

1046-A5-1820      **Milo Schield\*** (schield@augsborg.edu), Dept. of Business Administration, 2211 Riverside Drive, Augsburg College, Minneapolis, MN 55454. *Assessing Quantitative Literacy Using a Wide Range of News Stories*. Preliminary report.

Assessing a student's Quantitative Literacy (QL) level based on their analysis of the numbers in the news is highly desirable since QL emphasizes numbers in context. Given the importance of context in such stories, such an assessment can be a complex and difficult task. Schield (2008) presents a critical thinking template for analyzing those news stories that used numbers as evidence for non-numerical conclusions. This ten-section template also provides a way to assess students on their analysis of such studies in the news. This paper investigates the range of news stories that can be handled by this ten-part critical thinking template. These news articles include medical tests, surveys, charts, graphs, tables, forecasts/projections, claim-based studies and experiments as well as stock prices, sports scores and bridge hands. These articles range in length from short sound-bites to detailed research reports. This paper addresses the question of why use a template designed for a wide range of articles, when many articles need only a part of that template – and may need that part in far more detail. (Received September 16, 2008)