

**WRITING SAMPLE
&
NEWS ARTICLE
FEEDBACK**

WRITING SAMPLE & NEWS ARTICLE FEEDBACK

- Grammar
 - Articles
 - Prepositions
 - Parts of speech
- Reporting language
- Avoiding story elements
- Witness and expert quotations

GRAMMAR: ARTICLES

- Indefinite articles: a, an
- Definite article: the
- Sometimes a noun does not need an article!

- **Review:**
 - Lesson 14, page 437-467 (in *Grammar in Context 2B*)
 - Articles and Nouns, page 68-80 (in *English Grammar in Use*)

GRAMMAR: PREPOSITIONS

- To, from, at, of, in, for, with ...
- Ex. Incorrect: “I am proud about you.”
Correct: “I am proud of you.”
- Review:
 - Prepositions, page 120-136 (in *English Grammar in Use*)

GRAMMAR: PARTS OF SPEECH

Noun	Verb	Adjective	Adverb
Success	Succeed	Successful	Successfully
Health	To be healthy	Healthy	
Competition	Compete	Competitive	Competitively
Death	Die	Dead	

- Ex. Incorrect: “That person is success.”
Correct: “That person is successful.”



SPECIFIC NEWS ARTICLE FEEDBACK

**SOME SUGGESTIONS TO MAKE
YOUR NEWS ARTICLES SOUND
MORE PROFESSIONAL**

REPORTING LANGUAGE

- News reporters always try to distance themselves from the information they are reporting. They do this through language.
- Where you can, refer to specific witnesses, experts, reports, websites, et cetera when you are including details about a news story (even if it's fictional!)
- Ex. The suspect was holding the bank manager at gunpoint.
Better: Witnesses inside the bank reported that the suspect had been holding the bank manager at gunpoint.

AVOIDING STORY ELEMENTS

- News reporters aim to report the news—i.e. they are **informative**, but they are **not storytellers**.
- Avoid using story elements in your news article. Just report the information in an organized manner. Do not embellish the information unless you are quoting a witness!

WITNESS AND EXPERT QUOTATIONS

- Include direct quotations from witnesses and experts. Remember to use reporting language so that the reader knows which are your words and which are someone else's.
- This is what you were doing on page 2 of the “Using Quotations” worksheet.

SOME SENTENCE FRAMES TO USE IN NEWSPAPER ARTICLES...

According to, ...	e.g. According to Professor George Gunderson at the University of Texas, purple shirts make people angry.
During an interview,/ In a recent interview, ...	e.g. In a recent interview, Professor George Gunderson stated that purple shirts make people angry.
A report/study by _____ found that ...	e.g. A study conducted at the University of Texas psychology department found that purple shirts make people angry.

SOME SENTENCE FRAMES TO USE IN NEWSPAPER ARTICLES...

When asked about _____, _____ said ...	e.g. When asked about the purple shirt study, Professor George Gunderson said that he was surprised at the results.
_____ described _____ as ...	e.g. Professor George Gunderson described the results as “surprising” and “peculiar.”