

# Audio story analysis

**What:** Write a 3-page, double-spaced analysis of an audio story that includes voice, sounds and music. The story you choose should be between 2 and 8 minutes in length (typically, these are about 5 minutes long).

**Finding a story:** NPR (<http://www.npr.org/>) is probably the best place to look for great audio stories. NPR's *Morning Edition* and *All Things Considered* produce some of the finest examples of great storytelling using audio. At the NPR website, you can search by topic for stories or by individual programs. If you are concerned about your choice, please e-mail me a link and I can let you know if your story choice is acceptable.

**NOT ACCEPTABLE:** You **must** choose a story with natural sound and interview, that is edited into one piece. Studio interviews or music-driven pop culture pieces will not work for this assignment.

You may also use an audio slideshow to critique as these often have more natural sound in them. Look at the New York Times and Washington Post for these examples. Make sure you don't choose a video.

**Writing your analysis:** Address the following in your paper:

- Brief synopsis of the audio story (include a link)
- Describe your reaction to the story. What moved you? Did it have an impact on you or not?
- Explain how each of the following contributed to the overall story:
  - Subject
  - People/other characters/sources
  - narration
  - natural sounds (people laughing, crying, clapping)
  - ambient sound
  - music (if any)

**Write clearly and concisely. Use AP style where appropriate. Misspellings, poor grammar and incomplete or poorly-structured sentences will result in a lower grade.**

**Assignment is due at the beginning of class March 23, via e-mail or in class. Assignment is worth 50 points.**