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? Change of police tactics disrupt organised crime gangs
2. Discuss the effectiveness of the headline in summarizing the story and getting the reader’s attention. The headline is quiet effective, gives a brief understanding in a few words.
3. Briefly describe the factual content of the story related to the lead: 5 W’s and the H.
• Who: Victoria Police crime department chief Graham Ashton and Organised Crime
• What: Cracking down, new tactics to disrupt and stop Organised crime
• When: 4th November 2011 was date of article, taskforces where set up earlier this year.
• Where: Northern and Western Suburbs – Soon the southern – eg. Frankston and Dandenong.
• Why: Disrupt, and stop organised crime.
• How: Using all aspects of the police force, in task groups to stop and halt any growth and minimize and stop them completely.
4. How did the end of the story summarize the main ideas and provide closure for the reader? It summarized the piece well, something is being done about the crime in victoria, and they are doing it quickly, and to the point.
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? The author has done this well, as it goes from one point to the next, clearly and making it knowledgeable, no facts or statements where really less important than other facts.
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 – Quotes from Chief Graham Ashton are throughout the article.
• precise, concise wording -
• interesting and varied word choices – A-few, but they suited well making them seem like the rest, nothing really stood out, making anything exaggerated or powerful.
• unbiased reporting – About victoria police cracking down successfully on organised crime, so it is on the side of Victoria police.
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. They are quotes from Chief Graham Ashton, on new tactics, something one doesn’t crap on about in such a position of responsibility.
8. In what way did the use of quotations….
• add to the credibility of the story? It added a lot to the article, and due to whom he had quoted.
• make the story more interesting? It was interesting enough, good to know they have actually started making an advance on crime.
10. present differing points of view about the topic? Nothing to present, its good they have knuckled down, they could be doing it a lot harder, and having the problem solved quick smart.

9.Comment on the use of visuals and other links to this article. How they provide a more comprehensive coverage - Table of firearms, along a table, of all calibres, from recent raids on outlaw motorcycle gangs

-11. What 3 questions would you use to lead a discussion of this article? How much strain are these tactics causing these gangs? – How dangerous will it make it, when they need to act more desperately to maintain their growth? – Is there a plan made to end it altogether in a quick, effective strike?

12. What do you think of this article? Interesting.