

# More Junior High Ideas

- ◆ **Descriptives:** Make a list of at least 15 descriptive words you find in advertisements. After compiling your list, write one or two paragraphs describing something. Use as many of your descriptive words as you can.
- ◆ **Abbreviating:** Using the newspaper, locate 10 different abbreviations. What is an abbreviation? Clip these out of the paper and write out the word they represent.
- ◆ **Weather Forecasts:** Look at the weather map in the newspaper. Predict the weather for tomorrow in five different cities around the United States.
- ◆ **Headline Sentences:** Choose five different headlines in the newspaper. Rewrite each headline as a complete sentence. Be sure to put in correct punctuation.
- ◆ **Maps, Maps, Maps:** Locate examples of three maps in your newspaper. What information do these maps give you and why are these maps in the newspaper? Write your answers next to the maps you have clipped from the paper and pasted to your page.
- ◆ **Antonym Search:** What is an antonym? Look through the newspaper and find five different sets of antonyms. Clip these words from the newspaper and paste onto your paper.
- ◆ **How Many Maps?** Look through the newspaper and find all the maps. How many were you able to find? Choose an article you have found in the newspaper and draw a map to illustrate that article.
- ◆ **Accidentally...** Take the newspaper and find three stories or pictures about accidents. Clip these stories/pictures out of the paper. Paste onto your paper. How could each of these accidents have been prevented?
- ◆ **In the past:** Locate a newspaper article written in present tense and clip it out of the paper. Underline all verbs and then rewrite the article in past tense.
- ◆ **Tick, Tock, Tick...** Read a page of the newspaper and underline all the words and phrases that refer to time. Make a list of all the words and phrases you have found.
- ◆ **Get a Job!** Scan through the newspaper and list 10 occupations that are discussed. Don't use the classified ads for this activity!
- ◆ **Politically Speaking:** Find a political cartoon in the newspaper that you consider timely and interesting. Write a new caption for the cartoon. Cut the cartoon out of the paper and paste it onto your paper along with the new caption you have written.
- ◆ **Moving Out:** Select three apartments for rent listed in the classified ads. Do the following: 1) Compute the total annual rent for each of the three. 2) Determine the average monthly rent based on the three apartments you have chosen. 3) Determine which of the apartments appears to be the better choice and explain why.
- ◆ **Family Plan:** Plan a meal for a family of four. Use the grocery ads to compute the cost of the meal.
- ◆ **In 200 Years:** Imagine you are in charge of preparing a time capsule to be opened in 200 years. Cut items from today's newspaper that you think would tell the most about our lives today. Paste these items on your paper.
- ◆ **Win or Lose:** Turn to the sports section of the newspaper. Clip from the paper all the synonyms you find for "win" or "lose." Paste these onto a sheet of paper.
- ◆ **Jargon:** Make a chart showing examples of the vocabulary variations that appear in different sections of the newspaper. For instance, the jargon used by the food editor and the sports editor is probably quite different. How?
- ◆ **Acronym Search:** An acronym is an abbreviation for a phrase and is formed from the first letters of each word in the phrase (example: GOP for Grand Old Party). Look through the newspaper to find 10 examples of acronyms. Clip them and paste onto your paper, labeling each with the phrase it represents.
- ◆ **Foreign Matter:** Find at least 10 examples in which another language has been used in advertisements or articles. Determine if the word is a standard one in English, a borrowing, or simply a foreign word used for effect.
- ◆ **Scavenger Hunt:** Find a newspaper article that is about each of the following and clip them out to paste onto another sheet of paper: a meeting of a government agency, a press conference, a disaster or unexpected happening, and an article about a school.