Newspaper Article Analysis

I.   Introduce the article
1. Name the *title* of the article.
2. If there is a *byline*, say who the *author* of the article is, what his/her qualifications are, *where* and *when* the article was published.
3. Name the *topic* of the article.
4. Name the *message* of the article, if there is one.

II.   Summarize the article

III.   Analyze and interpret the article

1. Article genre
   - *Is there article under analysis a (straight) news story, a (straight) feature story or a featurized news story? Why?*

2. Articles structure and unity:
1) Headline:
   - *What is the purpose of the headline?*
   - *Is the headline straightforward or teasing? Why?*
   - *Are there any grammatical/lexical/graphic peculiarities in the headline? If yes, how can you account for them?*
2) Lead:
   - *Is it a direct lead summarizing the story's essential facts (who, what, when, where, why and how) ?*
   - *Or is it a delayed lead (an anecdote, a shocking or startling statement, a generalization, description, a quote, a question, a comparison, etc.) enticing the reader into the story by hinting at its contents?*
3) Body of the article:
   - *Does the body of the article mainly contain details on the information given in the lead? Is it written in the 'inverted pyramid' form?*
   - *Or is it a sequence of plot events united by the main theme and the message / a first-person narration about the author's own experience?*
   - *Is it written in the quote/transitional way?*
   - *Does the story have a thread?*
4) *End:*
   - *Does the story end with less important information (in comparison with the lead)?*
   - *Or does it end with a conclusion wrapping up the story/a strong quotation/a surprising climax?*

3. Comment on **graphology and punctuation** of the article**.** Are there any peculiarities? If yes, what is the purpose of their use?

4. Comment on the **language, vocabulary and style** of the article. Are there any peculiarities? If yes, what is the purpose of their use?

5. Illustrations and captions and their function (s).

IV.   Conclusion
1. The author's attitude and purpose in writing the article.
   - *Can you 'hear' the voice of the author? What is it used for?*
2. Your ideas and attitudes.