

# Essential Articles

## General ideas



- Write a letter to the author of an article someone mentioned in an article a newspaper about a topic or particular incident
- Tape an interview with someone featured in an article.
- Colour code an article according to different features by highlighting in different colours:  
items of information  
opinions  
facts and figures  
personal experiences
- Imagine you are preparing a new section for Essential Articles. Choose a topic and outline the type of articles you would like to include.
- Use the articles to prepare a booklet on a topic for a younger age group eg 12 year olds.
- Prepare a set of questions to go with any article for a specific lesson eg Year 7 English.
- Write a personal statement about a controversial issue in Essential Articles. Headline it 'I believe...'

### GROUP WORK

- Groups are given different articles on the same topic. Each group analyses and criticises their article then makes a presentation. Afterwards groups can discuss the accuracy of the presentation.
- Before reading the articles the group brainstorms a topic from Essential Articles and makes a pattern note. The group then explores the relevant section of Essential Articles expanding the pattern note.
- The group uses a set of articles as the basis for 2 posters which give differing views of a topic.
- The group discusses a set of articles ranking them according to different criteria eg informative? entertaining? unbiased? clear? effective?
- Prepare a TV programme or podcast on a topic including interviews, comments, dramatisations based on a set of articles.
- Sequencing: an article is duplicated then the paragraphs are cut up. In reconstructing the right order students must examine the way an argument is built up, as well as linguistic clues.
- Cloze technique: an article is duplicated with words blanked out (eg every 10th word or all adverbs). Students must examine carefully the vocabulary of the article as well as linguistic and structural clues.