Purpose

To retell events as they occurred and to inform the reader, including the most important information.



English writing genres

Newspaper report UKS2



Additional language features

Connectives for newspaper reports:

After that. Later on. Much later. Afterwards. As evening fell, Days later, As the sun set, Before long, Eventually, Shortly after this, Fortunately, Unfortunately, Fortuitously, Hours later. Immediately after, Suddenly, Amazingly, Later that day, Moments later. Incredibly, Unbelievably Seconds later. Shortly after dusk, Terrifyingly

Gloriously,

Simultaneously,

Within minutes.

Without any warning,

Features of newspaper reports

- Written in the past tense because they recount what has happened.
- A brief, snappy headline captures the reader's attention.
- The opening should include the most important information (the 5 Ws): what, where, when, why and who.
- Some of the 5 Ws may follow in the second paragraph.
- Short sub-headings are used as an additional way of organising the text, making it easier for the reader to follow.
- Events should be recounted in order.
- Often, two different viewpoints are shared to answer questions (for example: why did it happen? Was anyone to blame? What is the end result?
- There is wide use of short, factual sentences.
- Specific names of people, places and objects are used.
- Quotations can be used from somebody who was there (an eye witness) or from an expert in the matter being reported on.
- The report should conclude with a closing statement to sum up the main events and sometimes anticipate future events.

Useful phrases and checklist

Useful phrases for indirect speech:

A spokesman stated that
He agreed that
She continued, informing us
He refused to accept that
She disputed
They reported
She went on to state that
In addition to this,
He empathised
They also spoke of how

Newspaper report checklist:

- Have you included a headline and subheadings?
- What is the event you're reporting?
- Where does it take place?
- When did it take place?
- Why did the event happen?
- Who is the report about?
- Have you included a picture?