Writing Detective® Level 1 Activities

Read the story below and then answer the Outline questions. All the statements in the story are true.

Construction Destruction

¹Denver, Colorado, police arrested one of the four workers pictured below today for damaging a construction site where he was employed. ²The police arrested the man at his home two days after he broke windows and damaged walls at the construction site. ³The suspect was identified by Linda McCauley who lives next door to the construction site. ⁴McCauley saw the worker return to the site two days ago around 6:50 p.m., after all the other workers had left for the day. ⁵McCauley then heard the sound of breaking glass and heavy pounding in the new house until the worker drove away from the damaged house about 30 minutes later.

⁶McCauley described the worker as medium height with a gold or yellow work hat. ⁷She also said that he wore yellow or brown work boots and a green or blue shirt.

⁸The police arrested the worker at his home. ⁹The suspect confessed to the destruction, and said he did it because he heard that he was going to lose his job for making too many mistakes.

The Four Suspects



Kevin Knight"10I was at work
yesterday, but
not the day
before."



Tyler Morgan
"11The last time
I was at the job
site was two days
ago."



Mike O'Bannion
"12Two days ago,
the boss told me
I make too many
mistakes and
that my black
work boots were
leaving marks on
the new floors."



Steve Berta
"13I was at work
last night until
6:30 p.m. after
staying home
sick the day
before."

Writing Detective® Level 1 Activities

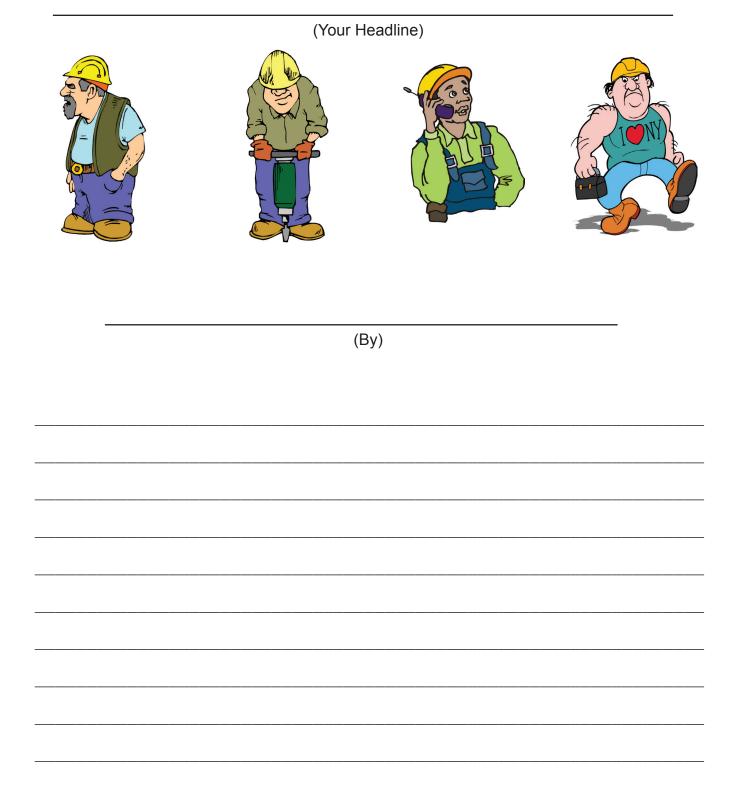
Outline

Fill out the writing outline to help you write a short article for the newspaper explaining what happened in the story. Your article must identify the construction worker who caused the damage, but it doesn't have to explain how you figured it out.

| When did this story happen? |
|---|
| Where did this story happen? |
| Who are the important characters in this story? |
| What happened to these important characters in this story? |
| |
| |
| Explain why or how this happened to the characters. |
| |
| |
| |

Article

Remember, people reading your article have never read the story so be sure to include all the key information from your outline.



Answers

Construction Destruction (p. 16)

Use the Scoring Rubric for the outline answers and the article.

Outline

When: yesterday evening **Where:** Denver, Colorado

Who: Linda McCauley and Tyler Morgan (Kevin Knight, Mike O'Bannion, Steve Berta, and the

Denver police are optional.)

What: Tyler Morgan worked at a construction site next door to Linda McCauley's house. McCauley saw Morgan return to the job site in the evening after all the other workers had left for the day. Morgan broke glass and hit things with his hammer until he left about 20 minutes later.

Why/How: Tyler Morgan heard he was going to lose his job for making too many mistakes, so he went back to the construction site two days ago and damaged the site. Police arrested Morgan after he was identified by Linda McCauley who lives next door to the house being built.

Sample Article

If I Had a Hammer!

Yesterday evening in Denver, Colorado, at approximately 9 p.m., Tyler Morgan was arrested for damaging a house under construction. Morgan broke windows at the site and damaged walls with his hammer for about 30 minutes before leaving the crime site. He was arrested about two hours later and confessed to the crime. Morgan said the reason he damaged the house was he heard he was going to lose his job for making too many mistakes.