

**The Primary Stage of Grades (4-5)  
School Year 2022- 2023**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Subject:** English Language  
Writing Worksheet #1

**Date:** / /

**Class:** Grade 5CP (All Sections)

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## Writing a newspaper article

### Objective/s:

- \* Identify the features of writing a newspaper article
- \* Write a newspaper article.

**We read newspaper reports (articles) to find out what is happening in our local community, our country and the wider world.**

### Newspaper articles should:

- Include facts. You can do this by answering the 5 Ws: what, when, who, where, why?
- Have a short, snappy and informative headline.
- Provide a summary at the start explaining what happened (but not giving everything)
- Use paragraphs to help the reader clearly understand the information.
- Provide quotes to show people's opinions about the event.
- Be formal (written as though you're talking to someone older than you, like a teacher)
- Use third person pronouns (he, she, it, they)
- Should be written in the past tense (because the events have already happened)

## The five main parts, of a news article.

1. **Headline** (Heading) The headline is the title of the news article.

The headline can make or break your reader's interest. If it is not interesting, engaging and creative, it is less likely to draw the attention of the reader. Not only should it be creative enough to grab the reader's attention but also precise and concise to reflect what your article is all about.

- A good headline informs the reader about “what, when and where” in a glance.
- Keep it clear and brief, not more than five words
- You can also make the headline in the end, after you have finished writing. It will give you a better idea of what to focus on that can appropriately sum-up your article.

2. **Byline**. A byline tells the reader who wrote the story. On short, un-bylined stories (routine speeches, game stories, announcements, etc.), the dateline generally should reflect where the story took place.

3. **Location**, this is usually placed at the beginning of the article in bold print. If the city or location is well-known, the name can be written alone, but if the city is less famous, more information is included.
  
4. **Lead Paragraph(s)**, A lead is an opening paragraph that gives the audience the most important information of the news story in a concise and clear manner, while still maintaining the readers' interest. The lead briefly answers the questions “who”, “what”, “when”, “why”, “where”, and “how”. The ‘skeleton’ of the story can be found here.
  
5. **Supporting Paragraph(s)**, These are the paragraphs which follow the lead. They develop the ideas introduced by the lead, and give more information in the form of explanations, details, or quotes. In many online magazines, these paragraphs are found on subsequent pages.

<sup>1</sup>the name of the newspaper

# The Sporting Telegraph<sup>1</sup>

www.sporting-telegraph.com

The Number One Sports Newspaper

<sup>3</sup>a sub-headline which gives a bit more information

## Brilliant Bolt Grabs Gold Again!<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup>a headline that uses pun, rhyme or alliteration

<sup>4</sup>a 'byline' (the writer's name)

### Jamaican Sprinter Takes London by Storm Winning Three Olympic Gold Medals<sup>3</sup>

*Exclusive Report by John Stevenson<sup>4</sup>*

<sup>5</sup>an introductory paragraph that includes the 5 W's

Usain Bolt reaffirmed his title as the World's Fastest Man by achieving a marvellous third gold medal of the games this week. In front of a deafening capacity crowd in London's Olympic Stadium, the 25-year-old world record holder completed a remarkable set of victories to establish himself as one of the greatest sprinters of all time.



<sup>6</sup>pictures with captions

Usain Bolt: winner of three Olympic gold medals in London

Following earlier victories in both the 100m and 200m individual sprint, Bolt inspired his Jamaica team-mates to a third triumph in the 4x100m relay. The three gold medals are added to his personal collection alongside similar achievements in the corresponding individual events of Beijing in 2008.

The sprinter's Jamaican team-mates were equally jubilant following their relay victory, describing it as a momentous day in Athletics history. Even the American team, who were disqualified from the relay following a disastrous illegal baton handover, were gracious in defeat. Admitting disappointment at missing out on a team medal, Justin Gatlin promised supporters that the team had given it all they could and refused to criticise the officials' decision, but did apologise to the US fans.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>7</sup>a commentary of the main events

Afterwards, the reigning 100m and 200m world champion was understandably buoyant in his celebrations.

Now thinking ahead to his future and the potential of bringing down the curtain on a glittering Athletics career, Bolt confirmed that he intends to compete in 2016 but retire before the next Olympic Games in 2020. Instead, he will focus on charity work, a likely ambassador role in the sport or could even consider a dramatic switch to another sport such as football. As the crowds filtered out of the magnificent stadium, the talk was all about just one man - the incredible Usain Bolt, who is surely already an Olympic legend.

<sup>10</sup>a conclusion paragraph to explain what might happen next

<sup>9</sup>direct and reported speech

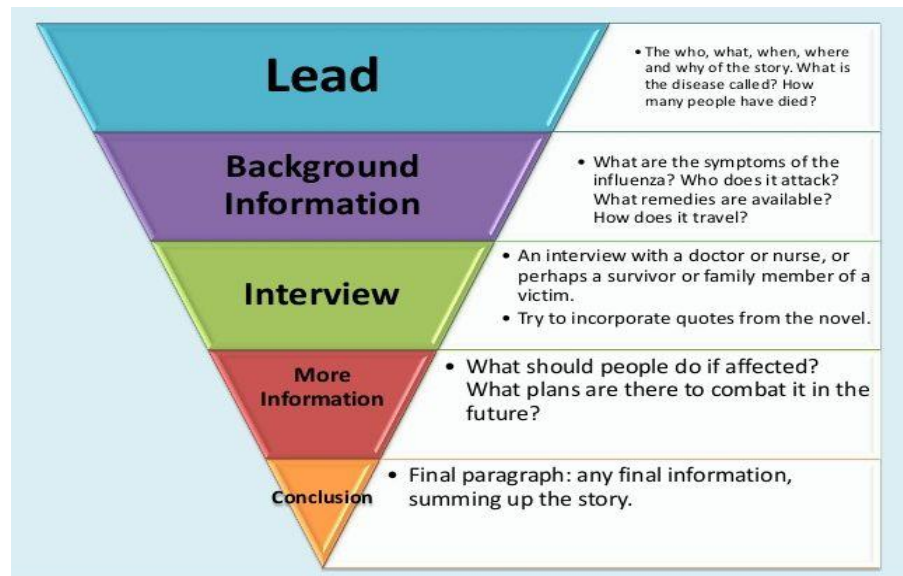
"It's a brilliant feeling. It's been a long road. I'm happy, but I'm relieved. It's great to be in the history books as one of the greatest. I'm proud of myself," he told reporters.

<sup>8</sup>write in third person and past tense

Although other athletes have won more medals than Bolt, including American sprinter Carl Lewis who was commentating for a television network, no-one else can match the explosive power and unrivalled pace exhibited by Bolt.

## What makes good newspaper article writing?

1. A news article tells the **truth**: the journalist writes facts that are, to the best of his/her knowledge, true. A careful journalist only states things



that he/she can prove to be true, and will 'cite' the source of any uncertain information. example: "According to Mrs. Brown, principal of North Oaks High School, most grade 9 students take French as a second language." In the statement above, even if it is later discovered that more grade 9 students take Spanish instead of French, the journalist has not lied. He/she has only claimed that Mrs. Brown says more grade 9s take French, which is still a true statement.

2. News is **factual**. Something that is factual can be proved or disproved. For example, "Last Saturday was a rainy day," is a factual statement, because it can be clearly shown that last Saturday either was or was not rainy. "Rainy days are depressing," is not a factual statement, because it is a personal opinion.

3. News articles are **objective**. They do not reflect the personal opinions of the journalist. Quotes and opinions of witnesses and observers to events may be included in an article, but they must be cited.

4. News articles **relate information** that affects or is of interest to the public. Some newspapers print articles that are of interest to a smaller audience. When the audience is concentrated in a particular region, such as a particular city or state, the newspaper is known as a ‘local’ paper.

5. **The purpose of a news article is to report the facts** of a current event or problem. Although many people enjoy reading the news, the purpose of a news article is not entertainment.

6. The language used in news articles is often different from the language that is used in everyday conversation, or in stories or narratives. The style of writing is **impersonal**, and the vocabulary is often more formal.

❖ **Write a report about Traffic Jam Issue in your area, how it effects your life and your family’s life, when is it happening, who is responsible and don’t forget to to add direct speech and a conclusion.**

**What's the SCOOP?**

Thinking and Writing about Current Events

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Author: \_\_\_\_\_ Newspaper or Source: \_\_\_\_\_  
Headline of Article: \_\_\_\_\_

**WHO?**

1. Who is this story about? \_\_\_\_\_  
2. Who does this story affect? \_\_\_\_\_

**WHAT?**

3. What is the **TOPIC** of this article? \_\_\_\_\_  
4. What is the author's **POINT** about the topic? \_\_\_\_\_

LIST 4 IMPORTANT FACTS FROM THE ARTICLE

• \_\_\_\_\_  
• \_\_\_\_\_  
• \_\_\_\_\_  
• \_\_\_\_\_

**WHEN?**

5. When did this story take place? \_\_\_\_\_

**WHERE?**

6. Where did this story take place? Where did the issue or event occur? (city, country, region, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

**WHY?**

7. Why is this story so important? Why does this matter? to you? to your community? to the world? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_





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**Features of a Newspaper Report Checklist**

Features	√/ X
A headline that uses a pun, rhyme or alliteration	
A subtitle which gives a bit more information about what the report is about	
The reporter's name ( By Line)	
The Lead: An introductory paragraph containing the 5 WH (what, where, when, who, why)	
Information about the main events presented in chronological order	
Pictures with captions	
Written in the third person and in the past tense	
Direct and reported speech	
Formal language	
Rhetorical Questions	
A conclusion paragraph to explain what might happen next	