TYPES OF NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

Hard News -- Concerns a recent event and basically reveals the who, what, where, when and how. These stories are extremely fact-based, with eyewitness quotes.

Soft News -- Typically concerns an older news story. Perhaps is an update of events or offers a "fresh" angle. Sometimes, soft news stories are difficult to distinguish from feature articles.

Feature -- Non news event related stories. Typically don't reveal 5 w's, the tone is less formal and can usually be categorized into one of the following topics:

> **Personality/Human Interest** -- Deals with an interview or biography of a celebrity, or tells and interesting story about an average citizen who's made an important accomplishment.

> **Informative** -- Perhaps a historical story or deals with a medical, technical or scientific topic. Can also include stories about businesses or organizations. The basic requirement is that the article "inform" or "educate" the reader.

> **Entertainment** -- Usually deals with humor but also includes entertainment reviews.

Opinion/Editorial -- Clearly delivers one person's (the writer) viewpoint on a given subject.

Assignment: Using   newspapers   , carefully clip news articles for each of the above story categories. Make sure you clip neatly, then tape (neatly again) to a blank sheet of paper. Don't leave any parts of the article hanging over the edges of the paper, use the backside if necessary. Clearly label the story category at the top of the page.

Next, on a separate sheet of paper, write the following for each category:
> 1. A 1-2 sentence synopsis of the article
> 2. An explanation of why the article fits in its particular category
> 3. Whether you found this article interesting and why.

Be thorough in your explanations because you will be called upon to explain your reasons.