

**TMC BUSINESS SCHOOL**  
**DIPLOMA IN MASS COMMUNICATION**  
(Validated by RSA / UCLES)

DM10201 – CREATIVE WRITING  
ASSIGNMENT

*TOPICS*

*Part 1: Hard News*

*Part 2: Feature News*

*Part 3: TV News*

*Part 4: Radio News*

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# **HARD NEWS**

# Broadsheet News

*The hard news story in this document is written based on the News Release in Appendix 1*

Monday, Mar 24, 2003

SINGAPORE

Established 2003

## **Contractor fined \$60,000 for death of construction worker**

**Singapore** - A contractor has been fined for causing the death of a worker due to its failure in complying with safety measures.

The contractor, Caravelle Construction and Development Pte Ltd, pleaded guilty on March 18, 2003 to causing the death of the worker under the Factories Act. The Court has fined the contractor a maximum penalty of \$50,000 for failing to provide adequate piling and bracing against the side of an excavation and another \$10,000 for failing to place excavated material at least 610mm away from the edge of the excavation.

The worker who died in the accident was an employee of IRE Corporation Ltd, a sub contractor hired by Caravelle Construction and Development Pte Ltd to carry out the construction of a multi-storey car park at the Jalan Bukit Merah worksite. The construction was part of a project awarded to the contractor by the Housing Development Board for a major upgrading work at the worksite.

At the time of the accident that occurred on December 4, 2002, the deceased was working with a co-worker to trim the side of the excavation with shovels. The soil from the side of the excavation suddenly slid down

and buried him up to his waist. The deceased was immediately rescued and sent to the hospital where he passed away on the same day due to multiple injuries consistent with being crushed by heavy force. Investigations revealed that at the time of the accident, the excavation that the deceased and his co-worker were working in was about 2.9m deep. No protection to prevent the soil from collapsing and hitting the workers working inside was available at the sides of the excavation. Investigations also revealed that excavated soil was also placed at about 200mm from the edge of the excavation. In such conditions, the soil could have fallen off the edge of the excavation and hit the workers who was still be inside the excavation. When that happened, the soil would have exerted its weight onto the sides of the excavation, thereby increasing the possibility of the face to collapse.

Under the Factories (Building Operations and Work of Engineering Construction) Regulations, the sides of an excavation must be provided with suitable protection, to prevent the sides from collapsing. In addition, no load is allowed to be placed within 200mm from the edge of the excavation.

The Ministry of Manpower takes a serious view of contractors' failure to adhere to safety measures and would like to remind all factory occupiers and contractors that measures must be taken to ensure the safety of workers working inside excavation. The Ministry says that it will not hesitate to take legal action against any factory occupier or contractor found flouting safety rules.

(461 words)

# FEATURE NEWS

CAREER ADVICE

## What makes a good educationist?

by Edmond Ng

**What does it take to be a good educationist? Is it the possession of a good degree combined with good training skills, or does one need to be better than that?**

A good university degree or higher is certainly a plus point to start off a career in education and with good skills and techniques in teaching, it is likely that we will qualify for a position as a lecturer in a school or an educational centre. However, these days, with the need for more specialised courses in specific fields to train students, workers, entrepreneurs and others in the specific area of skills, expertise in the relevant fields will be necessary. What this really means is – it is not enough to have a degree and training abilities to qualify a person to teach specialise subjects for specific skills requirements.



### 7 points of a good educationist

- Good qualification (at least a degree)
- Good training skills
- Relevant work experience on subject field he/she is teaching
- Interest in subject that he/she is teaching
- Never stops learning
- Positive attitudes at all time
- Enjoys helping people

The question next is whether a good degree in a specific subject field and training skills qualify one to be a good educationist in that field of studies?

To answer that question, let us take the example of an educationist in the field of mass communication. We interviewed Iqbal Akthar, Award Leader for mass communication studies at TMC Educational Group, on his experience as an educationist, and he feels that while a good qualification to teach in a subject field is sufficient academically, it would not be enough to qualify a person as a good educationist.

Iqbal, a Master degree holder in Media and Communications with the University of London, is currently considering pursuing a PhD in the near future on the same subject. He is currently providing full-time training for courses leading to diploma and higher diploma in Mass Communication, which examinations are validated by the Royal Society of Arts as part of the University of Cambridge Local Examination Syndicate programme. Iqbal is also teaching part-time distance education students doing the Bachelor of Arts (Communication) with Monash University.

On the topic of what is the expectation of students for a good trainer, Iqbal says that a good educationist should possess a positive attitude with interest in the subject field that he or she is teaching, coupled with relevant work experiences that will help provide real examples on the subject, along with the standard requirements of qualifications and good training skills.







While I concur with Iqbal on the ideal qualities that make a good educationist, I wonder if these qualities are the measure to go by in setting the criterion of a good teacher. If these qualities become expectable, it is unlikely that many educationists today will meet the profile.

(488 words)

# TV NEWS

Date **18 Apr 2003**  
 Time **9.00pm**  
 Duration **25 minutes**  
 Channel **Channel News Asia**  
 Newscast **Sharon Tong**

VISUAL	NEWS	TIME
	<p>(-----) <i>(Beginning of video)</i></p> <p><b>(VOICE OVER – NEWSCAST SHARON TONG)</b></p>	<p>9.00pm</p>
	<p>Update on Sars situation in Singapore</p>	<p>9.01pm</p>
	<p>Alexandra Hospital makes three layers of checks to guard against SARS outbreak</p>	
	<p>Strong earthquake rocks eastern Turkey</p>	
	<p>Seoul agrees to hold cabinet-level meetings with North Korea</p>	
	<p>(-----) <i>(End of video)</i></p>	

VISUAL	NEWS	TIME
	<p>Good evening, I am Sharon Tong, welcome to Prime Time News.</p> <p>Alexandra Hospital, one of the few public hospitals without a SARS outbreak, is seeing eighty per cent more A&amp;E patients. Alfarahizah Awangnit with the story.</p>	<p>9.02pm</p>
	<p><b>(-----) (Beginning of video)</b></p> <p><b>(SOUND ON TAPE – ALFARAHIZAH AWANGNIT)</b></p> <p><i>Alexandra hospital has put in place about a month ago three layers of checks to prevent a SARS outbreak.</i></p>	<p>9.04pm</p>
	<p><i>The first layer of checks requires every patient to fill up a health declaration form and have their temperature taken. Anyone with a fever or cough is isolated in a tent set up outside the emergency room.</i></p>	<p>9.04pm</p>
	<p><i>The second layer which is the filtration system, places patients who do not show signs of SARS, but who has come from Tan Tock Seng or one of the other hospitals that has SARS cases or other infected areas, in wards prepared for them.</i></p>	<p>9.05pm</p>
	<p><i>In the third layer, patients who have fever and show signs that may be SARS but have no history of going to Tan Tock Seng or other hospital, are placed in wards set up by the hospital.</i></p>	<p>9.05pm</p>
	<p><b>(PIECE TO CAMERA – ALFARAHIZAH AWANGNIT)</b></p> <p><i>These three layers of checks helped Alexandra Hospital identify potential SARS cases.</i></p> <p><i>Alfarahizah Awangnit, Channel News Asia.</i></p> <p><b>(-----) (End of video)</b></p>	<p>9.06pm</p>



# **RADIO NEWS**

## **EARTHQUAKE ROCKS EASTERN TURKEY**

**05/17/03**

**9p.m. News**

**martin, m.**

The Turkish Industry and Trade Minister Ali Coskun says that at least eighty-four people were confirmed dead and three hundred and ninety injured following an earthquake that hit the eastern province of Bingol.

**(Cut 1 / Cart 2; Ali Coskun in Bingol; :07)** *“One hundred and eighteen children were trapped under the rubble of a boarding school which collapsed in the tremor that measured six point four on the Richter scale”.*

Earlier on Thursday, the death toll was estimated at one hundred and fifty. Housing Minister Zeki Ergezen gave this information on the situation.

**(Cut 2 / Cart 1; Zeki Ergezen in Bingol; :15)** *“The earthquake caused some buildings to collapse, among which is a boarding school. At least fifty of those children have since been rescued from the wreckage of the dormitory in Bingol. Crews were working to rescue the other students. Soldiers were also taking part in the rescue efforts”.*

**A&E PATIENTS REDIRECTED TO ALEXANDRA HOSPITAL**

**05/17/03**

**9p.m. News**

**martin, m.**

Alexandra Hospital, one of the few public hospitals without a SARS outbreak, is seeing more A&E patients. The Head of Department of Emergency Medicine, Dr Francis Lee Chun Yue says,

**(Cut 1 / Cart 3; Francis Lee Chun Yue at Alexandra Hospital; :08)**

*“Currently, we have been quite busy. We saw an eighty per cent increase in the number of patients. We used to see about one hundred and twenty a day, now we are seeing about two hundred a day.”*

The increase in A&E patients at the hospital is mainly due to the redirection of non-Sars patients from the Tan Tock Seng Hospital. C-E-O of Alexandra Hospital, Liak Teng Lit on the measures to prevent a SARS infiltration to the hospital says,

**(Cut 2 / Cart 4; Liak Teng Lit at Alexandra Hospital; :03)** *“The*

*hospital has put in place three layers of checks to prevent a SARS outbreak. These layers of checks will help the hospital identify potential SARS cases.”*

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# APPENDICES

## APPENDIX 1

Ministry of Manpower (2003), "Press Release: Contractor Pleaded Guilty to Causing Death of Worker", <<http://www.mom.gov.sg/MOM/CDA/0,1858,1271-3154-00.html>>, 22 March 2003 (Accessed 25<sup>th</sup> April 2003).



The screenshot shows the Ministry of Manpower website interface. At the top left is the logo and name of the Ministry of Manpower. Below it is a navigation bar with tabs for 'About MCM', 'Our Departments', 'Press Room', and 'Careers at MOM'. The date '25 April 2003, Friday' is displayed. A search bar is present with a 'Go' button and a link to 'Advanced Search'. A sidebar menu lists various categories: 'Information For' (Employers, Employees, Job Seekers, HR Practitioners), 'Information On' (Work Permit, Employment Pass, Training Opportunities & Incentives, Occupational Safety & Health), and 'Resources' (Forms, Procedures/Guidelines, Legislation, Publications, Statistics, Events, e-Services). The main content area shows the breadcrumb 'Home > Press Room > Contractor Pleaded Guilty to Causing Death of Worker' and the date '22 Mar 2003'. The title of the press release is 'Contractor Pleaded Guilty to Causing Death of Worker'. The text describes the incident on 18 March 2003, where a contractor, Caravelle Construction and Development Pte Ltd, pleaded guilty to causing the death of a worker under the Factories Act. The contractor was fined \$50,000 for failing to provide adequate piling and bracing against the side of an excavation of more than 1.5m deep, where workers were exposed to the hazard of falling or sliding materials. The contractor was also fined \$10,000 for failing to place excavated material at least 610mm back from the edge of the excavation. The accident occurred on 4 December 2002 at a Jalan Bukit Merah worksite. The occupier of the factory, Caravelle Construction and Development Pte Ltd, was awarded a contract by the Housing & Development Board to carry out major upgrading work (MUP) at the worksite. Caravelle Construction and Development Pte Ltd subcontracted the construction of a multi-storey car park to IRE Corporation Ltd. The deceased was an employee of IRE Corporation Ltd. At the time of the accident, the deceased was working with a co-worker to trim the side of the excavation with shovels. The soil from the side of the excavation suddenly slid down and buried him up to his waist. The deceased was immediately rescued and sent to the hospital where he passed away on the same day. He died from multiple injuries consistent with being crushed by heavy force. Investigations revealed that at the time of the accident, the excavation that the deceased and his co-worker were working in was about 2.9m deep. The sides of the excavation were not protected by any suitable means to prevent the soil from collapsing and hitting the workers working inside. Investigations further revealed that excavated soil was placed at about 200mm from the edge of the excavation. The soil could have fallen off the edge of the excavation and hit the workers who were inside the excavation. The soil would also have exerted its weight onto the sides of the excavation, thereby increasing the possibility of the face to collapse. Safety measures to be taken: Under the Factories (Building Operations and Work of Engineering Construction) Regulations, the sides of an excavation must be provided with suitable protection, such as shoring, bracings or piling to prevent the sides from collapsing. In addition, no load is allowed to be placed within 200mm from the edge of the excavation. The Ministry would like to remind all factory occupiers and contractors that measures must be taken to ensure the safety of workers working inside excavation. The Ministry will not hesitate to take legal action against any factory occupier or contractor found flouting safety rules.

## REFERENCES

*Channel News Asia* (2003), “Alexandra Hospital has 3 layers of checks to guard against SARS outbreak”,  
<<http://www.channelnewsasia.com/stories/singaporelocalnews/view/>>, 15 April 2003 (Accessed 19 April 2003)

*Channel News Asia* (2003), “Strong earthquake rocks eastern Turkey; 84 confirmed dead”,  
<<http://www.channelnewsasia.com/stories/europe/view/38747/1/.htm>>, 1 May 2003 (Accessed 1 May 2003)

*Ministry of Manpower* (2003), “Press Release: Contractor Pleaded Guilty to Causing Death of Worker”, <<http://www.mom.gov.sg/MOM/CDA/0,1858,1271-3154----,00.html>>, 22 March 2003 (Accessed 25<sup>th</sup> April 2003).