

Writing a Newspaper Report

Newspaper Reports

Key Points to remember:

- Remember the **Type, Audience and Purpose** for the newspaper report. The audience and purpose may be different between a broadsheet newspaper and a tabloid.
- A newspaper report is a **formal** piece of writing.
- It is often appropriate to use pictures as a part of a newspaper report.
- Look at **real** newspapers to learn about the style and tone used.
- Newspaper articles should be written in **columns**.



Order/Organisation

Key Points to remember:

- Remember to use **topic sentences** to move your writing on to your next point. (See example overleaf)
- The events should be dealt with in **chronological** order.
- A **detailed description of the events** should be followed by an **eye witness account** or a comment from someone involved.
- Round off your essay with an appropriate comment that makes it clear the article is finished.

Content

Key Points to remember:

- Your opening paragraph should **briefly outline the story** and try to “hook” the reader. The rest of your article will fill in the details.
- Include **specific facts** like the full name and age of those involved and the specific times and dates of the events.
- It is very common to have comments from people involved in the form of **eye witness statements**
- Pictures used should include a **caption** to anchor the meaning.



Language

Key Points to remember:

- A newspaper report should be a **formal** piece of writing.
- Headlines should be dramatic. Try to use techniques such as **puns** and **alliteration** to do this.
- **Avoid elisions** like “don’t” and “won’t” (except in the eye witness accounts.)
- Try to use emotive language for more impact (see overleaf)

RARE ROMAN HELMET NETS LOCAL MAN MILLIONS

A rare Roman helmet which was found buried in a muddy field has been sold for a massive £2.3 million.

It was found in May by an amateur treasure

hunter who was out searching with a metal detector in Cumbria, England.

It is one of only three ever found in the UK and was snapped up by a mystery phone bidder at an auction in London.

The auction house's London head of antiques.

Newspaper Report Writing Targets	
Engaging headline	
Sub-headings	
Columns	
Illustrations/Diagrams	
Clear, effective opening	
Main events	
Important facts in detail	
Events/facts clearly linked	
Events/facts in organised order	
Witness statements/comments	
Effective and powerful words/phrases	
Appropriate tone	
Fully rounded off conclusion	
Core Targets	
Accurate punctuation, supporting structure and meaning	
Sentences well constructed and of varied length and type	
Accurate use of paragraphs for separate ideas and events	
Appropriate layout for witness statements/comments	
Spelling – accurate, including more sophisticated vocabulary	

Catchy

First paragraph

Effective

Comment

Heading

Article ends