

Name: _____ Date: _____ Block: _____

News Writing and Reporting Notes

Why is News Reported?

Because people want to know _____
Journalists _____ information and _____ it
Collect it fairly and _____
Present it in a _____ to audiences

News Focuses on the Five Ws and Three Cs

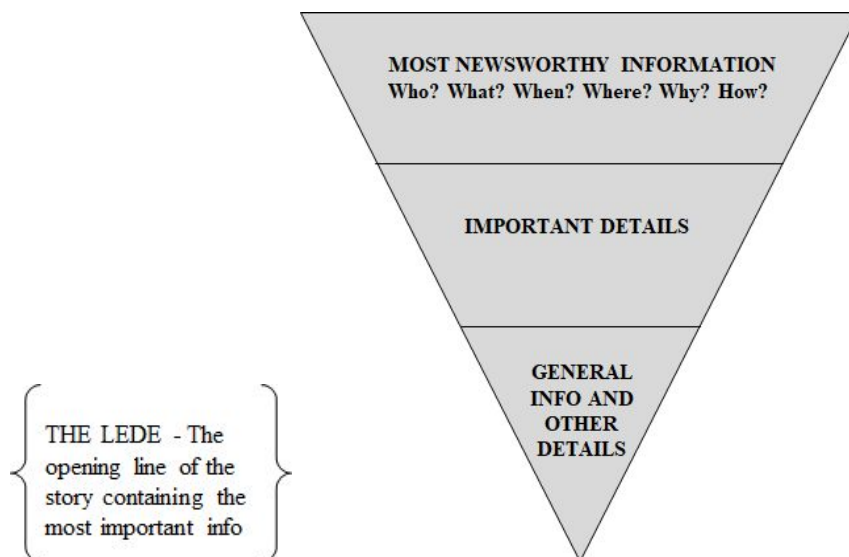
_____ is happening?	_____ - use simple language
_____ is involved?	_____ - keep sentences short
_____ is this happening?	_____ - check your facts,
_____ is it happening?	_____ grammar and punctuation
_____ is it happening?	

How is News Reported?

The most important part of the story is the _____.
So that is where a journalist starts... the story begins with the way the story ends...

Journalists do not tell stories in chronological order. They tell stories in the order of the _____.

All news stories are written in the "inverted pyramid" style.



Ledes - Lead with the Lede

“The most important sentence in any article is the first one. If it doesn’t induce the reader to proceed to the second sentence, your article is dead.” — William Zinsser, On Writing Well
What is a lede?

A _____ is the opening sentence or paragraph of a news article, summarizing the most important aspects of the story. It includes the _____ (What, Who, Where, When, Why)

Applying the Inverted Pyramid

Let’s suppose the City Police Department reports that an accident occurred at 2:30 a.m. today. This is the information the police provided to the press:

A car driven by Joe White, 29 years old, hit a curb on Main Street, smashed into a tree and overturned. Police say White was speeding and lost control of his car. He was hospitalized for minor injuries.

A passenger in White’s car was killed. The passenger was Amanda Smith, 22 years old. She was pronounced dead at 2:45 a.m.

“We are conducting toxicology tests to determine if alcohol was involved,” Police Chief Jack Russell said.

Find the Following:

Most Important Outcome: _____

When: _____

Where: _____

Why: _____

How: _____

Write a good lede for this story. Remember a good lede tell us the MOST IMPORTANT outcome and the 5 Ws.
