

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

### What Is a Newspaper?

A newspaper is a publication that is issued daily or weekly and includes local and international news stories, advertisements, announcements, opinions, cartoons, sports news and television listings. It is an important method of letting the public know everything that is happening in their local area and around the world. Even with the advancements in computer technology, newspapers continue to be an important aspect of everyday life.

It is important to know the sections of the newspaper and what information each one contains. The front page has the most important stories of the day. Each story has its own "headline" and a "by-line" giving the name of the reporter who wrote the story. Every newspaper story has to answer the following questions:

- 5Ws** Who? - who is the story about?
- What? - what is the story about?
- Where? - where does the story take place?
- When? - when does the story take place?
- Why? - why is this happening? (This is not always possible to answer)
- H** How? - how this story happened.

Although every news story cannot fit into a formula, there is a certain structure that is fairly common of all news stories.

1. The first paragraph gives the answers to the most important of the 5 W's and H. The second paragraph tells the rest of the 5 Ws if they were not included in the lead.
2. The rest of the paragraphs elaborates on the information given in the opening and gives more information and details.
3. Background information is included if it is giving new information to a story that had been printed previously in the newspaper. Sometimes it gives information which is necessary to understand the story.
4. A quotation or a statement about the news story is often included in order to explain the importance of the story.
5. Details are provided about the story and are organized into paragraphs. Each paragraph provides one aspect of the story and the details are arranged in order of importance.

Answer each of the following questions:

1. Why are newspapers still important to people? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What sections are included in a newspaper? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What are the main questions a news story must answer? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

**Read the following news story and answer the questions.**

**Nowhere to Go but Up**

By Walt Walton

*The Paper*

Waters men's basketball coach Audrey Hatfield will have a good idea of what she is up against this season after the first two road games that kick off the Tens' 2008-09 schedule this weekend in Mars, Atlantis.

Hatfield faces the daunting task of turning around a team that has finished in last place for the past four seasons. Its best player is still struggling to make a comeback from knee surgery.

The Tens take on the Venus Nines today in Mars before heading to Jupiter to play the Rings on Sunday. The Nines began the season by defeating the Moons 80 -68 last weekend.

Although it is still early in the season, Hatfield says the games are important because they are against two winning teams.

"These games will give us a good idea as to where we stand," said Hatfield.

Playing two different teams back-to-back also means a little more work for the coaches and players in regards to preparation.

"It's obviously tougher because you've got two sets of videotapes to watch and two different teams to prepare for. You want to know what they do on offence and you want the players to know. You want to be able to run what you expect to see from them. The Nines, for example, play a complete half-court, man-to-man. The Rings are going to press us, run some zone against us and some man," explained Hatfield.

As far as star forward Matty Molloy is concerned. Hatfield said the Mars native and former scoring champ is going on the road, but he's not sure how many minutes he'll get.

"Right now, he's working on making the starting lineup," said Hatfield.

1. Who is this story about? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What is the story about? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Where does this story take place? \_\_\_\_\_
4. When does this story take place? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Why is this story taking place? \_\_\_\_\_
6. How did this story come about?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. What section of the newspaper would this story be found in? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Who do you think would be interested in reading this story? Why?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. What background knowledge would the reader need to understand this story? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

The **classified section** of a newspaper is where ads are placed. People who want to apply for a job, buy a house, or make any other similar transaction are very interested in this section. Anyone who has articles to sell or a position they wish to advertise can purchase space in this section. The cost of placing an ad in the newspaper is usually determined by the number of words in the ad. Big companies can purchase whole pages or part of a page for a price. This is one of the ways newspapers make money.

Read the following ad and explain what is being sold.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Fashionable Fabrics</b> <b>555 -1555</b> <b>Hairpin Drive, Mountainview</b> <b>We are pleased to offer the best selection</b> <b>competitive pricing</b> <b>and a friendly and knowledgeable staff.</b> <b>Offering great deals on</b> <b>quilting cottons, Christmas prints, bridal fabrics, drapery</b> <b>upholstery, polar fleece, and cross stitch supplies.</b> <b>Check out our weekly "in store" specials</b> <b>We ship anywhere by ground mail.</b></p>
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1. What is being sold? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Is there any information not included in this ad that you think should be there? What is it?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Suppose the cost of advertising in the newspaper was: \$10.00 for the first 10 words and 9¢ a word for every word after, how much would it have cost to place this ad in the newspaper? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Write a newspaper ad in which you would like to sell: 10 novels at \$2.00 each.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. At the rate given in #2, how much would it cost you to place your ad in the newspaper?  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

The following is an advertisement for a job placed in the newspaper. Read the ad and answer the questions which follow:

**Crane Supply**

**Warehouse Counter Sales Clerk**

Applications are being accepted for the position of **WAREHOUSE COUNTER SALES CLERK** with a national company specializing in the distribution of plumbing, heating, and industrial products.

The position is based in Hawaii and offers the successful candidate a career environment with an established growth oriented company.

Applications are encouraged from high school and community college graduates with a mechanical aptitude and/or tradespeople with 1-2 years experience in plumbing, heating, or industrial work.

A full benefits program is available.

Only selected candidates will be contacted.

Submit resume in confidence to:

Box 100  
c/o The Paper  
200 Mountain Road  
Wiltshire, CT.  
00700

1. What position is being advertised?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What kind of work would be expected in this position?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. What qualifications would one need to apply for this position?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. Would you like to apply for this job? Why or why not?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. Why do you think the ad states "only candidates selected will be contacted"?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. Why do you think the address of the company is not given?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. Is there any information you feel is missing from this ad? What is it?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

**Answers:**

**What Is a Newspaper?**

1. They can get the local and international news as well as sports and TV listings without having to connect to the Internet or watch commercials.
2. The newspaper includes local and international news, advertisements, announcements, opinions, cartoons, sports news and television listings.
3. The main questions are Who? What? When? Where? Why? and How?

**Nowhere to Go but Up**

1. This story is about the Tens team, their coach and star player.
2. The story is about how the team has two tough games coming up.
3. This story takes place in a school gymnasium.
4. The story takes place this weekend.
5. The reporter wants the people to know that the team has a new coach and what she plans to do.
6. The coach hopes to get the team to win more games.
7. It is from the sports section.
8. People who like basketball and those who are fans of the team would be interested.
9. People would have to know about the losses of the team, that the old coach was no longer there and that the star player had knee surgery.

**Ads**

1. This ad is selling material which can be used to make quilts, clothes or any other crafts.
2. It doesn't give any idea of how much the material costs or any examples of their "in store" specials.
3. \$10.00 for the first 10 words and 9 cents a word for 33 words = \$10.00 + 2.97 = \$ 12.97
4. & 5. will vary

**Crane Supply**

1. The position being advertised is for a warehouse counter sales clerk.
2. The person would have to serve customers who come to the warehouse to pick up supplies.
3. The person has to have graduated from high school or community college. He/She also has to know the different parts required for plumbing a heating repairs and installation.
4. Answers will vary.
5. This is to let people know that if they don't hear from the company they haven't been selected.
6. This is to prevent people interested in the position from dropping by or phoning the company to know if they have been selected.
7. The salary is not given nor a time frame for the selection process.