

Year 4 Newspaper Report Assessment: The Great Library Mystery

Learning objective: To identify, analyse, and apply the structural and linguistic features of a formal newspaper report.

Read the report below carefully. Answer all questions in full sentences unless otherwise specified. Use your best handwriting and check your spelling.

LOCAL HERO DISCOVERED IN TOWN SQUARE

By Kit the Fox

Yesterday afternoon, the quiet town of Oakwood was brought to a standstill by an extraordinary discovery. Whilst clearing debris from the ancient clock tower, a local gardener stumbled upon a hidden wooden chest filled with historical scrolls. Historian Ellie the Elephant arrived shortly after to confirm the items were authentic artefacts from the Victorian era. 'I was simply pruning the ivy when I heard a hollow sound,' stated the gardener. The town council plans to display these treasures in the community hall this weekend. Entry will cost £2.00 for adults and £1.00 for children, with all proceeds supporting the library restoration fund.

Word bank: headline · byline · orientation · witness statement · past tense · formal tone · caption · photograph · 5 Ws

1. Identify the 'headline' in the text above. Why is a headline written in bold, large text? (2 marks)

2. List the '5 Ws' (Who, What, Where, When, Why) based on the report. Use a bulleted list. (5 marks)

3. Find one example of a 'witness statement' in the text. Why do journalists include direct quotes from witnesses? (3 marks)

4. Explain why the author uses the past tense to describe the events of the discovery. (2 marks)

5. The report mentions an entry fee of £2.00 for adults and £1.00 for children. If a family of two adults and three children visited, what would the total cost be? Show your working. (3 marks)

6. Compare and contrast: How does a newspaper report differ from a fictional storybook? Give two specific reasons. (2 marks)

7. Write a short paragraph (3-5 sentences) reporting on a new discovery made by Nova the Owl in the forest. You must include a headline and maintain a formal journalistic tone. (5 marks)

8. Justify your answer: Why is it important for a journalist to remain neutral and factual when reporting on a local event? (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a photograph that might accompany this news story, including a caption underneath describing the scene.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Challenge: What might happen if the gardener had decided to keep the chest hidden? Write a brief persuasive argument explaining why historical artefacts should be shared with the public rather than kept private.