

Name:

## Day One

# The Shooting of Tamir Rice

### Part 1: Silent read

➔ Learn about the tragic murder of a 12-year-old boy. Read silently.

“Shots fired, male down,” a police officer broadcast into his radio. It was November, 2014 in a park in Cleveland, Ohio. “Black male, maybe 20... black handgun...”

However, the officer was tragically wrong. It wasn't a Black man who the White officer had just gunned down. It was a twelve-year-old boy, Tamir Rice, who lived nearby. And it wasn't a handgun in his possession; it was a realistic toy.

This tragic story began with a casual trade. Earlier, Tamir had rifled through his mother's bureau drawer, searching for a plaything. He'd found a cellphone and brought it outside to the park. An older friend offered to take the phone to a store to have the service unlocked. Tamir was eager to borrow his friend's lifelike toy gun until he returned. Tamir seemed thrilled by the novelty of the replica. He horsed around with it, striking poses.

What occurred next? A cascade of disturbing incidents led to the moment when Tamir took his final breath. The 911 caller relayed that the gun was “probably fake” and the person holding it was “probably a juvenile.” This crucial information, however, wasn't communicated to the officers. One of the officers, Timothy Loehmann, had a history of emotional instability. The officers didn't heed the policy regarding use-of-force. Instead, Loehmann shot Tamir in the abdomen from close range. Neither officer performed first aid or took the dying boy's vital signs.

Tamir was considered a lively, spirited child who adored pranks. His heartbroken mother said, “Somebody has to be held accountable.”

Source: “In Tamir Rice Case, Many Errors by Cleveland Police, Then a Fatal One,” *The New York Times*, January 22, 2015.



## Day One

// one minute

# The Shooting of Tamir Rice

### Part 2: First timed read

WPM \_\_\_\_\_

“Shots fired, male down,” a police officer broadcast into his radio. It was November, 2014 in a park in Cleveland, Ohio. “Black male, maybe 20... black handgun...”

However, the officer was tragically wrong. It wasn't a Black man who the White officer had just gunned down. It was a twelve-year-old boy, Tamir Rice, who lived nearby. And it wasn't a handgun in his possession; it was a realistic toy. 59  
69

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99  
117  
132  
146

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177  
189  
204  
217  
232  
234

Tamir was considered a lively, spirited child who adored pranks. His heartbroken mother said, “Somebody has to be held accountable.” 247  
254

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### Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

Why was Tamir Rice shot?

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How did the officers react after Tamir was shot?

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## Day One

# The Shooting of Tamir Rice

### Part 4: Phrase-cued reading

- Read the passage **out loud** in phrases to your partner.
- Pause at each / mark for a phrase.
- Also pause at each // mark that shows the end of a sentence.

“Shots fired, / male down,” / a police officer broadcast into his radio. // It was November, / 2014 / in a park in Cleveland, / Ohio. // “Black male, / maybe 20... / black handgun...” //

However, / the officer was tragically wrong. // It wasn’t a Black man / who the White officer had just gunned down. // It was a twelve-year-old boy, / Tamir Rice, / who lived nearby. // And it wasn’t a handgun in his possession; / it was a realistic toy. //

This tragic story began / with a casual trade. // Earlier, / Tamir had rifled through his mother’s bureau drawer, / searching for a plaything. // He found a cellphone / and brought it outside to the park. // An older friend / offered to take the phone to a store / to have the service unlocked. // Tamir was eager to borrow his friend’s lifelike toy gun / until he returned. // Tamir seemed thrilled by the novelty of the replica. // He horsed around with it, / striking poses. //

What occurred next? // A cascade of disturbing incidents / led to the moment when Tamir took his final breath. // The 911 caller relayed that the gun was “probably fake” / and the person holding it was “probably a juvenile.” // This crucial information, / however, / wasn’t communicated to the officers. // One of the officers, / Timothy Loehmann, / had a history of emotional instability. // The officers didn’t heed the policy regarding use-of-force. // Instead, / Loehmann shot Tamir in the abdomen from close range. // Neither officer performed first aid / or took the dying boy’s vital signs. //

Tamir was considered a lively, / spirited child / who adored pranks. // His heartbroken mother said, / “Somebody has to be held accountable.” //

I read the passage in phrases out loud to my partner.