

Pupil A, Briar: an online news blog reporting on events in Ukraine

Context: After studying newspaper reports, pupils were asked to write a report based on an incident of their creation which led to the inconvenience of local people.

Pupil A chose to centre their news report around the war in Ukraine and structure it as a live blog, giving readers updates in real time. They conducted extensive independent research to ensure names and places were accurate and also crafted some fictional aspects, presented as if true. This is an extract from their longer piece.

6 Seconds ago: Zelensky directs speech at UN

President Zelensky has addressed UN officials asking for further support in the form of military aid. The plea comes after heavy bombing on what was thought to be a Ukrainian strong-hold over night, and an attack on a primary school, demonstrating the true volatility of the situation. "We must continue to fight against evil for Ukraine but also for the future of democracy," he stated in his emotional address from the presidential office in Ukraine's capital city, Kiev.

5 minutes ago: Death toll rises

The number of deaths as a consequence of attacks on several Ukrainian buildings, including a primary school, has now risen to 96, with a further 300 civilians injured. Boris Johnson has taken to Twitter to condemn the attacks, referring to them as heartless and cruel.

12 minutes ago: What is Putin's next move?

Sources on the ground in Moscow have shared information which claims Putin has given the green light for nuclear weapons to be put on standby. Analyst Jacob Jones explains, "This is a significant development and one not to be underestimated. The UK and other western countries are becoming increasingly nervous of full-scale nuclear attack. The pact agreement signed by countries, including Russia, prohibited any use of nuclear weapons. Doing so could see the UK and its allies forced into direct military action. To be clear: if Russia presses the nuclear button, so to speak, the west will have to respond."

Pupil A, Briar: a saga style narrative

Context: Pupils were tasked with writing a narrative involving conflict. Pupil A drew on their prior learning, additional independent research and their memories of reading 'The Saga of Erik the Viking' by Terry Jones to inspire this piece. The following are two short extracts from a longer piece.

Before the first glimmers of morning light hit the earth's surface, Captain Madara of the Uchiha clan had summoned a meeting in the secret hideout nestled between the trees. Tension filled the air, palpable. Between Madara's commands, a momentary silence that no one dared fill. He continued, "As you know, my honorable brother, Izuna Uchiha has been mercilessly murdered at the hands of Hashitama's men. Today we avenge. Kill or be killed. Approach this battle with as little care for the wellbeing of Hashitama's men as he himself had shown my brother." Madara's eyes were steely with determination and rimmed with sadness. His clan hung off his every word; Madara was a seasoned leader, all respected him and dutifully followed any command he set forth.

The grass, now a sea of red, was more a mortuary than a field. Both clans were having their strongest, fiercest men slaughtered. The ground was awash with grievous fighters, now laying limp and lifeless. The two greatest tribes in existence were both taking significant hits and numbers of men left fighting were waning.

All of a sudden, silence befall. Madara trampled over his own and foe's deceased clan members towards Hashitama. He and Hashitama stood face to face in the centre of the battlefield.

Words spilled out from Hashitama's mouth "So your arrival has finally come, Sir Madara."