

Feedback on "Flowers Laid on the Grave: America says 'Goodbye' to its President"

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph)

Strengths: Your opening paragraph establishes the key information effectively, introducing the who, what, when and where of the news event. Your inclusion of a specific date and location adds credibility to your reporting.

Weakness: Inconsistent details → Your writing contains contradictory information about the president's gender, referring to President Gertrude Reaper as both "his" and "her" in different places. For example, you mention "his passing" and later refer to "President Gertrude" which is typically a female name. This creates confusion for readers and undermines the reliability of your reporting.

Exemplar: *On Sunday, March 16th, the Presidential Grave in New York City opened its gates to hundreds of mourners following the passing of President Gertrude Reaper at the age of one hundred. Detectives have stated that her death appears to be the result of homicide, with the culprit yet to be apprehended.*

#2 (Third paragraph)

Strengths: You've included emotional quotes that humanise the president through family memories, which adds a personal dimension to your news article. The varied perspectives (family, public, government) provide a comprehensive view of reactions.

Weakness: Repetitive phrasing → Your writing repeats similar ideas in quick succession, particularly when describing reactions to the president's death. The phrase "They are not the only ones feeling the grief" followed immediately by "no one is not missing President G. Reaper" creates redundancy. Additionally, the final clause "as they watch his grave" feels awkwardly placed and doesn't add meaningful information.

Exemplar: *"Gertrude was always a kind sister," her sibling shared during the memorial. "When we received news of her election, we were bursting with joy." Her elderly father added, "She was always compassionate, and her mother would have been so proud. I loved her dearly." The public and government officials alike expressed similar sentiments of loss for a president many described as compassionate and unique.*

#3 (Final paragraph)

Strengths: Your conclusion attempts to summarise the significance of the event and leaves readers with a final impression of the president's impact. You've kept it concise which is appropriate for a news article.

Weakness: Underdeveloped content → Your conclusion lacks specific details about President Reaper's contributions or legacy, instead using vague statements about "honouring the contributions" without elaborating what these were. The final sentence feels incomplete with the phrase "this is heartfelt" leaving readers wondering what specifically "this" refers to.

Exemplar: *The funeral of Gertrude Reaper marked a solemn day of national remembrance, honouring her specific contributions to healthcare reform and diplomatic relations during her presidency. Though the circumstances of her death remain tragic, the ceremony brought together citizens from across political divides, reflecting the deep impact of her leadership on the American public.*

■ Your piece falls short of addressing the actual prompt requirements, which asked for a news article about an event in another country with information about its importance, effects on people, and international response. Instead, you've written about a fictional American president's funeral without addressing these key elements. Your article would benefit greatly from establishing why this event matters internationally and how other nations are responding. Also, your writing contains several inconsistencies with the president's gender and factual details that undermine its credibility. You could improve by restructuring to include a paragraph about international reactions and the global significance of this presidency. Additionally, developing the fourth paragraph to explain the investigation in more detail would give readers more substantive information about this major political event. To strengthen your piece, focus on maintaining consistent details throughout and providing more specific information about the president's achievements and legacy.

Section 2:

Flowers Laid on the Grave: America says 'Goodbye' to its President*Hundreds gather to say a heartfelt goodbye to President G. Reaper after ~~his~~ [her death.]* Gurfateh Singh
Monday 17th March 2035 6.50 AEDT

#1 On Sunday, March 16th, the Presidential Grave in New York City opened its gates to hundreds of mourners as the nation experienced the passing of President Gertrude Reaper at the age of a hundred years old. Detectives have said that ~~his~~ [her] passing was the result of a homicide, and the culprit is yet to be apprehended. As a prominent political figure ~~his~~ [her] family grieves ~~his~~ [her] tragic death and has ~~organised~~ [organised] a public funeral to honour the memory of Hon. Gertrude Reaper.

In 2035, President Gertrude was laid to rest in a solemn ceremony ~~organized~~ [organised] by members of the government and ~~his~~ [her] family. The event was neatly arranged, with the president's grave placed at the center of the graveyard. The venue was impressive, attracting many visitors who paid their respects by laying flowers and medallions of honour upon ~~his~~ [her] grave. Outside the graveyard, food and donation drives were available for the public, maintaining respect towards the occasion. According to many it was the 'funeral of a lifetime' and a 'lavish burial site.'

#2 A stage was set up where ~~his~~ [her] family said heartfelt words to Hon. G. Reaper at noon in ~~his~~ [her] loving memory. "Gertrude was always a kind brother," ~~his~~ [her] sister said, "when we got the news ~~he~~ [she] was elected, we were bursting with joy." "The boy was always kind, and ~~his~~ [her] mother would have been so proud of ~~him~~ [her]. I loved ~~him~~ [her] greatly," ~~his~~ [her] father added. They are not the only ones feeling the grief; the public found Gertrude to be a ~~compassionate~~ [compassionate] and one-of-a-kind president. Members of the Government also expressed their opinions— and no one is not missing President G. Reaper as they watch ~~his~~ [her] grave.

The cause of this significant event remains unknown. Detectives suspect it was a homicide based on the multiple stab wounds on the victim's torso, but this theory has not yet been confirmed. Investigators are still working to piece together what happened, scouring for as many clues as possible. Meanwhile, many are mourning over the death of Gertrude Reaper, hoping that detectives will shed some light on this case.

#3 The funeral of Gertrude Reaper is an event to remember, honouring the contributions of the USA's President. Although sudden and formal, this is heartfelt, touching the emotions of the public.