

exercise 3

PUBLIC AFFAIRS REPORTING

Assume that the police department for your city released the following report of a traffic accident. Write a story that summarizes the accident. On the companion website you will find a sheet that explains the numerical codes used in the accident report. Following the report is some additional information. You may assume you obtained the additional information from interviews with the identified sources. Passages in quotation marks may be used as direct quotations.

**Additional Information
for Accident Story**

Ruth Herwarthe, witness: "The car seemed to come over the hill just this side of 44th Street and for a moment it seemed to be airborne. Then when it hit ground, that's when it seemed to go out of control. In a flash it was over the curb and then it hit my tree so hard I thought it was going to knock it over. Two of the kids in the car were hurt pretty bad. I think the girl hit the windshield with her head. Her face was all bloody and she wasn't moving. One of the boys was hurt bad enough he couldn't walk. The other boy—I don't know if he was the driver—seemed just fine."

Barry Kopperud, police chief: "Nicole Ping was in the back seat and was not wearing a seat belt. The force of the impact propelled her into the windshield, which she struck head first. She was not responsive at the scene of the accident and was taken to Sacred Heart Hospital at 3:45 p.m. She was pronounced dead

about an hour later. The driver, Anthony Gould, was also taken to the hospital. I understand he's been released but did receive serious injuries. Gould wasn't wearing a seat belt or shoulder harness, but his airbag did deploy. The third person in the car was Kevin Shadgott. He was the only person wearing a seat belt. Gould had his license revoked two months ago after two previous incidents of negligent and reckless driving. Neither of those incidents resulted in injuries, but one did involve his losing control of the vehicle, leaving the roadway and striking a mailbox."

Information About Nicole Ping

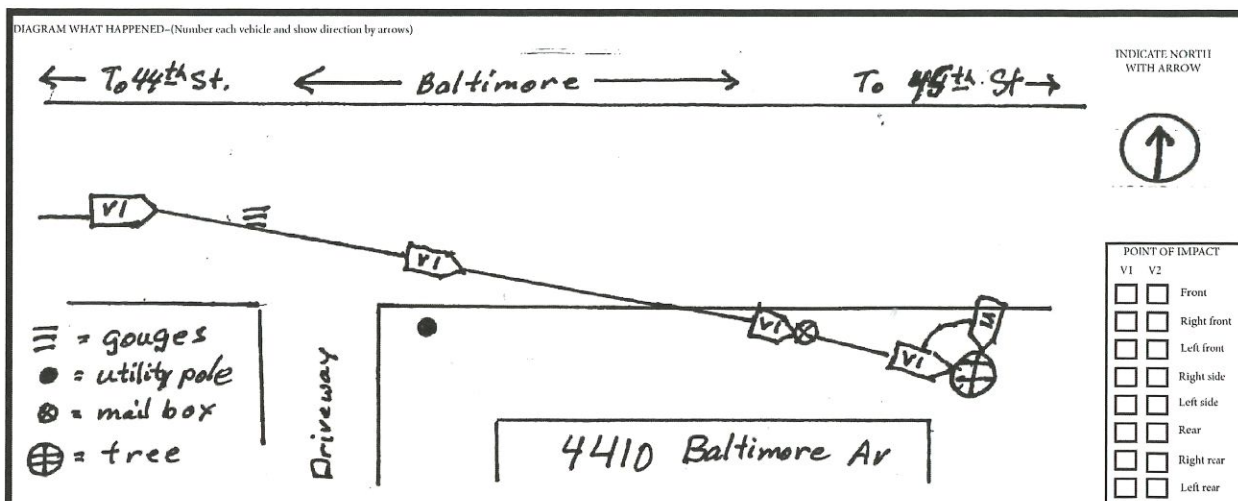
Nicole Ping was a sophomore at Colonial High School. Sara Shepard, the daughter of Frank and Helen Shepard and a close friend of Nicole's said, "I just started screaming when I heard Nicole had died. I can't believe she's gone. We both loved music and science and math. We helped each other and cared for each other. Now she won't be there anymore."

Jeanette Weinstein, a teacher at Colonial, said Nicole was a 4.0 student and was especially strong in mathematics. "She was so bright that there was no topic she could not master. She was just one of the best," Weinstein said.

Louis Ping, Nicole's father, said, "For Nicole's mother and me, the light of our lives has just gone out. The shock and emptiness are beyond words right now. I don't understand what has happened or why it has happened. I just know that life will never be the same."

STATE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT REPORT FORM

TIME & LOCATION	DATE OF ACCIDENT: MO: <u>May</u> DAY: <u>14</u> YEAR: <u>2016</u>		DAY OF WEEK: <u>Thursday</u>		TIME OF DAY: <u>3:25 p.m.</u>															
	COUNTY: <u>Langford</u>		CITY OR TOWN: <u>This city</u>		ACCIDENT REPORT NUMBER: <u>16-00376</u>															
	ROAD ON WHICH ACCIDENT OCCURRED: <u>Baltimore Av.</u>		EXIT RAMP ENTRANCE: <input type="checkbox"/>		AT INTERSECTION WITH: <input type="checkbox"/>															
	IF ACCIDENT WAS OUTSIDE CITY, INDICATE DISTANCE FROM NEAREST CITY OR TOWN: _____		<input type="checkbox"/> FEET <input type="checkbox"/> MILES		<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> W OF: _____															
IF NOT AT INTERSECTION, ACCIDENT WAS: <u>25</u>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FEET <input type="checkbox"/> MILES		<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> E <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W OF: <u>45th Street</u>																
DO NOT WRITE IN ABOVE SPACE																				
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td>TYPE MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT</td> <td>OVERTURNING</td> <td>PARKED MV</td> <td>RAILWAY TRAIN</td> <td>MV IN TRANSPORT</td> <td>OTHER NONCOLLISION</td> <td>MV IN OTHER ROADWAY</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ANIMAL</td> <td>PEDESTRIAN</td> <td>PEDAL CYCLIST</td> <td>FIXED OBJECT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>OTHER OBJECT</td> <td>HIT AND RUN</td> <td>NONCONTACT</td> </tr> </table>							TYPE MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT	OVERTURNING	PARKED MV	RAILWAY TRAIN	MV IN TRANSPORT	OTHER NONCOLLISION	MV IN OTHER ROADWAY	ANIMAL	PEDESTRIAN	PEDAL CYCLIST	FIXED OBJECT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OTHER OBJECT	HIT AND RUN	NONCONTACT
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ANIMAL	PEDESTRIAN	PEDAL CYCLIST	FIXED OBJECT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OTHER OBJECT	HIT AND RUN	NONCONTACT														
TOTAL NO. VEHICLES INVOLVED	YEAR	MAKE	TYPE	LICENSE PLATE	STATE	YEAR	VIN													
	<u>2013</u>	<u>Chrysler</u>	<u>sedan</u>	<u>357 AJK</u>	<u>This</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>1C96KD248DW268946</u>													
VEHICLE 1	AREAS OF VEHICLE DAMAGE		DAMAGE ESTIMATE	AMOUNT (approx.)	SAFETY EQUIPMENT	VEHICLE REMOVED BY:														
	<u>01</u>		<u>5</u>	<u>\$17,000</u>	<u>05</u>	<u>Trendway Towing</u>														
	NAME OF INSURANCE CO. <u>Consolidated Insurance of No. Am.</u>				POLICY NUMBER <u>KYS-3479-6600021</u>															
	OWNER (Type or print full name) <u>Savila & Darlene Gould</u>		ADDRESS <u>4178 N. 11th Av.</u>		CITY and STATE/Zip Code <u>This city</u>															
	DRIVER (Exactly as on driver's license) <u>Anthony K. Gould</u>		ADDRESS <u>4178 N. 11th Av.</u>		CITY and STATE/Zip Code <u>This city</u>															
	OCCUPATION <u>student</u>	Driver's License Type <u>N/A</u>	DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER <u>none</u>	STATE <u>This</u>	DOB (mo/day/yr) <u>05/02/99</u>	RACE <u>C</u>	SEX <u>M</u>	Safety E. <u>05</u>	Eject. <u>01</u>	Injury <u>02</u>										
	OCCUPANTS Name <u>Kevin Shadgott</u>		ADDRESS <u>8471 Chestnut Dr.</u>		AGE <u>17</u>	RACE <u>C</u>	SEX <u>M</u>	Safety E. <u>05</u>	Eject. <u>01</u>	Injury <u>05</u>										
	From Right				AGE	RACE	SEX	Safety E.	Eject.	Injury										
	Rear Left				AGE	RACE	SEX	Safety E.	Eject.	Injury										
	Name <u>Nicole Ping</u>		ADDRESS <u>348 Conroy Rd.</u>		AGE <u>16</u>	RACE <u>C</u>	SEX <u>F</u>	Safety E. <u>01</u>	Eject. <u>01</u>	Injury <u>01</u>										
Rear Right				AGE	RACE	SEX	Safety E.	Eject.	Injury											
VEHICLE 2	YEAR	MAKE	TYPE	LICENSE PLATE	STATE	YEAR	VIN													
	AREAS OF VEHICLE DAMAGE		DAMAGE ESTIMATE	AMOUNT (approx.)	SAFETY EQUIPMENT	VEHICLE REMOVED BY:														
	NAME OF INSURANCE CO.				POLICY NUMBER															
	OWNER (Type or print full name)		ADDRESS		CITY and STATE/Zip Code															
	DRIVER (Exactly as on driver's license)		ADDRESS		CITY and STATE/Zip Code															
	OCCUPATION	Driver's License Type	DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER	STATE	DOB (mo/day/yr)	RACE	SEX	Safety E.	Eject.	Injury										
	OCCUPANTS Name		ADDRESS		AGE	RACE	SEX	Safety E.	Eject.	Injury										
	From Right				AGE	RACE	SEX	Safety E.	Eject.	Injury										
	Rear Left				AGE	RACE	SEX	Safety E.	Eject.	Injury										
Rear Right				AGE	RACE	SEX	Safety E.	Eject.	Injury											
PROPERTY DAMAGE-Other than vehicles <u>tree, mailbox</u>		AMOUNT <u>\$650</u>	OWNER-Name <u>Ruth Herwarthe</u>		ADDRESS-Number and Street <u>4410 Baltimore Av</u>		CITY and STATE/Zip Code <u>This city</u>													
INVESTIGATOR-Name and rank (Signature) <u>Ofc. Julius Tiller</u>				BADGE NO. <u>468</u>	DEPARTMENT <u>Middletown P.D.</u>	DATE OF REPORT <u>4/14/16</u>														



DESCRIBE WHAT HAPPENED--(Refer to vehicles by number)

V1 was traveling eastbound on Baltimore at high rate of speed. After cresting a hill east of 44th V1 bottomed out. V1 then left the roadway striking the south curb of Baltimore before proceeding eastbound through yard of 4410 Baltimore, striking mailbox and tree. Witness Herwarth observed V1 eastbound on Baltimore accelerating rapidly, squealing its tires and revving its engine before V1 lost control and left roadway.

WHAT VEHICLES WERE DOING BEFORE ACCIDENT

VEHICLE No. 1 was traveling On Baltimore Av. at 70 MPH

VEHICLE No. 2 was traveling On _____ at _____ MPH

Vehicle 1: Going straight ahead, Overtaking

Vehicle 2: Starting from parked position, Stopped or parked, Other (Explain above)

WHAT PEDESTRIAN WAS DOING BEFORE ACCIDENT

PEDESTRIAN was going Along, Across or into _____ From _____ to _____

Color of Clothing: Light, Dark

Crossing at intersection, Stepped into path of vehicle, Getting on or off Vehicle, Playing in roadway, Crossing not at intersection, Standing in roadway, Hitching on Vehicle, Other roadway, Walking in roadway-with traffic, Standing in safety zone, Pushing or working on Vehicle, Not in roadway, Walking in roadway-against traffic, Lying or sitting on roadway, Other working in roadway, Other (explain above)

ACCIDENT Characteristics	LIGHTING CONDITION	01	ROAD DEFECTS	01	TRAFFICWAY CHARACTER	02	CLASS OF TRAFFICWAYS	01
	WEATHER	01	TRAFFIC CONTROL	01	TRAFFICWAY LANES	02	TYPE TRAFFICWAY	01
	ROAD SURFACE	02	TRAFFIC LOCATION	03	VISION OBSCURED	01		

WITNESSES other than occupants: NAME Ruth Herwarth ADDRESS-Number and street 4410 Baltimore Av City and State/ZIP Code This city

FIRST AID GIVEN BY Bryan Best Doctor or nurse, Cert. First Aider, Cert. First Aider (Police), Other (Explain)

CHEMICAL TEST: TEST RESULTS: Neg.

INJURED TAKEN TO: Sacred Heart Hosp BY Priv. Ambulance, Other (Explain), Gov.'s Ambulance

ARREST: NAME Anthony K. Gould CHARGE manslaughter Citation No. AO-16-17355 PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN: Yes, No

DATE AND TIME NOTIFIED OF ACCIDENT: April 14, 2016 TIME ARRIVED AT SCENE: 3:34 p.m. WAS INVESTIGATION MADE AT SCENE (If not, where): yes IS INVESTIGATION COMPLETE (If not, why): yes