

This week, we will report on the “Loud Music Trial” and put interracial relationships on trial.

Death Note

Listen the facts of the “Loud Music Trial” and take notes that will allow you to write a news report on it.

Write a news report using your notes.

[illegible]

This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, providing a template for writing or drawing. There are no margins, text, or other markings present.

Exchange your news report with a peer, and edit each other's using the checklist on the next page.

News Report Checklist

Headline is memorable and not obscure	
There is a by-line	
Lead identifies the 5 W's and H	
Paragraphs are only 1-3 sentences in length	
Paragraphs have specific details, including quotes and figures	
Direct quotations are correctly attributed to their speakers	
Information is logically sequenced	
The most important information is presented first	
Accounts are balanced and fair	
Writing is in 3 rd person	
Grammar is correct	
Has transitional words or phrases to connect sequences of events	

Comments: _____

Raise Your Weapon

Read Ta-Nehisi Coates opinion piece “On the Killing of Jordan Davis by Michael Dunn,” which was written in the wake of the first of *People of the State of Florida v. Dunn Michael David*.

“On the Killing of Jordan Davis” by Ta-Nehisi Coates

I wish I had something more to say about the fact that Michael Dunn was not convicted for killing a black boy. Except I said it after George Zimmerman was not convicted of killing a black boy. Except the parents of black boys already know this. Except the parents of black boys have long said this, and they have been answered with mockery.

Jordan Davis had a mother and a father. It did not save him. Trayvon Martin had a mother and a father. They could not save him. My son has a father and mother. We cannot protect him from our country, which is our aegis and our assailant. We cannot protect our children because racism in America is not merely a belief system but a heritage, and the inability of black parents to protect their children is an ancient tradition.

Henry "Box" Brown, whose family was destroyed and whose children were trafficked, knew:

I stationed myself by the side of the road, along which the slaves, amounting to three hundred and fifty, were to pass. The purchaser of my wife was a Methodist minister, who was about starting for North Carolina. Pretty soon five wagon-loads of little children passed and looking at the foremost one, what should I see but a little child, pointing its tiny hand towards me, exclaiming, “There’s my father; I knew he would come and bid me goodbye...”

Spare us the invocations of "black-on-black crime." I will not respect the lie. I would rather be thought insane. The most mendacious phrase in the American language is "black-on-black crime," which is uttered as though the same hands that drew red lines around the ghettos of Chicago are not the same hands that drew red lines around the life of Jordan Davis, as though black people authored North Lawndale and policy does not exist. That which mandates the murder of our Hadiya Pendletons necessarily mandates the murder of Jordan Davis. I will not respect any difference. I will not respect the lie. I would rather be thought crazy.

I insist that the irrelevance of black life has been drilled into this country since its infancy, and shall not be extricated through the latest innovations in Negro Finishing School. I insist that racism is our heritage, that Thomas Jefferson's genius is no more important than his plundering of the body of Sally Hemmings, that George Washington's abdication is no more significant than his wild pursuit of Oney Judge. I insist that the G.I Bill's accolades are inseparable from its racist heritage. I will not respect the lie. I insist that racism must be properly understood as an Intelligence, as a sentence, as a default setting to which, likely until the end of our days, we unerringly return.

Answer the following questions on Coates's piece:

1. Why does Coates have nothing to say?

2. Why can't black parents protect their children?

3. What is Coates's opinion of the concept of "black-on-black crime"?

4. Use your devices to look up North Lawndale and Hadiya Pendleton. Why does Coates refer to them?

5. What is Coates's closing argument?

Write an opinion piece on the “Loud Music Trial.”

[illegible]

Listening to the Interracial Canary

Listen to a summary of excerpts from Erica Chito Child's journal article "Listening to the Interracial Canary: Contemporary Views on Interracial Relationships Among Blacks and Whites" and answering the following questions:

1. What is a problem with the colorblind lens of the media?

2. Why do you think interracial marriages rub some black people the wrong way?

3. What might a deleterious consequence of a black person engaging in an interracial relationship with a white person be?

4. What motives could a black person have for engaging in an interracial relationship with a white person?

5. How do you think a bi-racial child will fare in the world?

6. What is your stance on interracial relationship?

7. What would your community say about a person of your race who is in an interracial relationship?
