



Planning The Story, 60 mins

Objective: Students will determine how they'll structure the podcast.

What you need: Six large pieces of tear-off construction paper or easel pad paper.

What students need: A notebook and writing utensil.

Before class:

Place six pieces of large tear-off construction paper or easel pad paper in various places around the classroom. Two should be at the front of the room or the board. Label these two:

- *What is my story's driving question?*
- *What is the story not about?*

Label the others:

- *How will I ensure my story is fair to the people and ideas it represents?*
- *How will I engage my audience — and hold them?*
- *What are my dream ingredients?*
- *What will the audience remember when it's over?*

Part 1: Review Your Options, 10 mins

Start by opening up a class discussion about what types of podcasts students have heard. What are some ways a podcast can be structured? Why might a podcast be a one-on-one conversation, instead of a story told with using clips of multiple interviews?

Part 2: What's the story?, 25 mins

Spend 15 minutes working with students to craft responses to the two questions at the front of the room. Have them raise their hands and give ideas until the group settles on one driving question for their podcast. Then move on to the second: what is the story *not* about? The class should have lots of answers to this question and doesn't need to settle on one.

Then move on to the papers around the room. Students should get up and write a response to each question. If they like someone else's response, they should draw a star next to that response. Tell students to return to their desks after 10 minutes.

Part 3: Recap, 20 mins

Once students have finished, have one classmate stand at each paper around the room and share the responses.

Then debrief: given the class's responses, what do students envision their podcast including? What will it NOT include? How will these ideas shape the structure of the podcast -- will it feature one long conversation or multiple short interviews? Pieces of tape from interviews and scenes?

Keep these posters around to guide students through the podcasting process. When they've recorded interviews and other sounds, remind them to look: this is what they envisioned for the podcast.