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| **Criteria** | **Above** | **Expected** | **Below** |
| *Science content* | Newspaper article clearly demonstrates how sudden geological changes can affect the Earth’s surface. Earthquake is located in Australia or nearby country. Details earthquake measurement and all government plans and assistance required.  | Newspaper article demonstrates how sudden geological changes can affect the Earth’s surface. Clear link to an Earthquake striking Australia, Asia or nearby countries. Describes how earthquake was measured and any natural disaster management schemes used to minimise effects. | Newspaper article partially shows changes that affect Earth’s surface. Earthquake location not specified or close to Australia. Measurement strategy not clear and minimal assistance discussed. |
| *Science understanding* | Article distinctly demonstrates how science is used to solve problems that affect peoples’ lives. Uses scientific knowledge to justify government decisions made in text.  | Newspaper article reflects how scientific understandings are used to solve problems that directly affect peoples’ lives. Reflects scientific knowledge being used to inform community decisions.  | Article does not clearly reflect the use of science to solve problems. Does not clearly reflect scientific knowledge being used to inform decisions made.  |
| *Ideas and information in texts* | Selection, organisation and combination of ideas create an informative and interesting article. Text captures and retains attention, while informing reader. Picture/s support.  | Selection, organisation and combination of ideas to develop an informative newspaper article. Text captures attention and has enough detail to inform.Choice of picture supports article.  | Selection, organisation and combination of ideas create a newspaper article. Text does not maintain attention, not enough detail to inform. Picture unsupportive |
| *Text structure* | Text structures enhance article. Appropriate layout, paragraphs well designed and headline captures attention.  | Text structures (headline, paragraphs, layout) are used to develop an informative article. Font type and size are appropriate. | Text structures are not used effectively. In appropriate design of article.  |
| *Language features* | All language features and images combine well to inform the reader. Selection of language creates an informative article. Use of layout and visual and written features of the event reinforce what happened. Punctuation, grammar and spelling accurate.  | Language features and images are used to inform the reader. Careful selection of subjective language, high modality word groups, precise verbs, elaborated tenses. Use of layout and visual and written features about an event. Punctuation, grammar and spelling mostly accurate. | Language features are not used effectively. Selection of language features not careful or thoughtful. Layout inappropriate. Many punctuation, grammar and spelling errors.  |