“My reaction …was a mixture of pity and revulsion”

**Writing in 1st Person/ using quotation**

**“We drove off”**

**“I really enjoyed that”**

**“Coming, coming”**

*Writing in the 1st person makes it more personal, draws the reader in and makes them feel like they are part of the story. Emma Levine also makes reference to and quotes parts of the conversations she had with the boys in the car. This makes the reader feel like they are at the race in person and gives an insight into what Emma and the boys were thinking as it happened. This helps the reader make a connection and build a relationship with the characters involved. The story has a good balance between anecdotal and factual.*

**List of three**

**“Quick reflexes…, nerves of steel and …effective horn”**

**“Voices raised, fists were out and tempers rising”**

**“Horns tooting, bells ringing and special rattles”**

*Lists of three are an effective technique to get a message across and make a strong clear point. In this case Emma Levine uses it to describe particular points in the race where the tension and action are building up.*

**Hyperbole (Exaggeration)**

**“Waiting for an eternity”**

**“Rush hour gone anarchic”**

*These exaggerations help the reader get a real sense of what it must have been like to be there. It gives the reader an insight into the writers mind.*

**Title**

**“A Game of Polo with a Headless Goat”**

*This title is unusual and stands out. It grabs the reader’s attention with the image of a headless goat. It juxtaposes a game of Polo, which is sophisticated and aristocratic, and a headless goat which is barbaric and savage. The reader is left wondering how the two images are linked together.*

**Overall tone and pace of article**

*The article is written in a fairly informal and relaxed manner which is in keeping with the event being described, namely a donkey race. The language used is very descriptive and should appeal to a broad audience from teenagers to adults as the text can be followed and understood by both. The pace of the article picks up as the race unfolds in order to help get across the speed at which things were happening.*

**Layout**

*The article is set out in several short paragraphs which allows Emma Levine to write about a number of different parts of the race. She manages to cover a period of time before the race, the actual race and a short period of time after the race in one and a half pages. This has allowed her to be descriptive about certain aspects of the race without it being too long winded and boring for the reader. The relatively short sections are also in keeping with the chaotic, fast moving race which jumps from scene to scene.*

**Metaphors**

**“Wacky races”**

**“Fired up with enthusiasm”**

**“Formula 1 without rules”**

*These metaphors help the reader to associate the events taking place with something more familiar to them so they can understand it better. She compares the donkey race to the wacky races which suggests a chaotic free-for-all with lots of different types of vehicles and people looking out for themselves and using slightly underhand methods to win. Comparing it to Formula 1 also helps the reader get a sense of the speeds they were travelling.*

**Personification**

**“Vehicles jostled”**

**“Traffic…had to dive into the ditch”**

**“Swallowed up by the crowd”**

*Using personification in this article helps the writer brings objects such as the cars and the size of the crowds to life which again helps the writer add a sense of drama and visualisation for the reader. We are all familiar with the words jostled, dived and swallowed which help the reader picture the scene clearly.*