

WRITING EXERCISES

Newspaper Article

As you would expect for a teenager, Drew's funeral is very well attended and his family were touched by how many of their neighbours and Drew's friends came to pay their respects. They were, however, upset that against their wishes, members of the DH Crew also came along, wearing their "Drew – a True Soldier" T-shirts.

You are a reporter for the local newspaper and have been sent to cover the story, as this is the latest in a series of shootings. Write up the story and include an interview with a teenager you saw watching the funeral procession but not going into the church. He was in running kit and was clearly very upset - he said he went to primary school with Drew. He made you promise not to write anything that would give clues to his identity.

Things to think about:

1. Make sure you include Who, What, Where, When and Why (although not necessarily in that order) together with some background to the story;
2. Make sure you stick to the facts: although anyone you interview might express opinions, you, as the reporter, won't;
3. Although you are writing a factual report, you want to capture the scene for your readers, so use descriptive language;
4. Once you have written and checked your report, create an eye-catching but accurate headline to introduce it.