**[Ideas for Feature Articles](http://charlottedigregorio.wordpress.com/2010/09/27/ten-ideas-for-feature-articles/)**

People.
These articles are among the most common and popular to write and read. You could write about someone with an interesting hobby, job or business; someone who is active in the community who is retiring or moving away; a unique child, senior citizen, or disabled person; an artist; or a famous person who has some link to your area. For example, you could write about an antique car collector, costume designer, or a glassblower.

Events.
You could write about public gatherings, such as festivals, exhibits, concerts, or shows. You could even preview them, interviewing the people involved in organizing them. You could also write about uncommon happenings, such as the birth of a second set of twins to a mother.

Lifestyle.
You could write about people who live in houseboats or log cabins. You could also write about people who operate successful home businesses.

Seasonal.
You could write holiday features, such as how a certain ethnic group celebrates a major holiday. Other ideas are: fashion, food, and sports, pertaining to the current season.

Trends of the Decade.
Why not write about men and women entering certain fields that were traditionally limited to a certain gender? You could also write about new types of businesses that are becoming popular.

Interesting Places to Visit/Travel to.
These articles could be about local or regional towns or even organizations, such as the local historical society. Or, they could be more general features about foreign countries that are becoming popular to tourists.

First Person Experience.
The most effective features of this kind are the ones where the writer has participated in some different or unusual activity or job, and shared his/her perspectives. Do you know someone who owns a farm? Be a farmer for a day and then report on it.

Ideas are boundless. All you need to do is sit down and brainstorm. And the more you read features, the more ideas they will trigger. Be an idea person!

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# List of Ideas

1. Modern day heroes
2. Unusual pets
3. Unusual jobs (or students who meet famous people as a result of their part-time job)
4. Making a comeback—students or faculty who have overcome incredible odds.
5. The rescue team—librarians who save your necks during research paper time.
6. The library—how much is lost each year due to theft, or books not returned, or vandalism.  What is being done to curtail this?
7. Brian drain—the most difficult classes
8. Making the grade—feature on the students who make A’s in the class or from the teacher no one makes an A from.
9. Favorite classes.  Why?
10. The high price of education—classes that cost additional money like photography, drivers ed, art, computer classes, etc.
11. The cost of belonging—activities where you have to pay additional money to represent the school—summer camps, cheerleading uniforms, pompon, dance lines, minor sports, etc.
12. Student entrepreneurs
13. Volunteers—students/faculty who perform service work in the community
14. School traditions
15. Athletic superstitions
16. Selling yourself—athletes who are real press hounds because they need the publicity to attract college scholarships
17. Being recruited—athletes and non-athletes who are heavily recruited by schools, military, etc.  Keep track of all the literature received from colleges, etc.  Figure postage costs…
18. The school junker—the car that’s held together with twine, etc.
19. Embarrassing moments in the classroom—for teachers and students
20. Breaking curfew
21. Excuses—those that students give teachers and those teachers give students
22. A day in the life of….your school, the homecoming candidates, the cross-country team, the principal, etc.  A journal approach to capturing the day the way it was.
23. Sneak attack—a story about tennis shoes (sneakers) in your school.  Consider running a survey to determine the average number of sneakers owned, the average cost, and then figure the total cost of sneakers in your school.  It’s probably a multi-million business in your school.
24. First dates
25. Long distance romances—how difficult is it to keep them alive?  How expensive are your phone bills?  How many letters/e-mails written in a week, etc.
26. Techniques for getting noticed by a guy/girl.
27. Excuses given from breaking a date
28. $5 date
29. $500 date
30. Over achievers--what drives them to work so hard?
31. Students with parents who work at school and the flip side of that--parental reaction to having their children as students/athletes.
32. Large families--over 12.  How large is the grocery bill?  Do they ever get new clothes or do they end up in hand me downs?  How long do they wait for the restroom in the morning?
33. Heros in hand-me-downs.  Junior varsity teams who work hard but seldom have anything new for themselves.
34. Team trainers
35. On the road again--travel with an athletic team to do a color story on what the road trips are like.
36. Bands--students or faculty who have their own bands or play in bands.
37. Famous alumni
38. Leaders and pleaders--organization leaders who have to beg to get people to do things
39. Being clubbed to death--so many clubs and so many choices.  Getting overextended in club work.
40. Your first credit card
41. Driver's test
42. Being stopped by the police
43. The class clown--there's always one who is really a comedian.  What makes him tick?
44. Unusual hobbies
45. Gameaholics--students who spend all of their time and money on video games or board games
46. Student hangouts
47. Exciting summer trips or spring break trips
48. Students who are taking college credit while still in high school
49. Unusual relatives within the student body
50. Shopping--an obsession
51. Purging the urge to splurge--on shopping, eating, whatever.  How do you stop?
52. School rivalries
53. Parents with unusual jobs
54. Tanning booths
55. Strange and unusual piercings
56. Teachers with second and third jobs
57. Married teachers who teach in the same school
58. Car accidents and tickets
59. Being a twin/triplet...
60. Making a difference--people who have been an instrumental influence on students' lives
61. Skateboarders
62. Stressed for success--students who are intent on achieving academic success, college entrance exams, etc.
63. School mascot
64. Parental pressure on coaches to let students play--student reaction to this too
65. Fashion and fads
66. Weather and its impact on school events
67. How much it costs to run a school
68. Being a custodian, cafeteria worker...
69. School epidemics
70. How long it takes to get ready in the morning
71. How much money the school receives in scholarships
72. Cell phones and student use
73. Divorce--impact on students
74. Teen marriages
75. Peer pressure--how students deal with them
76. Homecoming Week/Prom Week
77. Single-parent families
78. What's cooking--spend a day with the cooks and write a color story about their job.  Include specifics on how much food it takes to prepare the students' favorite meal.  What time do they start their day, etc.
79. Fast food.  How often do students eat it?  How much do they spend?  What's their favorite fast food meal.
80. Cramming--techniques for studying for tests.  How often do students feel they have to cram?
81. Procrastination--everybody does it.  What rationalizations do students/teachers use to put things off?
82. Students or teachers with outstanding accomplishments
83. Foul-ups behind the scenes at plays
84. Time investment--the number of hours that goes into the preparation of a 12-minute halftime show
85. Student musicians who began at an early age--hours they've practiced, are they glad they spend that kind of time, etc.
86. Internet and mass media invasion
87. Student involvement in environmental protection
88. Teenage suicide prevention
89. Bench warmers--the athletes who may not see much playing time but are an important part of the game because they keep the team psyched.  These are the folks that hold the team together.
90. Student jobs--strange work stories
91. Freshmen fears
92. Tricks played on freshmen or underclassmen
93. Competition and how it affects students