

# Profiling a group contesting elections

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NLN 101 Language & Writing Skills-2 (Week 12)

## 1 What is a Profile

A profile is a brief description of a person, a group/organisation, a community, a place or an event. A profile aims to give the audience a better understanding of the subject by

- sharing information about the profile subject in the form of a story.
- conveying the significance of the subject.
- writing up one overarching story from many possible stories about the subject.

A profile may also aim to inspire its audience with the examples their subjects provide, focusing on something overlooked or underappreciated about them.

## 2 A few profiles

1. A profile of a person: 'How A.R. Rahman makes hit after hit' by Kavya Srikanth.
2. A profile of a community: 'The six personas of manual scavenging in India' by Keshav Kanoria.
3. A profile of an event/place: 'Hiroshima' by John Hersey.

## 3 Classroom Writing Assignment (Time Limit: 1 hour)

Imagine that your group is participating in **one of the following** elections:

- the IIT student council elections
- the hostel elections

You will write a profile of your group. The profile should help convince your audience to vote for you. Remember the following:

1. Write about each candidate i.e. dedicate one paragraph to talk about each candidate's story. However, in the process do not forget to write about your group as a unit.
2. Focus primarily on the qualities, traits and promises of your team and its candidates rather than focusing on what the current office bearers lack/have not achieved.
3. Remember the mark of a good essay —
  - paragraphs dedicated to single topics
  - introductions and conclusions that mirror the entire idea of the essay and bring it full circle.

Chek this handout for information on the grammar and vocabulary you need to write your essay.