

Feature Article

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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

	<p>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</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 • Can include highlighted pieces of text to emphasise specific events or quotes
Conclusion	<p>The concluding paragraph should leave a lasting impression by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reminding the reader of the article's main idea • Suggesting an appropriate course of action • Encouraging a change of attitude or opinion

Exemplar Years 7 – 9

Exemplar Years 10 – 12