

Breaking News Report: The Weekly Gazette

Learning objective: To write a formal newspaper report using journalistic features, including a headline, orientation, and eyewitness quotes.

Today, you are a reporter for the town newspaper. Use this template to structure your news story. Remember to use the past tense, include the 5 Ws (Who, What, Where, When, Why) in your opening paragraph, and use direct speech for your eyewitness accounts.

Word bank: Headline · Journalist · Eyewitness · Investigation · Sensational · Formal · Report · Published · Chronological · Inverted pyramid

1. Headline: Create a catchy, punchy headline that summarises the main event in 5-8 words. (2 marks)

2. Orientation (The Lead): Write the opening paragraph. Explain who was involved, what happened, where it took place, and when it occurred. (4 marks)

3. The Main Details: Describe the event in more detail. Use formal language to explain why or how this situation developed. (4 marks)

4. Eyewitness Quote: Include a quote from a witness. Remember to use speech marks and an appropriate reporting verb (e.g., explained, stated, claimed). (3 marks)

5. Conclusion: Write a final sentence explaining what will happen next or how the local community is reacting. (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Ask Max the monkey if he can spot any math in your story! Can you add a caption for a photograph that might accompany this article? Make sure your caption describes the action clearly.