

Newspaper Report



Structure of news report

Headline – about 4-8 words
summarises report

First sentence/introductory
paragraph 5 x W –when,
what, where, who, why

Rest of report explains in
detail – exact time, place,
direct speech quoted,
consequences

Style of news report

- Sentences are clear and to the point
- Easy to read and well structured
- No unnecessary information, only relevant facts
- No slang, just formal, clear language
- Ideas are well organised
- Report is interesting, worth reading
- Not biased or prejudiced

- Biased – tendency to choose sides, not to be neutral
- The unfair referee was biased when he let his team win.
- Prejudice – an opinion formed without prior knowledge or experience of a matter
- He is being prejudiced if he says that women are the worst drivers.

Writing Task

- Write a report for the school newspaper
- Sports event
- Act of bravery
- School event (Mikro colour run, Jongtong concert)
- 120 – 140 words



Read the following examples: Headings

- Fire destroys family home
- Family loses all in blaze
- Kuils River home goes up in flames



Introduction (par.1)

(when, who, where, what, why)

- Yesterday in the early hours of the morning a home in Kuils River was destroyed by a fire which started due to an electrical fault. The family of four was lucky to escape in time.

Rest of report – all the details

- Yesterday morning at two o' clock Mr Brian Smith woke up when he smelled smoke. He noticed that flames were coming from the kitchen. He quickly woke his wife and two young children, aged 5 and 7. "The fire was spreading at a tremendous pace and we could only grab some important belongings," exclaimed a shocked Mr Smith.

- Mrs Cindy Smith contacted the fire brigade, which arrived 10 minutes later, but the fire had spread too far already. The family could just watch their home go up in flames.
- Mrs Smith said, "All is gone, but we are lucky to be alive and that is all that matters."