

## Exercise 1

*This is the first draft of a story about a local football match. Can the intro and bridge be improved? If so, what would you write and why?*

### **Tawa thrashes Eastbourne**

Tawa Soccer Club started its Chatham Cup campaign in style on Saturday, demolishing Eastbourne 5-1 at Redwood Park.

Tawa captain Sean Hennessy was happy with the final result but said the team played poorly early on.

“We can’t really complain about a 5-1 win, but we had wanted to put a few [goals] away early to knock their spirits and that didn’t really happen.”

In fact, it was Eastbourne that put the early pressure on Tawa.

It managed to test the home side’s keeper several times but was unable to convert its chances.

However, after 33 minutes the deadlock was broken when lanky Jason Pine towered above Eastbourne’s defence and headed the ball home.

Minutes later, Dan Wood consolidated the lead with a second goal, and Tawa went into the break 2-nil up.

Tawa scored shortly after the restart through Peter Withers, who then added another two in due course.

Eastbourne scored its only goal late in the game.

Tawa created several more chances in the dying minutes but was unable to capitalise further.

Withers moved from England to New Zealand earlier this year.

He said the team is not dwelling on the result because Tawa will face a real test next week when it plays top-of-the-table Petone.

“Today’s result was just a confidence booster for next week.

“That’s the one we have to win.”

## Exercise 2

Watch a major televised game of your choosing and write a match report that’s ready to be filed within five minutes of full time. This will be used for online and the first edition of your newspaper. You have 450 words for this piece.

Keep in mind the word limit, because you are on deadline and an editor doesn’t need the extra hassle of cutting copy.

Compare your article with the actual match reports that appear on online news sites like [www.stuff.co.nz](http://www.stuff.co.nz) and [nzherald.co.nz](http://nzherald.co.nz)

Repeat the exercise with other games.

## Exercise 3

To keep up to date with what’s going on in the world of sport, do the regular sports quiz on stuff. Go to the stuff homepage ([www.stuff.co.nz](http://www.stuff.co.nz)), click on “Quizzes”, then search “sports”.