

# Video story analysis

**What:** Write a 3-page, double-spaced analysis of a video story that includes an interview, b-roll, and natural sound. The story you choose should be between 2 and 8 minutes in length (typically, these are about 5 minutes long).

**Finding a story:** The New York Times (<http://video.nytimes.com/?src=hp1-0-V>), MediaStorm (<http://www.mediastorm.com/>), USA TODAY (<http://www.youtube.com/user/USATODAY>), most major news organizations are doing this kind of journalism. I would prefer you find a nat-sound documentary to a more traditional broadcast-style narration. Natural sound documentaries often have more interesting shots, etc. You may also check the National Press Photographer's Association contest winners ([http://www.nppa.org/competitions/monthly\\_multimedia\\_contest/winnergalleries.php?year=2010&month=12](http://www.nppa.org/competitions/monthly_multimedia_contest/winnergalleries.php?year=2010&month=12)) or Interactive Narratives (<http://www.interactivenarratives.org/>). If you're confused or want to double-check your piece, e-mail me the link and I'll let you know if its OK.

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

- **Summarize** the video story (include a link).
  
- **Describe** your reaction to the story. What got your attention? What did you like/dislike? Think about any moments that were shown in the video. Identify them and explain the reaction you had to them.
  
- **Analyze** each of the following "building blocks" of video and how un/successfully this video used them:
  - Interviews/narrative. How did the story unfold? Who told it? Was this a creative way to tell the story?
  - Characters. Were there any? Who were they? How did you react/connect to them?
  - B-roll. Identify your favorite shot(s). Was there enough variety? Was there any recurring visual?
  - Sound. What sounds were included? Was it well done? Was there any music/repetitive sounds?
  
- **Explain** the overall success/failure of this video. Bring all your points together in a simple conclusion. What can be learned from this example?

**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 April 6, via e-mail. Assignment is worth 50 points.**