

Reporting the News: Newspaper Writing Skills

Learning objective: To identify and use the key features of a newspaper report, including the headline, orientation, and formal journalistic language.

Read each question carefully and use your knowledge of newspaper report writing to answer. Remember to use formal, objective language and maintain the 'who, what, where, when, and why' structure.

N/A - This worksheet focuses on applying newspaper writing techniques.

Word bank: Headline · Orientation · Formal · Objective · Byline · Captions · Lead Paragraph · Direct Speech · Columns

1. Max the monkey is writing a report about a local park clean-up. Write an eye-catching headline for his story that uses alliteration. (2 marks)

2. What are the '5 Ws' that must be included in the lead paragraph (orientation) of a newspaper report? (5 marks)

3. Explain why it is important for a newspaper report to be written in the third person rather than the first person. (2 marks)

4. Rewrite this informal sentence into formal journalistic language: 'The park was super messy and everyone was really annoyed about it.' (2 marks)

5. If Pip the caterpillar were interviewing a witness for a story, how would you correctly punctuate a direct quote from them in your report? (3 marks)

6. Look at a photograph of a local event. Write a caption of one sentence that explains what is happening in the image. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw the layout of a newspaper front page. Include space for a headline, a large photograph with a caption, and two columns of text.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph (50–70 words) reporting on a fictional event involving Nova the owl discovering a rare star in the night sky. Ensure you use the past tense and formal tone.