

## INTRODUIRE UN DOCUMENT (N Saint-Jean & K Thiévin)

Les questions ci-dessous sont utiles pour bien cerner le document étudié et pouvoir l'introduire à l'écrit et à l'oral.

	HELP (methodology –examples)
Type of document?	Ex: This document is an article taken from The Guardian, a British newspaper.
WHEN/WHY was the article written? What is the context?	<p>It is not just about the date but mainly about the specific event that triggered the article.</p> <p>Ex: It was written <i>in the wake of hurricane Katrina - before the vote of a new policy - on the anniversary of the beginning of WW1 - in reaction to/following Obama's statement</i></p>
WHAT is it about?	<p>Use the following prompts:</p> <p>The main topic is... - It deals with... - It is about... - It tackles the issue of ... - It focuses on...</p>
WHERE? And what is the SCOPE of the article?	<p>Mention the specific place the article deals with, if any, and see if the discussion is limited to this place:</p> <p>Ex: <i>It is about trigger warnings <u>on American campuses</u> and a <u>global</u> rise in attacks on freedom of speech.</i></p> <p>- a local issue - a worldwide phenomenon - a western issue - at a global scale</p>
WHO wrote it?	<p>It is not just about giving the commentator's name. Is there anything you learn about him/her that is relevant to the issue at stake and helps inform the tone and viewpoint of the commentator?</p> <p>Ex: <i>Emma, a 16-year-old Scottish girl, gives her opinion on lowering the voting age.</i></p> <p><i>JB, a former adviser to the Bush administration, discusses the new security policies that have been voted.</i></p> <p><i>Barack Obama, the former US President, reacts to Trump's decision to withdraw from the Paris agreement.</i></p> <p><i>Peter Bradshaw, who seems to be the newspaper's film critic, reviews La La Land and tries to account for its popularity.</i></p>

POINT of VIEW and TONE?

**The point of view** can be **fact-based** – the journalist mostly gives facts and quotes a variety of sources – or **opinion-based**, which means the article can be an opinion piece / an editorial in which the journalist/ commentator is biased / subjective / partial and clearly takes a stand.

The article might misrepresent / exaggerate / distort / play down an issue.

The commentator might warn readers about an issue / aim to raise awareness about an issue / take a stand in favour of something / ...

**The style** can be humorous, witty, light, ironic, serious, dramatic, ...

**The tone** can be rather neutral or on the contrary it can be ironic / sarcastic / critical / ...

Identifiez aussi comment le document est construit, quel plan il suit.

### > What is the outline of the document?

Common outlines:

- a) Anecdote first and discussion of a bigger issue
- b) Issue, causes and consequences, potential solutions
- c) Recent event (political decision, law etc.) and reactions (pros and cons)
- d) Description of a new phenomenon / historical background / opinion on its future evolution

Une fois ces repérages faits, vous pouvez introduire le document.

EX 1 : On the 200th anniversary of the writing of Frankenstein, the science correspondent for the New York Times, an American newspaper, **wonders why** scientists and people worldwide are still fascinated by this story. **First** the journalist **reminds** readers **of** the original story and **then explains** why it has influenced both scientists and popular culture ever since.

**To start with, let's** sum up what the book was about.

EX 2 : 2018 marks the 200th anniversary of Frankenstein. **In this article from** the American newspaper The New York Times, the journalist **reviews** the original story and the enduring legacy of the myth, both for scientists and people worldwide.

**First I will sum up** the original story and **then I will analyse** the impact it has had in the scientific field and more generally on people's perception of science and progress.

EX 3 : **This article from** the American newspaper The New York Times dates back to January 2018 and **was published** 200 years after Frankenstein was written. This special anniversary leads the journalist to **focus on** the original story so as to try to account for the fact that it is still very influential today. Therefore my presentation will be three-fold: **first**, I will review the story; **second**, I will describe its impact in the scientific field; and **third**, I will analyse how it has profoundly shaped popular views of science.