCER

EXCLUSIVE

Docs say children must take more screen breaks

Cows lose their jobs as milk prices drop

By Scott Calvert
THE BALTIMORE SUN

This unlikely combination of forces has hit Foster's milking parlor and other dairy operators with a vengeance. After soaring in 2007 and remaining high in much of 2008, milk prices paid to farmers have collapsed and are expected to remain dismal, even as feed and fuel stay fairly costly. Some dairy farmers have shut down. Others, like Foster, are going to be in the dairy business."

EASTON, Md. — As his 100 dairy cows lumbered over for their Monday afternoon milking, farmer Eric Foster pondered his sudden misfortune. Those Holsteins and Jerseys, profit machines during a recent milk boom, are now making money less

Economists are concerned

Although, consumers should benefit from somewhat lower prices at the supermarket, drop in the value of milk products a grim outlook for dairy farmers.

Observe

1. With your group, carefully **observe** the work of your assigned arts (Jon Kolkin or David A. Haughton).
2. Discuss and **answer** questions 1-4, **record** your thoughts on this hand out.

NOTES

Circle which artist are you observing: DAVID A. HAUGHTON JON KOLKIN

As a group, discuss the following questions. Take notes on your discussion in the second column.

1. WHAT do you see?	
2. WHICH mood or feeling do these works make you feel?	
3. HOW does the artist create this mood or feeling? Use at least two Elements of art in your answer: 	
4. Why do you think this artist created these works?	

Jon Kolkin



Pause, 2013. Digital Print.



Nurtured, 2015. Digital print.

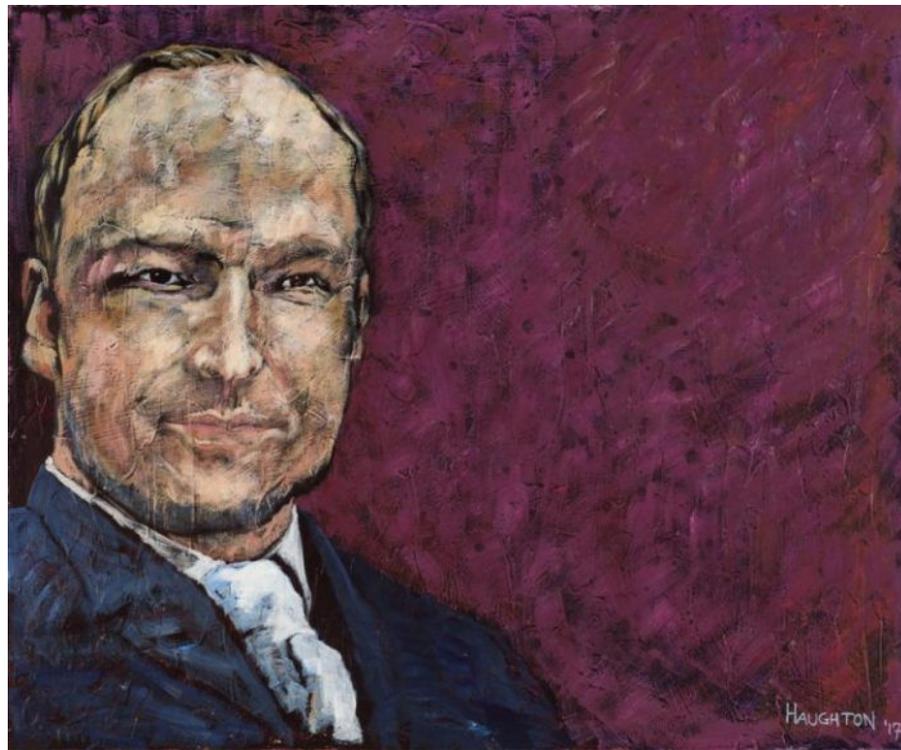


To Soar, 2013. Digital Print.

David A. Haughton



Mug shot XXXII - Agitator (Alex James Fields), 2019.
Acrylic on clayboard.



Mugshot XXVII – Viking (Anders Behring Breivik), 2017. Acrylic on hardboard.

David A. Haughton



Mugshot XXIV – Fellow Christian (Dylan Roof), 2017. Acrylic on hardboard.

OBJECTIVITY

Undistorted by emotion or personal bias.
Based on observable phenomenon.

Sensationalism

the use of exciting or shocking stories or language at the expense of accuracy, in order to provoke public interest or excitement.

OBJECTIVITY

“Man choked on pork chop;
hospitalized.”

“Virologists estimate people with average
immune systems have a 1 in 100 chance of
catching the virus in Seattle at this time**”

**imaginary statistic

Sensationalism



Sensationalism Techniques

False Novelty

Making something look like news when, in fact, it has been known for a long time.

Exclusive To All Newspapers

DIANA WAS STILL ALIVE HOURS BEFORE SHE DIED

A SERIES of previously unseen CCTV images have revealed that Diana was alive and well before she was tragically killed in Paris, ten years ago.



False Urgency

Making something look like it is happening quickly or developing, to add drama to the story.

are being recruited to fight pandemic

SWINE FLU: IT'S GETTING SERIOUS



Ingrid Tarrant

Sensationalism Techniques

Exaggerated Risk

Reporting on a very unlikely danger without giving the chance of it actually happening.



Leaving Out Details

Skipping parts of the story that might make it less exciting.



Sensationalism Techniques

Emotional Language / Imagery

Using words or images guaranteed to excite or anger people.



Naming News

Giving titles or nicknames to people (especially unknown people) or events in the news to make the story seem more dramatic, like a movie.



Sensationalism Techniques

False Novelty

Exaggerated Risk

False Urgency

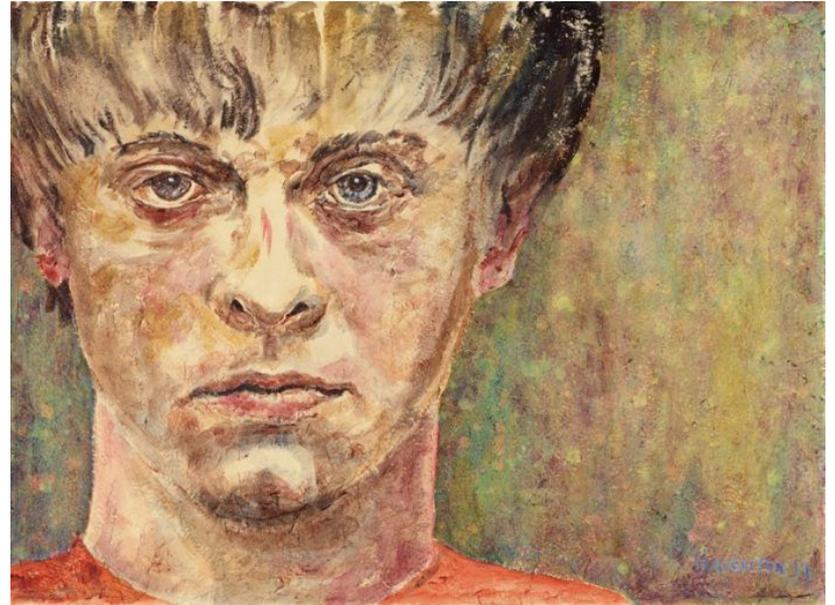
Emotional Language / Imagery

Leaving Out Details

Naming News

Think back to your notes on artists Jon Kolkin, and David A. Haughton.

Do either of these artists approach their art through
the lens of objectivity or sensationalism?



The Good News Network

Take a few moments to explore www.goodnewsnetwork.org.

Consider the following questions as you read:

- a. How do you feel **in your body** after spending some time on the Good News Network versus how you felt after watching the “Sensationalism Montage” during warm up?
- b. How do you feel **emotionally**?
- c. Have you ever heard of the Good News Network before? If the answer is no, why do you think that is?
- d. Why do you think we don’t normally see ‘good news’ stories on TV, in newspapers, or on the internet?



**Who benefits from news media
sensationalism?**

FLIPPED! Free Choice Assignment

Choose one column to complete. Be prepared to share your work with the class.

Visual Art: **FRONT PAGE FLIP!**

Choose a current news story or real headline/front page of a newspaper or magazine.

Is the front page sensationalized? *If yes, create* an objective illustration of the front page. This should include headline, subtitle, and imagery. **Take out** all sensationalism techniques.

If it is already objective, create an example of sensationalism of the article. **Use** identified sensationalism techniques to punch up the absurdity.

Written Composition:
FLIPPED JOURNALIST!

Choose a short, current news article. *Is it sensationalized?* If so, FLIP the article to be objective. **Research** the event to find all the facts, and **rewrite** the piece of journalism with all the sensationalism techniques stripped away. **Strive** to present the truest, version of the story.

Is it objective? If it is already objective, FLIP the article to be an absurd example of sensationalism. **Rewrite** the article **using** at least three sensationalism techniques discussed in class.

Video Production:
FLIPPED NEWSCASTER!

Choose a short, 1-2 minute news clip online.

Is it sensationalized? If so, **rewrite** the newscaster's script and **record** a completely objective version of the clip (starring YOU as the newscaster). Research the event to find all the facts, and strip all the sensationalism techniques away. **Strive** to present the truest version of the story.

Is it objective? If it is already true and without sensationalism techniques, FLIP the script and **rewrite** it to be an absurd example of sensationalism. **Re-film** the clip **using** at least three sensationalism techniques discussed in class, starring yourself as the newscaster.