Your research should help you understand the motivations behind the muckraker’s actions, as well as the struggles they faced during their work. Answer the following questions from the perspective of the journalist you have researched. Your answers should give the rest of the class an idea of what your journalist would have been passionate about, and how he/she would interpret our journalistic society today.

1. What has your work taught you about the importance of a free press?
2. Do you believe that you are or were responsible chiefly to the public, the government or your own personal interests when investigating and writing? Why?
3. What do you think is the most important job of journalists and the press in general?
4. Do you think that there is any information that is “too dangerous” to print? Why or why not?
5. What risks did you take in revealing a story?

Were those risks worth it? Why or why not?

1. The news media is undergoing drastic changes because of opportunities for independent journalism on blogs, the ability to constantly update stories online and because many people prefer to read news online. What do you think about that?

Will those factors change journalism for the better or the worse? Why?

You are researching one of the journalists who changed our society for the better. You will be required to give a short (3-5 minute) presentation to the rest of the class on what you found. Make sure to include the following information:

1. When and where did this journalist live and report?
2. What did he/she investigate that made him/her famous?
3. What were his/her findings?
4. What forces got in the way of his/her work? Why?
5. What aspect of society changed as a result of the journalist’s work?
6. At least 3 interesting details about the journalist that you come across during your research.