

This pitch was written by Hannah Choo, a News Decoder intern who provided extensive feedback to the EYES resources. She wrote this pitch to help students see how they might go about the process themselves.

Total time spent writing the pitch: 35~40 minutes

1. Find a few case studies involving a certain commodity (5 minutes)
 - a. Product: Phone
 - b. Commodity: Copper
 - c. 2 cases of copper:
 - i. Extraction: <https://ejatlas.org/conflict/rio-blanco-mine-majaz-peru>
 - ii. Disposal: <https://ejatlas.org/conflict/sydney-tar-ponds-contamination-nova-scotia-canada>
2. Headlines (10 minutes)
 - a. Local women and farmers in Peru take a stand as foreign firms attempt to exploit the Rio Blanco copper mine.
 - b. Toxic industry runoff harms over 25,000 residents as copper and other minerals pollute the Sydney tar ponds in Cape Breton.
3. Questions I could ask (5 minutes)
 - a. Which country is the largest exporter of copper?
 - b. Which country has ownership of/relation to most of the global copper mines? Does this differ from the geographical location where copper is produced?
 - c. In what ways does excess copper affect human health?
 - d. What tools allow us to detect unhealthy copper levels in water or other natural resources?

Pitch (10 minutes)

- There are over 700 copper mines populating the world, focused most heavily in countries like Chile, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Peru. Yet, particularly in Peru and the DRC, those who benefit from those mines appear to be based mainly in China, the US, UK, and other European countries – those who profit from selling the electronic devices that rely on minerals like copper.
- Copper mines can be excessively harmful to human health, polluting water sources in a way that hurts the health of young children and infants the most. In countries like Peru, it is the local residents, who have no control over the mine, who face the brunt of the impacts. I want to produce a piece on the imbalance in the effects of copper mining that exists between those who establish and benefit from them, and those who face the consequences of that environmental exploitation.