## TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS

## PAGE 1 MEETING

Before class and before students see the front page of today's New York Times, write the front page headlines on the board in a random order.

- Explain to the class that several times each day the top editors of The Times have a "Page 1 meeting" where they decide which articles planned for the next day's newspaper are the most important and should therefore start on the front page.
$\square$ Have students individually read the list of front page headlines on the board and decide which three headlines represent the three most important news stories for today. Which one do they think was considered the most important story today? Students should write those headlines on the "Page 1 Meeting" sheet.
$\square$ Distribute copies of today's New York Times and let students see where their "top three stories" are positioned on today's front page. Explain to students that the Times editors position the paper's lead article in the upper right column of the page, and that the next two top stories are placed to the left of that one.
- Explain that there is almost always a special feature on Page 1 in addition to the main news of the day. It might be a human interest story, a report on a new trend, an in-depth look at a topic or just an article on something amusing or unusual.
- If time permits, have a brief discussion about how their "top stories picks" compared with the Times's choices and why they think the Times editors prioritized their lead articles in the way that they did.

