# HOW TO WRITE DOWN A NEWSPAPER ARTICLE<sup>1</sup>

### Key Learning Points

#### News Report

• The key elements of a News Report are:

#### 1. Headline

- > Catches your attention
- Sums up the story





#### 2. Byline

- Writer's name
- Writer's Specialty, e.g. sports, food, crime, current events

#### 3. Placeline

Where the story begins



#### 4. Lead

- > The opening section
- Gives most important information
- Should answer most of the 5W's

#### 5. Body

- Supplies detail
- Most important details come first
- > Simple true statements





#### 6. Quotation

- What someone actually said
- Adds accuracy
- > Adds "at the scene" feeling

<sup>1</sup> Retrieved from:

# Key Learning Points

## News Report - An example



Car thief caught trapped in target vehicle

Jim Day, Staff Reporter 4 Wed Feb 25, 2009 Byline (name of author)

#### Placeline

CANBERRA - A bungling Australian car thief was nabbed after accidentally locking himself in the vehicle he was trying to steal, police said Wednesday.

#### Lead

- catches reader interest,
- most important info
- introduces topic
- answers most of the 5W's

Police were called to a house in Adelaide after two thieves were heard trying to steal a car. On arrival they were surprised to find a 53-year old man hiding inside the vehicle.

Quotation

"The man, while breaking into the car, had locked himself in the car and couldn't get out," South Australian police said, adding a second thief was found hiding in nearby bushes.

Body

