

Reporting for Duty: The BookFlik Gazette

Learning objective: To identify and apply the key features of a newspaper report, including the headline, orientation, and past tense reporting.

Read the requirements for each question carefully. Max the monkey is busy writing a report about a local mystery, and he needs your expertise to ensure his article is ready for the morning edition!

N/A

Word bank: Headline · Orientation · Caption · Past tense · Third person · Journalistic · Witness · Byline

1. Max needs a catchy headline for his story about a giant sunflower found in the park. Write two potential headlines using alliteration or a pun. (2 marks)

2. The 'Orientation' (the 5 Ws: Who, What, Where, When, Why) is essential. If a mysterious golden key was discovered in the library yesterday, write an orientation paragraph of 3-4 sentences. (4 marks)

3. Newspaper reports use the past tense. Rewrite this sentence so it is suitable for a report: 'Pip the caterpillar eats the map and is sad.' (2 marks)

4. Explain why it is important for a newspaper reporter to remain objective and use the third person (he, she, they) rather than the first person (I, me, my). (3 marks)

5. Justify your answer: If you were writing a report about an exciting event at school, why would you choose to include a direct quote from a witness? (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a newspaper layout for 'The BookFlik Gazette'. Include a large space for a photograph with a box underneath for a caption, and a column for the main article text.



Extension challenge: Compare and contrast a newspaper report with a diary entry. What might happen if a newspaper report was written in the first person? Write a short paragraph explaining the consequences for the credibility of the news story.