

MysteryQuest #43: Support material (Activity Sheet 5)
Planning a newspaper editorial

Date and setting of the newspaper: *The newspaper could potentially be set in 1854 when an expedition to find the Franklin ships led by John Rae found artifacts and heard stories of cannibalism. Alternatively, it could be set in 1859 when another expedition led by McClintock and Hobson discovered a cairn that contained Franklin's last communication and confirmation of his death on June 11, 1847. Another possibility is to set it in the present, reflecting the renewed interest in the Franklin Expedition.*

Thesis of editorial: Among the parties involved in the Franklin Expedition, whose motivations were the most important and influential?

Evidence and argument: How do you know? What evidence supports your thesis?

Criteria for an excellent newspaper editorial

Your newspaper editorial should:

- be clearly and well written;
- take into account the worldview of the historical period you are writing about;
- draw on at least four pieces of relevant primary source evidence;
- provide a convincing or plausible explanation of the motivations you have concluded are most important or influential.