News Story Analysis Worksheet

Directions: Using the news story provided, analyse the content to learn more about the topic as well as the process of writing an informational news story. Be as specific as possible with all of your answers, referring back to the news story in your answers when appropriate.  
1. What was the headline for the story? Michael Jackson’s doctor found guilty of involuntary manslaughter  
2. Discuss the effectiveness of the headline in summarizing the story and getting the reader’s attention. Tells it exactly how it is.  
3. Briefly describe the factual content of the story related to the lead: 5 W’s and the H.  
• Who: Dr. Conrad Murray  
• What: Involuntary manslaughter  
• When: 7th November 2011  
• Where: U.S court  
• Why: Giving his patient a lethal dose and a lack of care.  
• How: Leaving his patient alone for 30-45minutes after giving him a high dose.  
4. How did the end of the story summarize the main ideas and provide closure for the reader? Told us what has finally happened, the ending of the ‘bullshit’  
5. Facts in a news story are supposed to be arranged from most to least important. Do you believe the author did this effectively? Why? No, the larger facts came following more to the end of the story, then of almost no relation at the end of it.  
6. Writing style is important in keeping those reading and listening to the story engaged. Comment on the use of the following throughout this story:  
• active voice – Yes, used quiet a-bit throughout the story.  
• precise, concise wording – Yes, it was easy to read, precise at the start, until about ¾ way when it went onto old cases to do with the deceased.  
• interesting and varied word choices – The wording used in this piece, was good, kept it an interesting read.  
• unbiased reporting – I believe the writer was for Dr. Conrad Murray, with the ending, bringing up the deceased’s bad history in court.  
7. Discuss the accuracy of the facts used in the story. How do you know that the sources used were reliable and accurate? Provide specific examples. The use of quotes from the actually case, closing statements for the defence and prosecution and witnesses.  
8. In what way did the use of quotations….  
• add to the credibility of the story? A-little in this case, the defence and prosecutions quotations made it more credible.  
• make the story more interesting? It did, as they were the most interesting parts.  
10. present differing points of view about the topic? They quoted both sides of the court case.

9.Comment on the use of visuals and other links to this article. How they provide a more comprehensive coverage A picture of Dr. Murray, it, didn’t add anything for me.