

# An American Plague Project

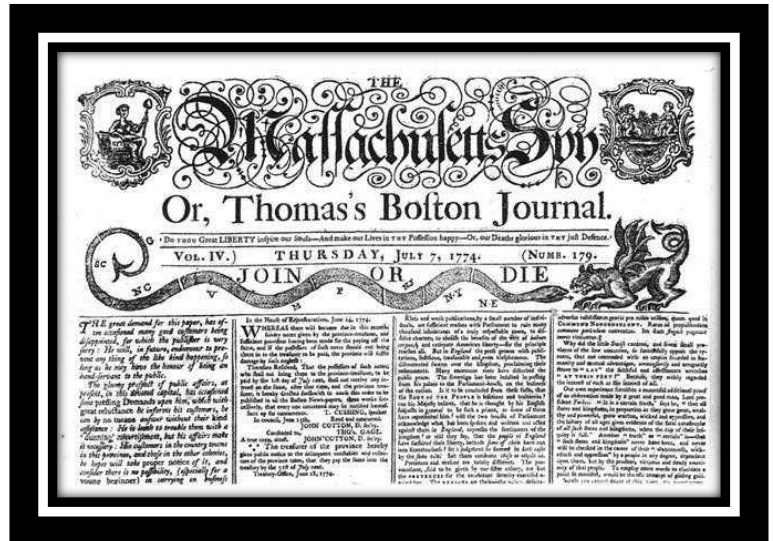
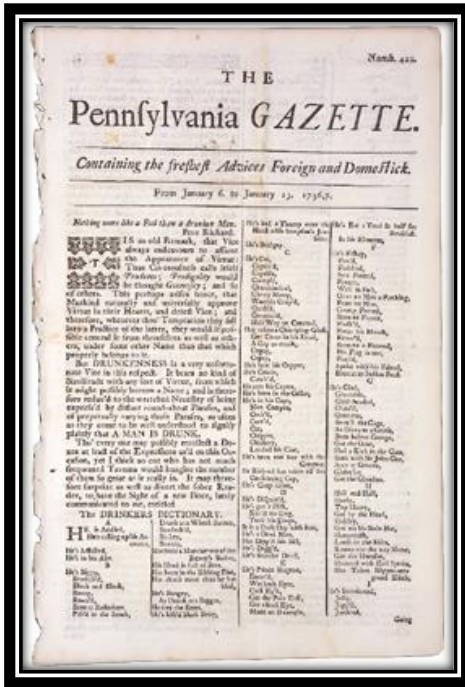
IMAGINE IT IS 1793, YOU ARE IN PHILADELPHIA, AND THE YELLOW FEVER HAS JUST BEEN ANNOUNCED AS BEING IN YOUR TOWN. YOU ARE A YOUNG JOURNALIST, AND IT IS YOUR JOB TO MAKE SURE PEOPLE KNOW WHAT IS HAPPENING IN YOUR TOWN.

## Directions:

1. Create your own newsletter (back then they were called *Gazettes* – usually it was a few pages about all the things happening in the town. So the *Gazette* should have some sort of name like “The Woodchopper’s *Gazette*”)
2. This newsletter must be realistic to the time period. (Meaning it must look like it is 1793 – not 2021. They did not have bleach then, so the paper would not be white.)
3. It needs to be the **front** and **back** of a piece of paper. (They were larger than our paper today – so it needs to be a larger than the piece of paper then we use today.)
4. You must have at least 10 facts that come from the book *An American Plague*. (Facts do not mean “24% of people died...” It can be any line from the book that is relevant to the article.) I want to see that you can pull out quotes that are relevant to your story you are writing and that you know how to cite facts in your paper.
5. Needs to have at least four stories. (These four stories are based on the 10 facts you get from the book. So you might use two facts in one story, three in the next, three in another one, and two in the last one. You just can’t use all of the facts in one article. They must be realistic to the story and what is going on.) That means each story should have at least one fact.
6. When including photos you must cite where you got them (ex: *An American Plague*. Murphy – this would go underneath the photo. Hint: most newspapers have photos – it makes it more interesting to the reader.)
7. You will need to include filler information – think about what would have been relevant to 1793 – cows? Wanted posters? Advice column...
8. This must be your OWN creation – it is not a group effort.
9. Be creative – this is your time to shine!

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Here are some examples of old Gazettes.



## The American Plague Project Checklist

1. GAZETTE WITH NAME TURNED IN
2. REALISTIC TO TIME PERIOD
3. FRONT AND BACK OF PAPER
4. LARGER THAN AN 8 1/2 BY 11 PAPER
5. 10 FACTS FROM THE BOOK
6. FOUR STORIES
7. FACTS CITED CORRECTLY
8. IF PHOTOS CITING APPROPRIATELY
9. CREATIVE
10. CORRECT PUNCTUATION AND GRAMMAR
11. CONTENT RELEVANT TO TIME PERIOD AND BOOK