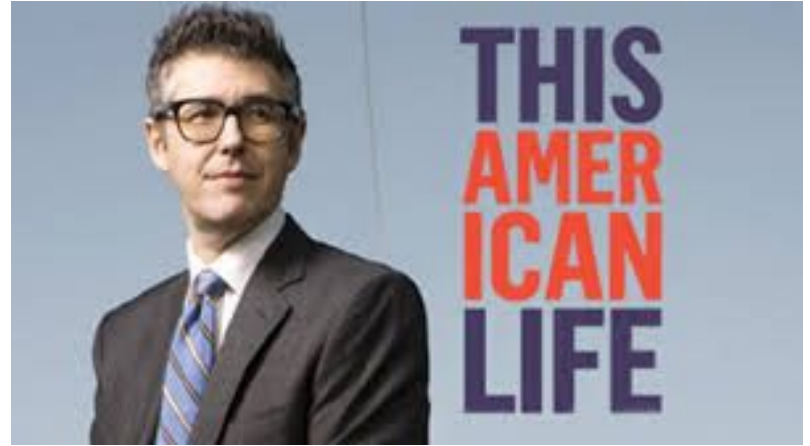


## Planning a Podcast

Just like writers do before starting an essay, podcast producers typically make an outline or plan before they start recording and editing. They brainstorm how they want to turn their topic into an audio story. What components will they need: spoken stories, interviews, narration?

Often, a podcast focuses on one essential question.



**Listen to the segment from *This American Life*. While you listen, create an outline of what elements you hear (music, host talking, interview, etc.)**



# This American Life

*Narrator introduces a situation: A middle school student refuses to take off a hat in the classroom.*

*Interview clips, interspersed with narration: Various teachers share how they might handle this situation.*

*Music fades in ...*

*Narrator introduces the larger topic of school discipline and the main question the podcast will address: Are school and teacher discipline policies working? Is there a better way?*

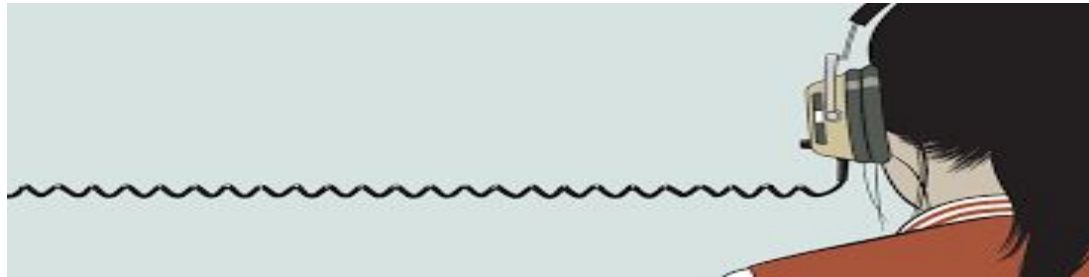
*Music fades in ...*



# This American Life

Listen to this segment from This American Life over again. Answer the following questions?

1. What is the question this episode focuses on?
2. What components do the producers use during this segment? (look at the outline we just made!)





# Planning your own podcasts...

Here are a few examples of topics you can form your podcast around.



You can always come up with your own topic if you don't see one you like.



Here are a few examples of topics you can form your podcast around.

1. Tell us a story about your school or community: about something that happened there — recently or in the past — that you want your audience to know about.
2. What is a moment in history that all students should learn about?
3. Show us both sides of a debate about an issue that's important to you.
4. What do you want to change about the world? What's a big change that you want to make in the future?
5. Explain something that teenagers understand and adults don't.



## Exit Ticket

You do not have to have your entire podcast planned out yet. For the exit ticket, however, you do need to have your guiding question approved by me. Write your guiding question and then about 2-3 sentences with any thoughts you may have about that question.

We will continue to plan our final podcasts next time!

Turn in your papers with everything we have done so far with our second podcast into the block drawer.