

The Gazette Gazette: Newspaper Reporter Challenge

Learning objective: To identify the key features and structure of a newspaper report, including headlines, the 5 Ws, and formal language.

Read the information provided by Kit the Fox about newspaper writing, then answer the 10 questions below to earn your Reporter's Badge!

A newspaper report needs a catchy Headline to grab the reader's attention. The first paragraph, called the orientation, answers the 5 Ws: Who, What, Where, When, and Why. Journalists use formal language to report the facts. Every report should include a by-line, which tells the reader who wrote the story, and a caption under any photograph to explain what is happening.

Word bank: Headline · Orientation · Journalist · Caption · Formal · 5 Ws · Photograph · Columns · By-line

1. 1. What is the main title of a newspaper report called? A) The By-line B) The Headline* C) The Caption D) The Footer (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: A newspaper report should be written in the first person (using 'I' and 'me'). (1 mark)

3. 3. Which of these is NOT one of the 5 Ws? A) Who B) Where C) Why D) Which* (1 mark)

4. 4. What do we call the name of the person who wrote the report, usually found under the headline? (1 mark)

5. 5. Why do journalists include photographs in their reports? A) To make the page look pretty B) To give evidence and show the reader what happened* C) To fill up empty space D) Because they like art (1 mark)

6. 6. True or False: The purpose of a newspaper report is to inform the reader about real events. (1 mark)

7. 7. What is the short piece of text under a photograph called? (1 mark)

8. 8. Should a newspaper report use formal or informal language? A) Formal* B) Informal C) Slang D) Text-speak (1 mark)

9. 9. True or False: Newspaper reports are organised into thin vertical strips called columns. (1 mark)

10. 10. In which paragraph should you find the most important information (the 5 Ws)? A) The last paragraph B) The middle paragraph C) The first paragraph* (1 mark)

Draw: Draw the front page of a newspaper about a mystery discovery in your local park. Include a catchy headline, a space for a photo, and a caption box.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are a reporter for the local town paper. Write a short paragraph (3-4 sentences) about a lost item being found. Remember to include the 5 Ws: Who found it, what it was, where it was, when it happened, and why it was important!