

# J463/563: Impostors Assignment Rubric

Total points possible: 60 (40 for content and 20 for edits)

- Edits will be graded according to editing scale in syllabus; editing scores will be converted to a 20-point scale. (See third page for synopsis of syllabus.)
- Content will be graded according to the table below.

## Content

|                | High (8-10 pts.)  | Mid (4-7 pts.)  | Low (0-3 pts.)   |
|----------------|---|---|--|
| SoJo stories   | Addresses Four Qualities in each of the six stories   | Addresses some of the Four Qualities in six stories   | Addresses few of the Four Qualities in six stories   |
| Impostors      | Correctly identifies the type of impostor and explains why for all six stories; also explains what's missing with respect to the Four Qualities | Correctly identifies the type of impostor and explains why for most stories; also mostly explains what's missing with respect to the Four Qualities | Correctly identifies the type of impostor and explains why in few of the stories; also barely explains what's missing with respect to the Four Qualities |
| Identification | Correctly identifies all six stories as either SoJo or impostors  | Correctly identifies four stories   | Correctly identifies fewer than four stories   |
| Expectations   | Response covers all six stories and includes at least two paragraphs per story  | Response covers six stories with fewer than two paragraphs per or covers fewer than six stories but has two paragraphs per                          | Response does not hit all six stories AND has fewer than two paragraphs per story  |

Partial examples:

- 1) “Hawaii’s trailblazing healthcare underscores disparity” is an example of solutions journalism because the story contains all of the Four Qualities. The story addresses the limitations of Hawaii’s solution – “the state’s trailblazing health system and its long history of universal health coverage” - by noting that the response “has not solved all the state’s health problems,” particularly among less resourced residents, such as Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders. (Etc. ....)
- 2) “How to Help Charleston After Church Shooting” is an instant activist solutions journalism impostor. The article provides four ways the public can help victims, such as donating to nonprofit groups working with the community following the tragedy, which is an example of responses to a problem. In some of the examples the author details how the organizations help; for example Coastal Crisis Chaplains ushers affected families to the crisis command center. But the article provides no evidence of the efficacy of that group or any other’s work. The article focuses on one specific event and does not include insight about ways to assist other communities affected by similar tragedy. To qualify as solutions journalism, this article would need to be framed as successful responses to the problem of communities traumatized by mass shootings. (Etc. ....)

## Editing Criteria

### *Basic Edit Examples*

Spelling error, fragment, missing period, factual error, poor content

### *A (4.0 or 90-100): Excellent*

**You can make between zero and three advanced edits.** Your work exhibits excellent comprehension and performance.

### *B (3.0 or 80-89): Above Average*

**You can make four to seven advanced edits.** Your work does not have basic errors.

### *C (2.0 or 70-79): Meets Minimum Standards*

**You can make eight to 11 edits (basic, advanced or both).** If the work has a basic edit, it starts at a C.

### *Advanced Edit Examples*

Wordiness, weak verbs, passive voice, lack of strategic thinking, poor framing, organizational problems, comma placement, lack of parallel structure

*I will accept passive voice when the object is the emphasis of the sentence.*

### *D (1.0 or 60-69): Does Not Meet Standards*

**You would need to make 12-15 edits (basic, advanced or both).** If the work has at least two basic edits, it starts at a D.

### *F (0.0 or 59 or below): Unacceptable*

**You need to make at least 16 edits (basic, advanced or both).** The work demonstrates unsatisfactory writing mechanics.