

Newspaper Report

(Also known as a formal recount)

Features

- Interesting summary sentence – grabs the reader’s attention
- Opening paragraph includes the W words to sum up what exactly has happened
- Chronological order – the sequence in which it occurred
- Facts e.g. Date, time etc.
- Exaggerated language
- Quotes –direct and indirect
- **Weasel** words e.g. usually, mostly, approximately– used when the writer is unsure of the facts but wants to appear like they are definite facts

Sentences

It has been rumoured that,...	NAME (age), who was.....,	Only time will tell...
It has been suggested that....	A close source says that....	He emphasised that..
It is apparent that....	Supposedly,	At that precise moment,
As well as...	Allegedly,	Another fact is ..
	It has been revealed...	The question still remains...

Grammar

- passive voice (The bag *was snatched* by...)
- variety of verb forms (Police were going, the man *was last seen*...., what *will happen* to the girl now?)
- standard English (and could mix formalities)
- relative clause The lady, *who is thought to be in her early forties*, was last seen on...

Plan:

Intro
Summary sentence. What happened?

Details
Where, what, how, who, when?

Direct speech (that links to last paragraph)

More info and detail
Reported/indirect speech (that backs up this paragraph)

Conclusion question
Statement playing on words end.

P I E

Main purpose: Inform
(however, it could also persuade, entertain, or have a mix!)

Quotes

Direct:

When questioned... ..stated that, “ .”
He continued by informing us that . . .
It is thought that NAME...., and when questioned about it, he remarked, “It was unbelievable .”
When interviewed about, NAME stated, “I loved it!”
Talking about his experience in, NAME remarked, “It was fabulous!”

Indirect:

He also claimed that .
He went on to state that . . .
He agreed that . . .
It is thought that NAME....,
When asked, NAME said that he.....
It is rumoured that NAME...
When questioned about her ., NAME mentioned that..

Word Bank

alarming	allegedly
purportedly	whopping
rumoured	horrendous
witness	threatening
victim	located
perpetrator	spotted
eye-witness	discovery

Top Tips

- Give a quote from someone believable and trustworthy.
A local Mum; teacher; policeman, a trustworthy member of the community
- Make the reader sympathise with the news story eg If there was an accident, people would feel more alarmed/upset/sympathetic if a baby was hurt, an old lady, a man recovering from surgery etc
- Use interesting verbs (e instead of ‘ran’, try ‘scrambled’)