What is a feature article?
A feature article is an article written to give more depth to topical events, people or issues. Written by an expert or a journalist, these texts provide background information on a newsworthy topic as well as the writer’s personal slant or experience.

Voice
Features articles use a mix of first, second or third person as appropriate. First person (I, me, my, we, us, our) can be used to establish a relationship with the reader, a relationship with the person who has died and to possibly explain anecdotes. Third person is used where the speaker is providing a personal history of the deceased or an outline of their life.

Language & Grammar
- Language choice can be formal or informal depending on topic. The use of informal, colloquial (slang) and first person narrative creates a personal tone to the piece.
- Uses mainly present tense.
- Variety of long and short sentences.
- Contractions are acceptable (didn’t, it’s, that’s, we’ll).
- Relevant jargon adds authenticity to information and opinions presented.
- Use of anecdotes or background information to maintain reader interest.
- Facts or evidence validates the writer’s viewpoints.
- In humorous articles, exaggeration and generalisation are used to heighten humour.
- Rhetorical questions can be used to involve the reader.
- Emotive words are used to evoke a personal response in the reader.
- Figurative language may be used to engage the reader’s imagination (eg. imagery, simile, description).
- Direct quotes can personalise the topic.

Structure and Organisation

| Introduction | •  **Headline:** to identify the focus of the feature; attention grabbing  
|             | •  **Subheading:** provides an angle or point of view  
|             | •  **By-line:** to identify the expert or journalist writing the report  
|             | •  **Hook:** An interesting first sentence to ‘hook’ readers’ attention and establish a point of view through a direct statement, example or hypothetical question.  
|             | •  **Introductory paragraph:** This paragraph expands on the hook and establishes the writer’s tone and focus for the article.  
| Body        | •  **Paragraph 2:** first main point. An explanation of how this person/issue has contributed to society. This should be an interpretation of events in the author’s own words.  
|             | •  **Paragraph 3 onwards:** further main points provided to explain
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>interesting events or achievements about the person/issue to inform the reader / delve into the issue further. Facts, evidence, quotes, challenging questions to the reader, opinions are included in these paragraphs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Photographs, tables, diagrams and graphs are often used to accompany the text in feature articles to provide facts or evidence to support the author’s explanation and interpretation of the person/issue/events</td>
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<td>• Can include highlighted pieces of text to emphasise specific events or quotes</td>
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<td>Conclusion</td>
<td>The concluding paragraph should leave a lasting impression by:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Reminding the reader of the article's main idea</td>
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<td>• Suggesting an appropriate course of action</td>
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<td>• Encouraging a change of attitude or opinion</td>
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*Exemplar Years 7 – 9*

*Exemplar Years 10 – 12*