

## Media and Multimodal Texts

This resource accompanies the Years 7 & 8 and Years 9 & 10 English units of work. It is easiest to use this resource via your device or interactive whiteboard so you can click on the links provided (rather than printing).

The media and multimodal texts listed describe rail safety related incidents and initiatives under the following categories:

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**Trespass | Graffiti | Level Crossings | Points of view | Safety measures**

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Links to online texts are also available via our Media Library, in the high school student section of our website: <http://tracksafeeducation.com.au/students/high/media-library/media-reports/>.



### Teacher Alert

*The media and multimodal texts listed are intended for a high school audience. Included texts are listed for the purposes of critical analysis of texts from real life incidents, and are NOT intended to invoke shock or fear in students; or to portray a 'normalised' view that young people's behaviour is usually negative, inappropriate or irresponsible.*

*Please be aware that the contents of some of these texts involve incidents on the rail network which caused serious injury or death. It is possible there will be students in your class with first-hand experience of such issues, and discretion is advised. It is recommended that students' individual circumstances are taken into account wherever possible.*

## Trespass

### Teen survives train game

*Teen plays “chicken” with moving train.*

Illawarra Mercury, NSW; 9 Sep 2013

<http://www.illawarramercury.com.au/story/1761789/video-teen-plays-deadly-game-of-chicken/>

### Rail safety warning issued

*High school girls play chicken on tracks.*

The Examiner, TAS; 23 March 2013

<http://www.examiner.com.au/story/1384353/rail-safety-warning-issued/>

### Risking death – TasRail hits out

*Rail operator condemns group of young people behaving dangerously around trains.*

The Examiner, TAS; 9 July 2012

<http://www.examiner.com.au/story/157961/risking-death-tasrail-hits-out/>

### Jenna Betti, 14, killed after being sucked into train’s vacuum while retrieving her phone in California

*Teen trespassing on track dies trying to retrieve her phone.*

The Daily Telegraph, NSW; 5 March 2014

<http://www.news.com.au/world/jenna-betti-14-killed-after-being-sucked-into-trains-vacuum-while-retrieving-her-phone-in-california/news-story/709496d3cd10d947f023765cf1a5433d>

### A precious life lost in a moment of play

*Girl (9) killed died when she was hit by a fast-moving train.*

The Daily Telegraph, NSW; 27 January 2011

<http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/sydney-news/a-precious-life-lost-in-a-moment-of-play/story-e6freuzi-1225995083943>

### Track trespass one of several – Community outrage at train teens

*Teenagers trespass using track as a short cut. Video*

Illawarra Mercury, NSW; 9 Sep 2013

<http://www.illawarramercury.com.au/story/1764890/video-community-outrage-over-train-track-trespass/>

### Train stopped

*Teenage girl trespassing on tracks delays trains.*

Maitland Mercury, NSW; 28 Aug 2012

(Not available online – check library catalogue or contact publisher)

### Girl's feet severed in Mclver train station horror accident *Teenage girl (16) injured trying to cross train lines at an intersection.*

Perth Now News, WA; 3 March, 2014

<http://www.perthnow.com.au/news/western-australia/girls-feet-severed-in-mciver-train-station-horror-accident/story-fnhocxo3-1226843455574>

### On a dangerous track

*People fail to understand the risk of trespassing on tracks.*

The Advocate, TAS; 12 July 2012

<http://www.theadvocate.com.au/story/154743/on-a-dangerous-track/>

### Rail death a tragic accident

*A cane train kills a man lying on the edge of a railway track.*

Sunshine Coast Daily, QLD; 27 Aug 2012

<http://www.sunshinecoastdaily.com.au/news/struck-and-killed-on-rail-line-fatal-cane-train/1519246/>

### Train checked after man climbs over wagons

*Train stopped when young man observed climbing over wagons.*

The Advocate, TAS; 5 April 2013

<http://www.theadvocate.com.au/story/1411012/train-checked-after-man-climbs-over-wagons/>

### **Train ride death risk**

*Train driver speaks out about teen train surfers.*

The Advocate, TAS; 16 January 2013

<http://www.theadvocate.com.au/story/1240393/train-ride-death-risk/>

### **Teenage fools risk their lives in train surfing madness at Mordialloc Station**

*Teenagers train surfing.*

The Courier, VIC; 27 March 2014

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/leader/inner-south/teenage-fools-risk-their-lives-in-train-surfing-madness-at-mordialloc-station/news-story/c1cf1b91a879349457eda58c0ef5743a>

### **Boy, 13, killed by train while running across tracks at Riddells Creek railway station**

*Boy struck and killed as he ran across tracks trying to change platforms.*

The Advertiser, SA; 14 October 2013

<http://www.adelaidenow.com.au/news/boy-13-killed-by-train-while-running-across-tracks-at-riddells-creek-railway-station/news-story/c26f7c05506209b29f4dccb01280846c>

### **Sixteen year old killed by train named**

*Three friends out walking, a boy and a girl - crossed the railway line, but a third teenager was struck by a northbound freight train and died.*

New Zealand Herald, NZ; 17 December 2013

[http://www.nzherald.co.nz/rail-accidents/news/article.cfm?c\\_id=1500877&objectid=11174016](http://www.nzherald.co.nz/rail-accidents/news/article.cfm?c_id=1500877&objectid=11174016)

### **Train drivers shocked by acts of stupidity**

*Man and three children run in front of train.*

The Advocate, TAS; 6 February 2014

<http://www.theadvocate.com.au/story/2070290/train-drivers-shocked-by-acts-of-stupidity/>

### Man killed by train, children found wandering on highway

*Man killed taking short cut across track.*

The Age, VIC; 8 April 2014

<http://www.theage.com.au/nsw/man-killed-by-train-children-found-wandering-on-highway-20140408-369ne.html>

### Man hit by train wouldn't have heard it coming

*Mother urges parents to tell children 'don't listen to [head]phones while you're walking'."*

The Age, VIC; 27 November 2013

<http://www.theage.com.au/victoria/man-hit-by-train-wouldnt-have-heard-it-coming-20131127-2ya8d.html>

### Train windscreen smash

*The windscreen of a freight train was damaged by youths throwing rocks.*

Kilmore Free Press, VIC; 15 Jun 2012

(Not available online – check library catalogue or contact publisher)

## Graffiti

### Train death of tagger should spur education program

*NSW Coroner recommends increase in public funding for education programs about dangers of trespassing in the rail corridor.*

Inner West Courier, NSW; 29 January 2013

(Not available online – check library catalogue or contact publisher)

### 'It took a second and Tre's no longer with us': coroner rules on tagger's death

*A summary of the Coroner's court recommendations after death of graffiti vandal Tre Toman.*

The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW; 24 January 2013

<http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/it-took-a-second-and-tres-no-longer-with-us-coroner-rules-on-taggers-death-20130124-2d94m.html>

### Rail tagger's tragic talent

*Tagger (18) killed by train in railway underpass.*

The Daily Telegraph, NSW; 25 January 2013

<http://www.news.com.au/national/nsw-act/rail-taggers-tragic-talent/story-fndo4bst-1226561193870>

### Queensland Rail program stamps out graffiti at Hemmant train station

*Station master's engagement with students stops graffiti incidents - Queensland Rail's community education RESPECT initiative.*

Brisbane East News, QLD; 10 January 2014

<http://www.couriermail.com.au/questnews/southeast/queensland-rail-program-stamps-out-graffiti-at-hemmant-train-station/news-story/c891a9fff07920dfc4e3ff2c72753c8>

### Graffiti express

*Graffiti attack tags new trains before they are in use.*

Newcastle Herald, NSW; 13 Oct 2012

(Not available online – check library catalogue or contact publisher)

### Buzz beats graffiti vandals

*State Rail [sic] trials high-pitched Mosquito devices designed to drive young people away from graffiti hot spots.*

The Daily Telegraph, NSW; 28 May 2013

<http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/buzz-beats-graffiti-vandals/story-fni0cx4q-1226651709640>

### Vandals ignore safety advice

*Graffiti attacks continue on rail corridor.*

The Examiner, TAS; 26 March 2014

<http://www.examiner.com.au/story/2172557/vandals-ignore-safety-advice/>

### Graffiti vandal made bankrupt after failing to pay clean-up bill

*Refusing to pay a court imposed \$25,000 clean-up bill has resulted in the graffiti gang member responsible being made bankrupt.*

The Herald Sun, VIC; 15 November 2013

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/law-order/graffiti-vandal-made-bankrupt-after-failing-to-pay-cleanup-bill/news-story/f8c9df396563502d0688eb22ae607bc4>

### Huge graffiti spree derails VLine train

*Graffiti wrecks a V/Line train carriage. Mural (25m) will cost thousands of dollars to scrub off.*

The Herald Sun, VIC; 24 April 2014

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/victoria/huge-graffiti-sprees-derails-vline-train/news-story/830236eae506fc2d9f5bda4e75258815>

### Police investigate after vigilante films clash with train vandals in Melbourne

*Vigilante films train vandals and puts footage on YouTube.*

The Herald Sun, VIC; 11 June 2013

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/victoria/huge-graffiti-sprees-derails-vline-train/news-story/830236eae506fc2d9f5bda4e75258815>

## Level crossings

### Youth braked too late to stop fatal train collision

*A teenager (17) collides with a commuter train at an uncontrolled rail crossing.*

Stuff Dominion Post, NZ; 18 Feb 2013

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/dominion-post/news/wairarapa/8316370/Young-girl-dies-as-teen-brakes-too-late>

### Rail crossing horror smash near Morrinsville

*Elderly driver (76) in collision with a freight train at protected level crossing with lights and bells in good working order.*

Waikato Times, NZ; 2 Jul 2012

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/waikato-times/news/7202571/Rail-crossing-horror-smash-near-Morrinsville>

### Ballarat police baffled at pedestrian boom gate behaviour

*Police amazed by the number of people who risked their lives by illegally crossing train tracks.*

Ballarat Courier, VIC; 14 June 2012

<http://www.thecourier.com.au/story/125569/ballarat-police-baffled-at-pedestrian-boom-gate-behaviour/>

### Port Kembla crossing on track for safety

*Education shown to be effective way of reducing danger as research shows accidents at level crossings are largely a driver behaviour issue.*

Illawarra Mercury, NSW; 21 Jun 2013

<http://www.illawarramercury.com.au/story/1586739/port-kembla-crossing-on-track-for-safety/>

### Motorists urged to pay attention

Police officers target motorists to come to a complete stop at level crossings without boom gates.

Katherine Times, NT; 14 Aug 2013

(Not available online – check library catalogue or contact publisher)



### **Killed by early train**

*Man died after being hit by a train.*

The Daily Telegraph, NSW; 21 Jun 2012

(Not available online – check library catalogue or contact publisher)

### **Knocked over hard on road to independence**

*Young disabled woman hit by train after wheelchair stuck in crossing. Different crossing surfaces are needed for the disabled.*

New Zealand Herald, NZ; 20 Mar 2013

[http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c\\_id=1&objectid=10872345](http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=10872345)

### **Heroic attempts fail to stop rail accident**

*Rescuers try to pull trapped woman from wheelchair after chair becomes stuck in tracks.*

Waikato Times, NZ; 26 Feb 2013

(Not available online – check library catalogue or contact publisher)

### **Allansford man, 22, dies in railway crossing crash**

*Footballer dies when his vehicle collides with an empty goods train.*

The Standard, VIC; 20 March 2013

<http://www.standard.net.au/story/1375359/allansford-man-22-dies-in-railway-crossing-crash/>

### **Pair's lucky escape from train collision**

*Woman fails to observe train and drives into path of train.*

The Advocate, TAS; 16 August 2010

<http://www.theadvocate.com.au/story/687441/pairs-lucky-escape-from-train-collision/>

### **North's drivers run rail crossing gauntlet**

*The North has by far the highest number of boom gate accidents outside of metropolitan areas.*

Townsville Bulletin, QLD; 11 March 2014

<http://www.townsvillebulletin.com.au/news/norths-drivers-run-rail-crossing-gauntlet/news-story/3779b4ead0d5b53d368a0e3e0dcba7d7>

## Points of view

### Other perspectives on impact and trauma after a rail incident or collision

#### When their world turned upside down

*A parent describes the effect of the death of her daughter (9) who had climbed onto the railway track and was hit by an express train.*

Illawarra Mercury, NSW; 11 June 2011

<http://www.illawarramercury.com.au/story/635737/more-heartache-for-grieving-mum/>

<http://www.illawarramercury.com.au/story/634160/coledale-grieves-for-little-girl-hit-by-train/>

#### Victim's mother wants reparation

*The mother of a young woman who was hit by a train when her wheelchair got stuck at a railway crossing says people are responsible for the tragedy and should pay reparation.*

New Zealand Herald, Auckland; 20 Mar 2013

[http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c\\_id=1&objectid=10872358](http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=10872358)

#### Editorial

*Train drivers' trauma caused by reckless decision making of others.*

The Advocate, TAS; 1 Apr 2013

(Not available online – check library catalogue or contact publisher)

#### Death on the rails: Flinders train driver tells of trauma

*Train driver describes his experiences and nightmares.*

The Advocate, TAS; 9 August 2013

<http://www.theadvocate.com.au/story/1695356/death-on-the-rails-flinders-train-driver-tells-of-trauma/>

#### TasRail plea after fatal crash

*TasRail reiterates plea for motorists to take care at both passive and active crossings and to think about the experience of the train driver approaching a level crossing.*

The Examiner, TAS; 6 May 2012

<http://www.examiner.com.au/story/86391/tasrail-plea-after-fatal-crash/>

### **Hospital staff set up critical care demo**

*Young farmer (18) describes time in critical care after being hit by a train when driving a tractor.*

Waikato Times, NZ; 14 Jun 2012

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/waikato-times/farming/fieldays/7100707/Hospital-staff-set-up-critical-care-demo>

### **Agencies pass buck in taking any blame**

*Kiwi Rail takes the blame for last month's tragic accident at Morningside.*

New Zealand Herald, NZ; 20 Mar 2013

[http://www.nzherald.co.nz/business/news/article.cfm?c\\_id=3&objectid=10872346](http://www.nzherald.co.nz/business/news/article.cfm?c_id=3&objectid=10872346)

### **Train pranks rile drivers parents asked for halp [sic]**

*Tasmanian train drivers fed up with vandalism on tracks during school holidays.*

The Mercury, TAS 22 April 2014

<http://www.themercury.com.au/news/tasmania/train-pranks-rile-drivers-parents-asked-for-halp/news-story/6bc3cbf8a52abcfce57beee14f5d1dfa>

## Safety measures

### Technologies, strategies and education

#### Blog: Rail Life

*It's your journey. Get up to speed on the railway and get the facts on staying safe.*

<http://rail-life-talk.tumblr.com/>

#### Push for safer level crossing technology

*A radio break-in system that warns vehicles to stop as they approach level crossings is being considered to make level crossings safer.*

The Herald Sun, VIC; 16 September 2012

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/national/push-for-safer-level-crossings-technology/news-story/1c4797da3ea42587613273795f423171>

#### Safety bid on track

*Radio break-in technology "hacks" car stereos as they approach rail crossings to broadcast safety messages.*

Townsville Bulletin, QLD; 02 Apr 2013

(Not available online – check library catalogue or contact publisher)

#### Hi-tech crossings

*New safety measures and warning signs, trialled at level crossing.*

The Chronicle (Toowoomba), QLD; 30 Mar 2013

(Not available online – check library catalogue or contact publisher)

#### Hopes radio puts an end to railway crossing close calls

*Pixie radio technology break-in system is trialled at the Malu Quarry Rd level rail crossing.*

The Chronicle, QLD; 20 December 2013

<http://www.thechronicle.com.au/news/potentially-life-saving-radio-technology-is-being-/2120644/>

### **Audible warning at Grandchester crossing**

*New audible alarms support sight-impaired teen remain active in the community.*

Moreton Border News, QLD; 14 Jun 2013

(Not available online – check library catalogue or contact publisher)

### **Pollies had crossing their sights for Brendan**

*Local railway crossing has audible alarms installed.*

Queensland Times, QLD; 30 May 2013

<http://www.qt.com.au/news/pollies-had-crossing-in-their-sights-for-brendan/1887864/>

### **Rail crossing signs ‘need replacing’**

*Coroner recommends all Tasmania’s railway crossing signs be replaced following an investigation into the death of a man at a railway crossing.*

The Examiner, TAS; 4 Sep 2013

(Not available online – check library catalogue or contact publisher)

### **Editorial: Rail crossing separation must be part of the final plan**

*A safe and efficient central city rail transport requires a complete "grade separation" of rail, road and foot traffic. This will involve funding for pedestrian overpasses, street closures, rail cuttings or tunnels.*

New Zealand Herald, NZ; 01 Mar 2013

[http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c\\_id=1&objectid=10868414](http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=10868414)

### **Safety focus**

*Queensland Rail's Community Engagement team remind local residents not to ignore signs, lights and boom gates at level crossings.*

The Advocate (Ayr), QLD; 29 Jun 2012

(Not available online – check library catalogue or contact publisher)

### **Trains can't stop quickly you can**

*Rio Tinto supports Rail Safety week.*

Pilbara News, WA; 31 Jul 2013

(Not available online – check library catalogue or contact publisher)

### **Rail warning after teen girl killed**

*KiwiRail urges people to be cautious around rail lines. "Every single death or injury on the railway network is avoidable if people approaching it actively recognise the hazards that exist and obey the warning signs and signals."*

New Zealand Herald, NZ; 18 Feb 2013

(Not available online – check library catalogue or contact publisher)

### **Rail safety team**

*Queensland Rail's community engagement team visits shopping centre to drive home the message that ignoring level crossings could be potentially deadly.*

The Chronicle (Toowoomba), QLD; 28 Aug 2012

(Not available online – check library catalogue or contact publisher)

### **New safety system at rail crossings**

*New safety measures and warnings will be trialled at rail level crossings near Ipswich and Toowoomba to curb near-misses and commuter disruptions.*

The Queensland Times, QLD; 1 Apr 2013

<http://www.qt.com.au/news/new-safety-system-trial-at-rail-level-crossings/1812209/>

### **Police safety drive**

*Police target known trouble spots on Melbourne's rail network after a teenager was killed by a train while walking on rail tracks, despite the train sounding its whistle. A pair of headphones was found close by.*

The Saturday Age, VIC; 30 Jun 2012

(Not available online – check library catalogue or contact publisher)

### Don't go off the rails

*Footy fans attending the Grand Final urged to take care as new figures reveal an average of one person a week is hit by Melbourne trains and trams.*

The Herald Sun, VIC; 27 Sep 2013

(Not available online – check library catalogue or contact publisher)

### Farmers warned to watch for trains

*Farmers advised to take safety precautions when working next to active railways during busy harvest season.*

Terang Express, VIC; 05 Dec 2013

(Not available online – check library catalogue or contact publisher)

### Fatal crash crossing upgrade

*Railway crossing in recent fatality has been earmarked for an upgrade with flashing lights and boom barriers.*

Warnambool Standard, VIC; 20 Mar 2013

<http://www.standard.net.au/story/1375169/fatal-crash-crossing-due-for-safety-upgrade/>

### Sucrogen's safety concern

*School holidays a high risk time for cane trains.*

Whitsunday Guardian, QLD; 27 Jun 2012

(Not available online – check library catalogue or contact publisher)

### Look out for cane trains

*School holidays a high risk time for cane trains.*

Daily Mercury, QLD; 28 June 2012

<http://www.dailymercury.com.au/news/look-out-for-cane-trains/1433205/>

### Cane rail safety

*Parents reminded to tell children about danger from cane trains.*



Tully Times, QLD; 28 Jun 2012

(Not available online – check library catalogue or contact publisher)

### **Pedestrians risk lives to cross tracks**

*Victoria Police and V/Line launch a blitz on pedestrian and motorist behaviour around level crossings after a string of recent incidents and near-misses on train tracks.*

Ballarat Courier, VIC; 15 June 2012

(Not available online – check library catalogue or contact publisher)

### **Daredevils still putting lives at risk**

*TasRail urge public to take care as train drivers report many concerning incidents on and around the tracks.*

The Advocate, TAS; 1 Apr 2013

<http://www.theadvocate.com.au/story/1400296/daredevils-still-putting-lives-at-risk/>

### **Crossing safety to get boost**

*GPS technology used to warn drivers of approaching trains.*

The Advocate, TAS; 1 Apr 2013

(Not available online – check library catalogue or contact publisher)

### **Werribee rail black spot changes urged on level crossing**

*Changes recommended to dangerous level crossing after accident.*

The Age, VIC; 26 December 2013

<http://www.theage.com.au/victoria/werribee-rail-black-spot-changes-urged-on-level-crossing-20131225-2zwo9.html>

### **In the driving seat to cut rail crossing death toll**

*Coroner's report calls for safety systems that will support the road user to make safer decisions at level crossings.*

The Age, VIC; 22 October 2013

<http://www.theage.com.au/comment/in-the-driving-seat-to-cut-rail-crossing-death-toll-20131022-2vyll.html>

### Putting rail safety on the right track

*New wireless technology development allows all vehicles to communicate and exchange information creating 360-degree driver awareness at level crossings.*

The Age, VIC; 21 September 2010

<http://www.theage.com.au/national/education/putting-rail-safety-on-the-right-track-20100920-15jyv.html>

### Here's how 472 of us were almost crossed out

*Queensland Rail's new campaign to raise awareness of safety at level crossings uses crosses to represent 472 recorded near-misses at level crossings.*

MX Brisbane, QLD; 27 Jun 2012

(Not available online – check library catalogue or contact publisher)