

SCIE3001 – Tute 1

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Straight news report

GAMBLERS from some of Brisbane's poorest suburbs are being bussed in to play bingo staged by one of the city's most prestigious private schools.

St Joseph's Nudgee College, where fees are up to \$10,500 a year (\$20,000 for international students), has been one of the state's biggest bingo operators for 30 years.

It runs six sessions a week, attracting crowds of up to 600, with most of the profits funding school building projects.

Many players come on free buses that ferry them door-to-door from suburbs that include some of the lowest socio-economic areas in the region such as Inala, Acacia Ridge, Woodridge, Deception Bay and Caboolture.

It has been defended by the school as a chance for people, especially the elderly, to enjoy a social activity at a low cost.

But it has drawn criticism from social service advocates and politicians who say the money would be better spent in those areas.

"Many Queenslanders are socially isolated and that can impact greatly on people's lives. Bingo can provide an enjoyable social activity," said Jenny Whitworth, policy manager with Queensland Council of Social Service.

"However, we would say that schools and charities in those lower socio-economic areas would benefit more from the funds being raised."

Nudgee College principal Daryl Hanly said its bingo tickets were relatively cheap and nearly a third of the total profits came from drink and snack sales at the college's unlicensed bingo canteen.

"Our patrons are also attracted to Nudgee College Bingo because they understand that profits ... are either used to fund building works and other programs, or, to a lesser extent, to assist various charities and clubs," he said

Let's break it down – intro/lead

GAMBLERS from some of Brisbane's poorest suburbs are being bussed in to play bingo staged by one of the city's most prestigious private schools.

GAMBLERS (**who**) from some of Brisbane's poorest suburbs (**where**) are being bussed in (**how**) to play bingo (**what**) staged by one of the city's most prestigious private schools (**who**).

What else can we learn from the **intro**?

It has 24 words

- MOST NEWS PARAGRAPHS (what most people call sentences) ARE **LESS THAN 30 WORDS**
- **WHY** DO YOU THINK THAT IS?

- BECAUSE THAT IS AS LONG AS MOST PEOPLE CAN GO WITHOUT TAKING A BREATH/ MENTAL BREAK
- INTRO ALSO SAYS **JUST ENOUGH** TO GET AN AUDIENCE INTERESTED ... AND WANT TO KEEP READING.

PARAGRAPHS 2-4

- St Joseph's Nudgee College (**who**), where fees are up to \$10,500 a year (\$20,000 for international students) (**what**), has been one of the state's biggest bingo operators (**what**) for 30 years (**when**).
- It runs six sessions a week, attracting crowds of up to 600, (**what x 2**) with most of the profits funding school building projects (**why**).
- Many players (**who**) come on free buses that ferry them door-to-door from suburbs that include some of the lowest socio-economic areas in the region such as Inala, Acacia Ridge, Woodridge, Deception Bay and Caboolture (**where**).

- These paragraphs also fit neatly into the top of the Inverted Pyramid by supporting and adding further detail to the intro.

PARAGRAPHS 5-8

- It has been defended by the school as a chance for people, especially the elderly, to enjoy a social activity at a low cost. (One side of the story)
- But it has drawn criticism from social service advocates and politicians who say the money would be better spent in those areas. (The other side of the story)

ALSO INTRODUCES THE FIRST SOURCE/ATTRIBUTION

- "Many Queenslanders are socially isolated and that can impact greatly on people's lives. Bingo can provide an enjoyable social activity," said Jenny Whitworth, policy manager with Queensland Council of Social Service.
- "However, we would say that schools and charities in those lower socio-economic areas would benefit more from the funds being raised."

CLOSE QUOTES

PARAGRAPHS 9-10

INTRODUCES SECOND SOURCE/ (BALANCE)

PARAPHRASE VIEW, THEN QUOTE.

Nudgee College principal Daryl Hanly said **its (singular)** bingo tickets were relatively cheap and nearly a third of the total profits came from drink and snack sales at the college's unlicensed bingo canteen.

"Our patrons are also attracted to Nudgee College Bingo because they understand that profits ... are either used to fund building works and other programs, or, to a lesser extent, to assist various charities and clubs," **he said**

THIS IS HOW YOU CLOSE QUOTES WITH PARAPHRASED SOURCE INTRODUCTION

Science communication in action – step 1 – abstract from Nature

- <http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/vaop/ncurrent/full/nature12439.html>

Step 2 –media release from Uni of Melbourne

- <http://newsroom.melbourne.edu/news/advanced-technology-reveals-new-epilepsy-genes>

Which led to - Step 3

- CBS News: http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-204_162-57598179/researchers-find-new-epilepsy-genes-hope-treatments-will-follow/
- NineMSN: <http://news.ninemsn.com.au/health/2013/08/12/03/08/research-delivers-answers-on-epilepsy>

Exercise

- Read the abstract *Are Calcium Supplements Harmful to Cardiovascular Disease?* from JAMA Internal Medicine, and the media release prepared to accompany it.
- See if you can write, or at least start to write, a 600 word story suitable for publication in the mainstream media.
- Remember issues such as structure, news value and the need to engage an audience with the most important and interesting information at the start of your story.

Examples

Here are some news stories resulting from the study.

- <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-2273499/High-doses-calcium-supplements-raise-mens-heart-risk-20.html>
- <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/health/healthnews/9847501/High-dose-calcium-increases-heart-disease-deaths.html>
- <http://abcnews.go.com/Health/HeartHealth/calcium-pills-hurt-mens-hearts/story?id=18409085>