

## Parts of a News Report

The structure of a **News Report** follows a specific structure. The parts of this structure are identified and defined below:

### Headline:

The Headline is the title of the article which is made up of 10 words or less. This title has two purposes: to introduce the topic of the article and to capture the readers' interest, usually through controversial wording.

### Subheading:

The Subheading, which is not always included in an article, expands upon the Headline's content, if needed.

### By-line:

The by-line includes the article's author's name, and sometimes that person's occupation.

### Summary Lead:

The Summary Lead consists of the first paragraph, the 1-2 sentences consisting of less than 30 words that begin an article. The content of this paragraph consists of the 5WH (who, what, where, when, why, and how) of the article.

### Fact-based Paragraphs:

The remainder of the article consists of short paragraphs that expand on the 5WH mentioned in the Summary Lead and include quotations from key people involved in or related to the article. The content of these paragraphs is fact-based and organised from most to least important, so that the editor can cut the bottom paragraphs out if needed.

### Girl confessed in mom's death, court told

Recants videotaped statement

*Natalie Alcoba STAFF WRITER*

A **Mississauga teenager** accused of drowning her mother in a bathtub confessed she first considered getting her drunk enough to pass out on a bed so she could set it on fire, a court heard yesterday.

Instead, the teen crafted a plan that "was just a lot less messy" and which involved holding her alcoholic mother's head underwater for four minutes, the girl said on secretly recorded conversations that were shown in a Brampton courtroom yesterday.

"It was either me or [my mother] and I'm younger so I saw myself as having more potential," the young woman, who is now 19 years old, was heard saying on the videotapes.

The girl and her 18-year-old sister have pleaded not guilty to first-degree murder in the death of their 44-year-old mother on Jan. 18, 2003. The drowning was first ruled accidental. The girls were 15 and 16 years old at the time, but were not charged until more than a year later. They elected to stand trial in front of a judge without a jury.

The sisters, who are out on bail, cannot be named under the Youth Criminal Justice Act. The identities of others -- including their mother -- who would identify them also cannot be disclosed.

In his opening statement, Deputy Crown Attorney Michael Cantlon claimed both sisters "planned the deliberate death of their mother" by having the intoxicated woman consume Tylenol 3 and helping her into a bathtub.