

The Online News Article Genre - Input

1. Take a look at the definitions below and complete them with the words in the box. Then, complete the third column with examples from the article *Beware the Brexit bots: The Twitter spam out to swing your vote*.

body byline headline hyperlink language lead subheadline supporting information

| FEATURES | DEFINITIONS ¹ | EXAMPLE FROM THE ARTICLE |
|--------------------|--|--|
| Language | It is always formal. The journalist writes it using journalistic language (e.g. <i>said/says, claimed/claims, affirmed/affirms, etc.</i>) rather than informal and personal ones (<i>I think, I agree, In my opinion, 2nite, 4 u, etc.</i>) | <i>suggests; say Howard and Kollanyi; identified; researchers are increasingly concerned; the referendum sampled; they found</i> |
| Headline | It is a short text that indicates the nature and topic of the article. It is usually in bold and always comes before the text. | <i>Beware the Brexit bots: The Twitter spam out to swing your vote</i> |
| Subheadline | It comes right after the <i>headline</i> or before the paragraphs (body), separating them in groups of specific information. | <i>Ignore the ballot bots</i> |
| Lead | It is usually a paragraph that summarizes the content addressed in the text. It answers most or all the 5W1H (<i>who, what, where, when, why, how</i>) | <i>Paragraph 1</i> |
| Body | It is composed of paragraphs addressing the facts and supporting information. | <i>Paragraphs 2, 3, and 4.</i> |

¹ The definitions provided in the chart were adapted from the following articles: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/News_style#Feature_style; <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Headline>; https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Five_Ws; <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Byline>; <https://www.thoughtco.com/how-to-write-a-news-article-1857250>; and <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hypertext>.

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|-------------------------------|--|--|
| Hyperlink | It is a text with interconnected to another text that can be easily activated by a mouse click or touching the screen. | Note: the selected paragraphs do not bring any kind of hyperlinks. However, a complete version on the text provides some of them. |
| Byline | It shows the name of the writer. It may appear between the body and the headline or at the end of the article. | By Chris Baraniuk |
| Supporting information | The information used to support the main facts, crucial information provided. | <i>Paragraphs 3 and 4.</i> |

2. According to the features presented in the chart from Activity 1, would you say that the text you have read is a real online article and has valid information? Justify your answer based on the definitions provided above. (Answers may vary. Consider students' answers as long as they justify their ideas and are coherent. Note that, for some students, the article they have read may not pose as an online article only because it does not provide any examples of hyperlinks. If this is the case in your lesson, consider highlighting the fact that in a complete version of the text such elements can be found. Finally, remind them that, for editorial reasons, some online newspapers and magazines might omit or provide different features of said genre.)