

HOW TO WRITE A NEWSPAPER ARTICLE

Miss L Harris



What is a newspaper?

There are two different kinds of national newspapers in the UK:

Broadsheets: these are newspapers printed on large sheets of newspaper.

Tabloids: these are printed on smaller sheets of newspaper.

Name of Newspaper

The Daily Mirror

Headline

40p

Thursday, 9th October

DOG SAVES THE DAY!

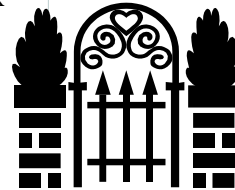
Heroic action of dog saves owner from certain death

Sub-heading

An opening paragraph is usually written in bold font and tells the reader briefly about the details of the story.

xxxxxx
xxxxxxxx
xxxxxxxx x x xxx
xxx x xxxxxxxx
xxxxxxxx
xxxxxxxx xxx
xxxxxxxx xxxx
xxx xxx
xxxxxxxx xxxx.
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xxxxxx x x xxx
xxx x xxxxxxxx
xxxx.

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xxx xx xxxxx
xxxxxx xxxx
xxxxxx.



The condemned gate

xx xxxx x x x
x x
xxxxxxxxxxxx
xxxx
xxxxxxxxxxxxxx
xxx xx
xxxxxx.

Image

Opening paragraph

The rest of the article provides a more detailed report of the event.

Xxxxx xxxxx
xxxxxxxx xx
xxxx x x x x x
xxxxxxxxxxxx

Secondary Story

This story may or may not be related in some way to the first story. It is an important story but it isn't the 'top' story of the issue.

Caption

Columns

Task 1

In your workbooks, write brief explanations of the following elements of newspaper reports

1. Headline
2. Sub-heading
3. Image
4. Caption
5. Opening paragraph
6. Columns

Headlines

Newspaper headlines are designed to attract the reader's attention.

- Use dramatic or emotional words, such as:

Crisis Drama Clash Fury Battle Row

- Alliteration – 'Pick up a Penguin'
- Puns – 'Kentucky Freed Chicken' (Jokes)
- Rhymes/half rhymes – 'St Helen's Glass has the class'
'Beanz Meanz Heinz'

Task

Try to think of headlines to make readers want to read these stories:

1. High exam results at your school.
2. A huge storm over your town.
3. A footballer's shorts fall down during an important game.

Try to use a range of techniques- such as alliteration, puns, full and half-rhyme.

Direct Speech

- He said, 'I am on the point of leaving'.
- 'You are as daft as my brother,' Wendy said.
- Emma declared, 'I shall go shopping.'
- 'I have your name and address,' said the policeman.

These are the EXACT words spoken

Quotations in Newspaper Articles

Direct Speech

Mrs Jones, a local shopkeeper said, 'I couldn't believe it when Robbie Williams turned up at my shop.'

These words came DIRECTLY from Mrs. Jones' mouth

Quotations in Newspaper Articles

Reported Speech

It was a complete surprise for Mrs Jones when
Robbie Williams turned up at her shop.

These aren't the actual words that Mrs. Jones
said, although it does tell us how she felt.

Indirect Speech

Task 2

Change these sentences into the reported speech form.

- They said, 'We always travel by public transport.'
- Doug said, 'I passed all my exams last year.'
- 'Where will you spend the holidays?' asked Jenny.
- 'Please give me another chance,' she begged.

Newspaper Articles- the opening paragraph

- **What?** What has happened, what is the situation, etc.
- **Who?** Who is or was involved.
- **When?** When the event took place, or is likely to take place.
- **Where?** Where the event took place.

Task 3

Make a table like the one below, and indicate the **What? Who? When? Where?**

Over £10,000 of computer equipment was stolen from Byte Size computer store in Kilby last night. The owner, Mr Eric Jones ...

Two pupils from Fair Oaks Primary School in Nottingham were presented with awards for bravery on Friday.

Passengers at Greenwich Station were left bewildered yesterday morning when the 8.05 train to London sailed straight through the station as part of a time-saving experiment.

Passage	What?	Who?	When?	Where?
A				

Developing a Newspaper Report

- **HOW?** How the event happened.
This may include some description of actions.
- **WHY?** Why the event took place?

Here to help!

Here are some sentence starters to help you write your article:

Yesterday...

(Monday) evening ...

The event occurred ...

It is believed ...

According to eye-witnesses...

It was said to be ...

Many claim ...

For further information ...