Opinion Editorial – how do you know it’s an op-ed?

Here are the conventions (requirements):

* Appears in the OPINION section of the newspaper.
* Timely: Usually op-ed is about an issue/topic that is happening in the news NOW or connects to something that is happening now.
* Beginning has a hook that grabs the reader
* Closes with a strong final paragraph.
* Gives reader a feeling that s/he should care.
* Gives author’s OPINION, PERSPECTIVE, or TAKE
* Must have a personal voice.
* Should be persuasive and argue for something -- clearly written, persuasive, and present a call-to-action.
* Uses good examples to support the main point or argument. These could be personal stories (personal narratives) but short, not long.
* Might refer to facts or research or prior historical events to support the argument
* Should NOT have technical jargon. An op-ed is NOT a research paper!