# Writing a News Article

Learning Goal: I will write a news report based on the murder and confession in *Tell Tale Heart*.

**You must include factual information from the novel, but you can add information**

**to meet the requirements of a news article.**

1. **Headline** 🡪 A news article headline should contain some of the following elements:

* Short, snappy phrases
* Puns, or plays on words
* An element of intrigue

2. News reports are written in a **factual tone**, stating the events. The reporter does not state his/her personal opinion.

3. A **lead** is the opening of a news report. It contains a clear statement of what happened. It is often a **catchy** statement in order to get the reader interested in reading further. It must also include all relevant information: **Who? What? When? Where? Why? How?** Some of this information may be factual, but much of it will be interpretation of information or speculation as to what may have happened. You may create any information that is not present in the story (location, names, etc.).

5. News reports are divided into short **paragraphs**. Begin a new paragraph for each new speaker.

6. Reporters interview witnesses or experts and add **quotations** in their exact words.

7. News reports are **organized** with the most recent or important information near the beginning followed by **background information** or extra details that the reader needs for understanding.

8. An important element is the accompanying photograph. Have fun with this!

\*\* Should be approximately 200-400 words in length and it needs to be typed.

**DUE DATE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

(see rubric on reverse)