

The Daily Forest Gazette: A Grand Discovery

Learning objective: To analyse the features and purpose of a newspaper report, identifying key information and authorial intent.

Read the following newspaper report carefully. Use your knowledge of journalism to answer the questions below, ensuring you provide evidence from the text where required.

EXTRAORDINARY FIND IN THE OAKWOOD GLADE

By Kit the Fox, Lead Reporter

Yesterday afternoon, the tranquil atmosphere of the Oakwood Glade was interrupted by a remarkable archaeological discovery. Nova the Owl, whilst conducting her nightly stargazing research, stumbled upon a metallic chest partially submerged in the soft earth. The mysterious artefact, adorned with intricate, swirling patterns that resemble ancient constellations, has baffled local experts.

"I initially thought it was merely a fallen meteorite," Nova remarked, adjusting her spectacles. "However, upon closer inspection, the craftsmanship is clearly deliberate and man-made."

Max the Monkey, our resident mathematician, has been enlisted to measure the dimensions of the chest and decipher the complex geometric sequences engraved upon the lid. Whilst the contents remain a mystery, speculation is rife throughout the forest. Some suggest it contains hidden maps, while others dream of ancient treasures. For now, the area has been cordoned off by Leo the Lion to ensure the site remains undisturbed. The Daily Forest Gazette will continue to track this developing story as more information emerges from the woodland floor. Will this discovery rewrite our local history? Stay tuned for further updates in tomorrow's edition.

Word bank: Headline · Subheading · Byline · Journalistic · Evidence · Objective · Orientation · Publication

1. Identify two specific details about the chest mentioned in the report. (2 marks)

2. Who is currently responsible for protecting the site, and what is their primary role? (2 marks)

3. Why might the author have included a direct quote from Nova the Owl? Explain the effect this has on the reader. (3 marks)

4. Based on the text, what evidence is there to suggest that the chest is not a natural object? (3 marks)

5. Do you think the forest animals should open the chest immediately, or wait for further scientific analysis? Justify your answer using reasons. (4 marks)

Draw: Draw an illustration of the mysterious chest discovered in the Oakwood Glade. Ensure you include the 'intricate, swirling patterns that resemble ancient constellations' described in the text.



Extension challenge: Write a follow-up newspaper article (100 words) describing the moment the chest is finally opened. What is inside, and how do Nova and Max react to the contents? Use formal journalistic language.