

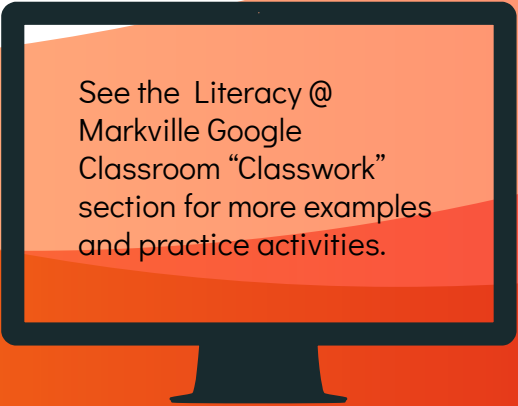
# Writing A News Report

## Winter Literacy Blitz #1A

**Students please log on to the  
Literacy @ Markville  
Secondary School Google  
Classroom**

Google Classroom Join Code:

**anc9xz**



See the Literacy @  
Markville Google  
Classroom “Classwork”  
section for more examples  
and practice activities.



## Target:

Reviewing news report terminology and writing process  
Working cooperatively to accomplish a common task

## Focus Question:

What makes the “inverted pyramid” formula so successful when writing a news report?

**Students please log on to the  
Literacy @ Markville  
Secondary School Google  
Classroom**

Google Classroom Join Code:

**anc9xz**



# What is a News Report?

Students Win Competition



News reports are found in newspapers and their purpose is to **inform readers of what is happening** in the world around them. News reports have a certain structure that you need to follow.

On the **OSSLT** you will be asked to:

Prepare to write a news report based on the **headline and picture** on the next page.

- You will have to **make up the facts and information**, answering the following questions: **Who? What? Where? When? Why? How?**
- You must relate your newspaper report to both the **headline and the picture**.



# When Writing A News Report...

1. When writing a news report:
  - a. What **MUST** the author include?
  - b. What **MUST NOT** be included in the report?
  - c. What are some **tactics/techniques authors use to grab the attention** of the reader of a newspaper?
  - d. What **types of news** do you read/listen to/watch? Why?

**\*Discuss at your table, then as a class.**

## *Zenith to introduce new electronic quartz watch*

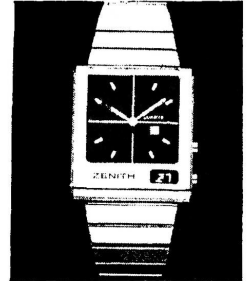
ZENITH TIME S.A., the Swiss watch-making subsidiary of Zenith Radio Corp. of Chicago, will introduce a series of new electronic quartz watches this fall, Charles J. Sindelar, president and general manager of Zenith Time, said.

The Zenith quartz watch is the result of a joint development program by Zenith Time and the Chicago parent firm. Zenith Radio acquired its Swiss watch-making subsidiary in 1971 and began work about three years ago on the electronic watch.

The watch has hands and a dial for permanent display of hours and minutes and an electronic light emitting diode digital readout showing seconds and the date.

THE CIRCUITRY and quartz control system provide accuracy to within one minute a year under normal use, Sindelar said.

A special feature of the watch is a method to change time zones. While the hands are automatically resetting themselves at the push of a button, he said, a memory circuit keeps track of the date



Zenith's new electronic quartz watch, set for July introduction in the U.S.

and counts the seconds so no time is lost when the new setting is made.

Zenith will begin shipping the watches to retailers in July. Prices begin at \$195.



Provide your answer in the Answer Booklet.

## School team qualifies for finals



**Task:**

Write a news report based on the headline and picture above.

You will have to make up the facts and information to answer some or all of the following questions.



Writing a News Article

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Headline News**

Match the headline with the correct lead paragraph.

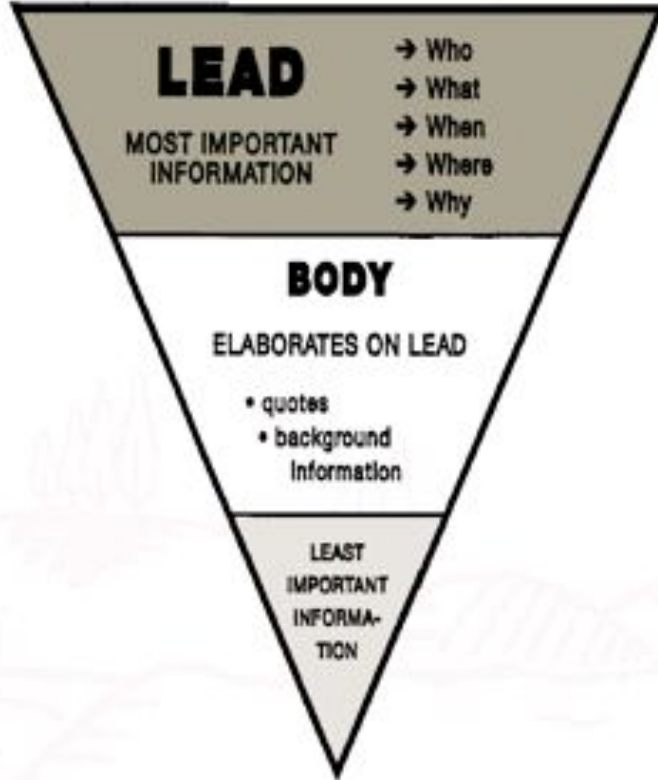
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Language Arts Strikes a Pose</b></li><li>• <b>Santa's Clause isn't Complete</b></li><li>• <b>Capital of Letter is Lost</b></li><li>• <b>Reading Turns to Writing</b></li><li>• <b>Sentences Use Incorrect Language</b></li></ul>	<p>Officials in the town of Letter were panicked last week to discover that a large portion of their funds for the coming year are missing. "We received the monthly statement from the bank, and the money just isn't there," stated city councilor Ellen Lathem. The money was raised by local residents, and was destined to be used to build a new swimming pool. "It goes without saying, without the capital we can't build the pool," mourned fellow councilor David Rosenthal. An investigation has been launched to track down the missing money.</p>	<p>Dozens of parents led their toddlers away from Lafayette mall on Sunday, disappointed by the absence of Santa Claus. The mall had hired Peter Volcek to play the part of the jolly holiday figure, but at the last minute, were informed that building codes did not permit the construction of the temporary 'Santa Land' stage. Several children expressed concern about Santa's health, and were reassured by mall officials that, "Santa is fine, he's just taking a break." The absence of Santa is a serious setback for the mall, which opened only last week.</p>
<p>Mr. Jordan Bates, an English teacher at Kennedy High School, is the star of the newest exhibit at the local art museum. The exhibit is entitled "Teachers on the Weekends," and features photographs of teachers fishing, having picnics, and doing grocery shopping. Ms. Sandra Graham, the artist who prepared the show, was unavailable for comment.</p>	<p>George Smallton, the editor of the Jonesbury Times, was shocked to see his paper Tuesday morning. Since he had last seen it Monday night, something very strange had happened: the paper had switched languages. Headlines that had read "New School in Town" now read "Neue Schule in der Stadt." Mr. Smallton has apologized to the community for the confusion, and has promised to work hard to discover the cause of the mix-up.</p>	<p>The residents of the small town of Reading, Anystate, are tired of waiting for the state to fund road repairs. Irritated at being forgotten in the capital, the inhabitants have started a letter writing campaign. Sent to the governor and the state legislators, the letters describe the terrible condition of the Reading roads, and request money to fix them. "If they won't pay attention to us, we'll just have to make them!" explained local resident Margaret Hickman.</p>



## Student Activity Link:

<https://forms.gle/1fotTbhbSRc8a8hv9>

The Inverted  
Pyramid:



Try to identify the **pyramid-like-organization of the news article** you are about to read on the next slide.



## STORM SHUTS DOWN REGION



Yesterday, a snowstorm hit the southern coast of Ontario, shutting down many of the work areas and affecting millions. The storm that started from Vancouver travelled at 24 km/h and reached the Greater Toronto Area, closing down many regions, specifically York Region.

Weather official, Angie Storm, says, “Canadian weather is usually predictable but we weren’t expecting this huge a storm this late in the year.”

The storm closed down schools, banks and even universities.

“The problem is that we weren’t even warned about it so we were very unprepared. We actually didn’t have our equipment handy when we first heard about it,” says Feliz White, one of the Region’s experts in snow management.

The storm caused many cars to get stuck in the road for as long as two hours.

“The depth of 17 cm of snow is the most shocking snow disaster we have ever had since 1978,” shared Jack, one of the senior citizens affected by the storm.

Due to this disaster, many plans, meetings and lessons were delayed. Students were advised not even attempt going to school after one student slipped into a 50 cm wide hole and broke her leg.

“It was very scary as I was trying to break free from the hole and my body was half buried in snow,” shared Sandy School.

The mayor of the city declared this day “zero day” since nothing could get done.

“I guess this is a wake-up call that we need to always be prepared for snow,” said Mayor Error.

After all, Canadian weather has always had a remarkable history.

NOTE: This sample was written by a grade 10 student on a previous year’s OSSLT

**\*Read this news report individually or as a class.**



# STORM SHUTS DOWN REGION

Headline

Inverted pyramid structure--  
information organized from most  
to least important

Yesterday, a snowstorm hit the southern coast of Ontario, shutting down many of the work areas and affecting millions. The storm that started from Vancouver travelled at 24 km/h and reached the Greater Toronto Area, closing down many regions, specifically York Region

Lead with SWs  
and H

Weather official, Angie Storm, says, "Canadian weather is usually predictable but we weren't expecting this huge a storm this late in the year."

Short  
Paragraphs

The storm closed down schools, banks and even universities.

"The problem is that we weren't even warned about it so we were very unprepared. We actually didn't have our equipment handy when we first heard about it," says Feliz White, one of the Region's experts in snow management.

Factual tone

The storm caused many cars to get stuck in the road for as long as two hours.

Quotation

"The depth of 17 cm of snow is the most shocking snow disaster we have ever had since 1978," shared Jack, one of the senior citizens affected by the storm.

Due to this disaster, many plans, meetings and lessons were delayed. Students were advised not even attempt going to school after one student slipped into a 50 cm wide hole and broke her leg.

"It was very scary as I was trying to break free from the hole and my body was half buried in snow," shared Sandy School.

The mayor of the city declared this day "zero day" since nothing could get done.

"I guess this is a wake-up call that we need to always be prepared for snow," said Mayor Error.

Logical conclusion

After all, Canadian weather has always had a remarkable history.



**\*\*Take examples from your own experiences and experiences of others. Also use names or your friends and people you know to make it easier to invent a story.**

When you include quotes in your news report, **you are going to have to make them up**. Yep, you need to get creative! Since **you are making up the whole story** (i.e. it never really happened – you are creating the story), you need to make up the people you are interviewing in your report and create a quote for what they say.

**\*\*No one is going to check that your news article is real but make it sound realistic...like it could have actually happened.**



# Organizing a News Report Practice Activity

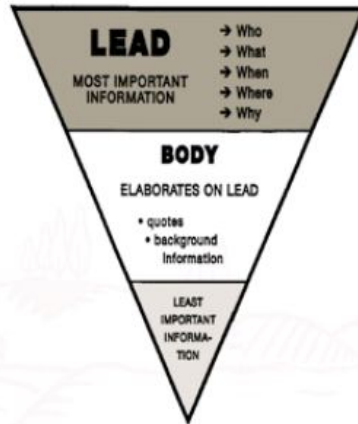
Getting Ready to Write

## Student Activity:

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/17egLRFcleHF14jw3bhNHGbSA39XBteEGHgEGuiohldY/edit?usp=sharing>

**Reminder:** (This activity was also “assigned to you through the Google Classroom” so you should have your own copy to make edits...if not, click on the link above and make a copy of it so you can edit.

The Inverted  
Pyramid:



# Thanks!



## Any questions?

You can email me at:

[michelle.e.wilson@gapps.yrdsb.ca](mailto:michelle.e.wilson@gapps.yrdsb.ca)