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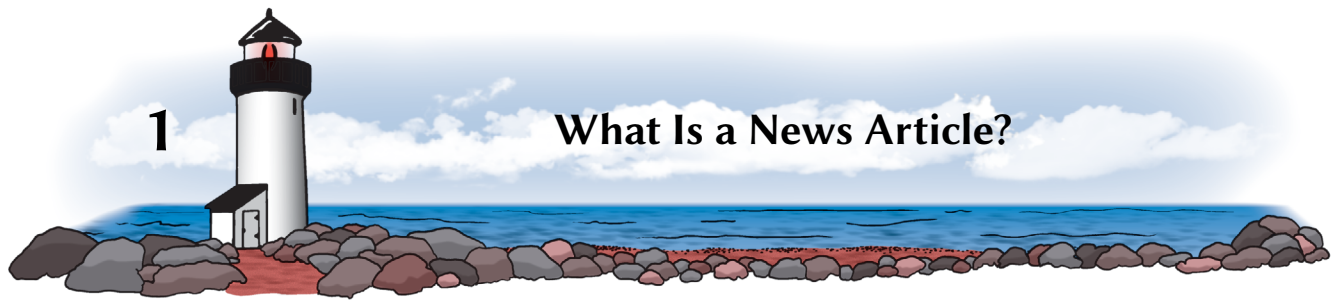
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What Is a News Article?

In this unit, you will work on an expository essay, specifically a news article. Expository writing focuses on teaching readers or “exposing” new information. A news article is a concise, detailed report of an event. Good news articles are based on fact. Even if a news article tells how people felt about an event, the writer does not give his own opinion; he just tells the story.

Storm Tests Residents’ Nerves and Survival

Residents of Conner, Oklahoma, have grown accustomed to storms, but the storm on June 13 was the deadliest in local history.

The day had been hot and humid—just right for stormy weather. That evening, storm clouds gathered five miles south of town. At 7:15 p.m., the National Weather Service issued a tornado warning. People hurried to basements and shelters as sirens wailed.

Lisa Brinks said, “I was at the grocery store when the sirens started. Everyone in the store was herded into the walk-in cooler and freezers to wait out the storm. I was just hoping my daughters at home were all right.”

Joan Roland said, “When I heard the warning, I quickly grabbed my purse and a bottle of water and dashed to the basement. As I sat there, I started thinking of things I should have brought down with me—things that can’t be replaced: photo albums, wedding memoirs, important papers, and other treasures.”

Joan’s husband, a local farmer, had a different reaction: “I was out in the field when I saw the funnel touch down. It wasn’t too long until the whole thing seemed to stop moving and get wider and blacker. I wasn’t sure if I was in its path or not—those things can hop around an awful lot. I didn’t know just what I should do.”

In the tornado’s wake, people tried to cope with a suddenly changed world. Some had their homes and belongings totally destroyed, but they still showed remarkable pluck. Lucille Croft, looking at the wreckage of her home, quipped, “Well, now I don’t have to worry about cleaning my house and getting rid of the clutter.”

The storm brought strangers together. Those who had not experienced the fury first-hand offered sympathy and help.

“Everyone shares in the loss and does what he can to help,” said one resident. “At some point, you will be the one who needs help.”



Lesson 1

A Choose your news topic.

It should be a fairly recent experience. It does not need to be extraordinary. Choose an event that has a couple of witnesses, so you can interview two or three people to get various viewpoints.

- ☐ 1. I will write about _____.
- ☐ 2. I will interview _____.

Review

B Write *present*, *present participle*, *past*, or *past participle* to label each underlined verb or verb phrase.

- 3. _____ The Bay of Fundy experiences the highest tides in the world.
- 4. _____ Many tourists walked out on the sand during low tide.
- 5. _____ Six hours later, the tide had risen over forty feet.
- 6. _____ Leah's family is planning to visit Hopewell Rocks next summer.

C Put parentheses around each prepositional phrase. Underline each adverb.

- 7. Two boys with extremely muddy clothes slid down through the tunnel in the cave.
- 8. The pages of Grandpa's Bible were very thin from years of wear.
- 9. John the Baptist dressed in a garment of camel's hair.

D Underline the correct word.

- 10. **Was, Were** a set of keys found in the parking lot last night?
- 11. Biscuits and gravy **is, are** Raleigh's favorite breakfast food.
- 12. Either a coon or an opossum **was, were** in our corn patch last night.
- 13. Brent and Craig **work, works** at their dad's tire shop in Bridgewater.
- 14. My married sisters **depends, depend** on Mom for advice about gardening and canning.
- 15. The little kitten **lay, laid** on the soft blanket and took a nap.
- 16. Miss Talia asked everyone to **bring, take** a leaf to class tomorrow.
- 17. Alexander always remembers to say thanks for the meals without **further, farther** reminders.

E Write the phrases using the possessive form.

- 18. _____ the talons of the hawk
- 19. _____ the followers of Jesus
- 20. _____ the leaves of the trees



F Write *n*, *v*, *pron*, *adj*, *adv*, *conj*, *prep*, or *int* to label the part of speech of each word.

21. Tides are mainly controlled by the moon's gravity.
22. Look, a starfish and a jellyfish washed up on the shore.
23. Megan left her chair beside the ocean, but the tide swept it away overnight.

G Underline each verb twice. Write *av* for action verb or *lv* for linking verb. Write *do*, *io*, *pn*, or *pa* to label each complement.

24. Switzerland and Ireland are beautiful countries in Europe.
25. Heidi smelled the honeysuckle along the lane.
26. Jeanette stayed calm and alert throughout her terrible ordeal.
27. The Shoshone Indians sold Lewis and Clark some horses for the mountain crossings.

H Add apostrophes where needed.

28. Joseph hasnt learned to write cursive Zs or rs very neatly yet.
29. Doesnt this stack of homework on the bench belong to a high schooler?
30. If youll be home this evening, well finish raking leaves after supper.

I Diagram the sentence.

31. Jesus gave His disciples the promise of the Holy Spirit.

Penmanship

J Using your best handwriting, copy the quotation.

God has given us two hands—one to receive with and the other to give with. We are not cisterns made for hoarding; we are channels made for sharing. —Billy Graham



Spelling – Patterns

Spelling Words

admit	discipline	dismiss	distinct	mission
commit	discriminate	disprove	distract	omit
committee	discussion	dispute	emit	permission
disapprove	dishonest	dissent	intermittent	transmission

The root *mit* comes from the Latin word *mittere*, which means “to send, release, or throw.” It is spelled *miss* when the suffix *-ion* is added.

The prefix *dis-* means “lack of; apart; opposite.” The spelling of a root does not change when a prefix is added.

K Write the spelling word that fits each description. Circle each root formed from *mittere*. Underline each *dis-* prefix.

32. _____ to formally release someone from a social engagement
33. _____ formal authorization to do something
34. _____ a group of people tasked with overseeing something
35. _____ to give out something such as light, heat, or sound
36. _____ to not approve of something
37. _____ to leave something out or fail to perform a duty
38. _____ something that comes and goes irregularly
39. _____ the goal or task someone is assigned to
40. _____ to prove that something is not true
41. _____ to pull the attention away from someone or something
42. _____ lacking honesty; to be untruthful
43. _____ something that can be observed or heard plainly
44. _____ to acknowledge something is true
45. _____ a dialogue about a specific topic or question
46. _____ a different viewpoint or opinion
47. _____ to have differing viewpoints between equals

△ **L** Write the Section 1 spelling words in your notebook.