Annotated example of student work

Writing for different audiences

There is one example of student work associated with this task linking to outcomes R12 and W4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STRAND</th>
<th>ORAL LANGUAGE and READING and WRITING</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ELEMENT</td>
<td>Exploring and using language</td>
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<tr>
<td>LEARNING OUTCOME/S</td>
<td>Reading: 12. Students should be able to understand how word choice, syntax, grammar and text structure may vary with context and purpose</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Writing: 4. Students should be able to write competently in a range of text forms, for example letter, report, multi-modal text, review, blog, using appropriate vocabulary, tone and a variety of styles to achieve a chosen purpose for different audiences</td>
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<tr>
<td>TASK</td>
<td>In class: Read two short texts; discuss and analyse them. Guide questions have been included to direct discussion and group or individual written responses. Homework/Assessment task: Write a brief report about a local event in two different journalistic styles, similar to the texts read in class: a factual account of an event and a racy account of the same event.</td>
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<tr>
<td>TIME ALLOWED</td>
<td>Up to three classes for discussion/preparation Homework completed over one or two evenings</td>
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<td>CONDITIONS</td>
<td>Open access to given texts and other materials</td>
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<tr>
<td>STUDENT RESPONSE FORMAT</td>
<td>Written</td>
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<tr>
<td>OVERALL JUDGEMENT</td>
<td>In line with expectations Ahead of expectations Has yet to meet expectations</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>√</td>
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<tr>
<td>TEACHER COMMENTARY (Supporting the judgement made)</td>
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In some respects the student is ahead of expectations (especially for a first attempt at this kind of task) but is less successful when it comes to the more factual, objective piece of writing. Therefore, the first text is very successful but the second text is somewhat underdeveloped and skimpy on detail.

On balance, the student is ahead of expectations for 2nd year.
Violent Flamingo Startles Child

Saturday, December 8, 2012

A small girl was distraught after a violent encounter with a terrifying flamingo.

On Saturday the little girl was visiting Fota Wildlife Park with her family.

The girl was walking down by the monkeys when the pink perpetrator attacked her almost breaking her arm.

She said he popped up out of nowhere like a pink feathery ninja.

A park worker blamed the girl for wearing a pink t-shirt causing the flamingo to attack.
Student’s notes and second text

Serious: About an incident that was avoided

Formal: Because…it has formal language like ‘made its request’

Objective: There is a lot of facts in the article

Emotional: it’s creating a story

Pick a recent incident: 1st text style ½ page.

Flamingo Assaulted Child

Saturday, December 8, 2012

A flamingo in Fota Wildlife Park assaulted a young girl because of her bright pink t-shirt.

The girl was on a tour of the park when she got a nasty shock when one of the flamingos grabbed onto her and injured her arm.

A worker in the park said that the flamingo was attracted by the girl's pink t-shirt causing him to attack.

The girl did not sustain a serious injury from the flamingo but will not be returning for another visit. She and her family also received their money back.
Criteria identified by the teacher group:

- Genre awareness - precise and accurate response
- Formal/informal/emotive
- Subjective v objective
- Structure of the report
  - Headline/s
  - Introduction, development, conclusion
  - Paragraph V bullets
- Clear expression, including the mechanics of writing - spelling, grammar, punctuation
- Denoting v connoting
- Editorial presentation
Material used to support the task: Writing for different audiences

Learning outcomes:

Reading: Students should be able to understand how syntax, grammar, text structure and word choice may vary with context and purpose

Writing: Students should be able to write competently in a range of text forms, for example letter, report, multi-modal text, review, blog, using appropriate vocabulary, tone and a variety of styles to achieve a chosen purpose for different audiences

Task: We have had a classroom task that involves reading two short texts, discussing and analysing them. Your homework task is to write a brief report about a local event in two different journalistic styles, similar to the texts we have read in class: a factual account of an event and a racy account of the same event.

N.B. for teachers: Tabloid/Tabloid may be acknowledged but not dwelt upon.

Here is the material, with questions, for discussion/classwork. Please note that all need not be used.

The material consists of two reports of an air incident.
An off-duty pilot assisted an emergency landing of a Lufthansa flight in Dublin Airport on Monday morning.

The pilot was identified through the passengers' list after the co-pilot fell ill while halfway through the flight from Newark to Frankfurt. The aircraft landed safely at Dublin Airport at 5.40am.

The Boeing 747 flight was in Oceanic airspace when it made its request to Shanwick Air Traffic Control to divert to Dublin.

Shannon Air Traffic Control was informed of the diversion by Shanwick.

A spokeswoman for Lufthansa said that even if the off-duty pilot had not been on board, the captain would have had control of the aircraft.

The Air Accident Investigation Unit has begun an inquiry into the incident.

http://www.irishtimes.com/newspaper/ireland/2012/1121/1224326897920.html
1. Tick which of the following questions are answered in the opening one sentence paragraph:

2. Is this report factual? Count the number of facts mentioned in the article. **Number: ....**
   Place * on the margin beside any paragraph that contains a fact.

3. How would you describe the tone of the article? Tick any three of the following tones:
   *Serious, formal, light-hearted, objective, exciting, funny and emotional.*

4. Are there any words or phrases that strike you as an attempt to be dramatic? Show any such words and phrases with a ‘D’ beside them. If there are none, then don’t mark any.

5. Which **one** of the following best describes the tone and language use of the report:
   a) Emotive b) Informative or c) Informative and Emotive?

6. Consider the wording of the final fact. Why is it stated in this way?
'I can wing it!' Passenger steps in to land 747 after co-pilot falls ill... lucky he happens to be off-duty pilot himself

- Co-pilot struck down with migraine on flight from Newark to Frankfurt
- Passenger reveals he is fully qualified to help captain land Lufthansa jet
- Captain traveling on the plane 'works for North American Airlines'
- Plane diverts to Dublin Airport, where accident investigation is under way.


TEXT 2 – Some prompt questions/suggestions for teachers

N.B. It is not necessary that you use all/or any of these questions.

1. Tick which of the following questions are answered in the opening one sentence paragraph: Who, What, When, Where, Why and How?

2. Is this report factual? Count the number of facts mentioned in the article. Number: ..... Place * on the margin beside any paragraph that contains a fact.

3. How would you describe the tone of the article? Tick any three of the following tones: Serious, formal, light-hearted, objective, exciting, funny and emotional.

4. Are there any words or phrases that strike you as an attempt to be dramatic? Show any such words and phrases with a ‘D’ beside them. If there are none, then don’t mark any.

5. Which one of the following best describes the tone and language use of the report: a) Emotive b) Informative or c) Informative and Emotive?

6. Consider the wording of the final fact. Why is it stated in this way?

Comparison Questions – these are the more important questions and could be used as a basis for group and/or individual work.

N.B. It is not necessary to use all/or any of these questions.

a. Compare the way the final fact in each article is presented to a reader. What can you say about the difference between them?
b. Which of the articles contains opinion? Is that helpful to the reader?
c. As a reader, which of the articles do you consider to be the most interesting? Explain
d. Which of the reports tries the hardest to appeal to a wide audience? Consider using some of
the words 'informative', 'emotive', 'dramatic', 'theatrical' and 'sensational' in your answer.
Select at least one example of language to illustrate your answer.
e. Which report tries to be more entertaining? Does that mean it will have a bigger audience
of readers, in your opinion? Why.
f. Do you think that the readers of the Irish Times and the Daily Mail differ from each other in
some ways? How?
g. Which version would you like on Facebook? Compose a smart comment in Facebook style
reacting to that report or a fact from the report?

Homework/Assessment Task:
Model these report styles to compose an alternative story on some event that happened around
your area. Write two versions, one resembling the Irish Times style, the other the Daily Mail web-
page style.