

LO: Planning a newspaper report

Tomorrow, you are going to write a news report based on a nursery rhyme, describing what happens.

Your report will be formal and objective (you will be fair and report both sides of the story).

Which nursery rhyme will you choose?

- ▶ Humpty Dumpty
- ▶ Goldilocks and the Three Bears
- ▶ Jack and Jill
- ▶ One of your choice?

LO: Planning a newspaper report

When you have chosen your nursery rhyme, write down the main plot points and suggest reasons for the action.

For example:

Humpty Dumpty

- ▶ Sat on a wall – minding his own business.
- ▶ Fell off – someone distracted him.
- ▶ King's men on their horses turned up – were forced to help him by the people.
- ▶ Couldn't fix him – did they try hard enough?

LO: Planning a newspaper report

When you have chosen your main plot points, draft your first paragraph – remember, this gives your reader all the information about their story so that they can decide whether to read on or not.

For example:

Earlier this morning, the King's Financial Advisor, Humpty Dumpty came crashing down from one of the palace border walls as he practised his early morning yoga moves.

Witnesses believe two unknown companions were responsible for this disaster.

▶ Who, What, Why, When, How

Extension: can you think of an attention-grabbing headline (perhaps with a pun)?

- ▶ Picking up the pieces
- ▶ Scrambled on the sidewalk
- ▶ It's toast for Humpty

LO: Planning a newspaper report

Now plan the remainder of your article:

- ▶ Intro: who, what, where, when, how, why.
- ▶ Paragraph 1: more detail about who and what.
- ▶ Paragraph 2: more detail about where and when.
- ▶ Paragraph 3: more detail about how and why.
- ▶ Paragraph 4: what happens now/in the future.
- ▶ Paragraph 5: your conclusion/opinion.

Success Criteria for your news article

- ▶ Headline attracts attention and may play with language in some way
- ▶ First paragraph answers the questions: Who? What? When? Where?
- ▶ Details such as names of people and places given in full
- ▶ Information logically organised in paragraphs
- ▶ Some opinions may be included, possibly disguised as facts
- ▶ Two interviews with participants / eye witnesses / experts / spokespeople included
- ▶ Direct and reported speech used correctly
- ▶ Final paragraph brings the reader up to the present / future
- ▶ A semi-colon used correctly