

Writing a News Report

1. Look at the headline and the photo provided. Make up an event that relates to both.

The headline is “Storm Shuts Down Region” - My article will have to be about the negative effects of a storm on an area. I should pick a province, a county or a city.

The photo clearly shows that it was a snowstorm. I can also see that it was quite a lot of snow and that the snow is still on the street. People are walking down the street, and cars are parked on the sides of the street.

2. Brainstorm your answers to the 5 W's and 1H.

Who - People who live in the region
Names of people - Joseph Crittenden, Marla Styles

What - A snow storm that dumped 50 centimeters of snow on the city

When - For the past 3 days late in November

Why - An unusual weather system that brought cold air from Alberta

Where - CityVille, Ontario

How - It affected the region by shutting down schools, roads, businesses for 3 days. The cleanup continues.

3. Start reading your news report using the following structure:

First paragraph: Who, what, where, when

Residents (who) of CityVille (where) continue to dig out after a massive snowstorm (what) that has pounded the region for the last three days (when).

Paragraph two and three: Short quotations.

“I haven't seen snow like this in the 20 years that I've lived in CityVille,” said Joseph Crittenden. “This is outrageous!”

“I thought it was pretty fun to have the past three days off school,” commented Marla Styles. “But now my parents are making me shovel of the driveway.”

Paragraph four: Why

The late November storm, which was caused by a cold air front from Alberta (why), dumped over 50 centimeters of snow on the region.

Paragraph five: How

The storm closed down roads schools and businesses and has resulted in streets that are clogged with snow (how).

Residents of the city have been asked to move the cars from the city streets in order help speed up the process of clearing the streets of snow.

Paragraph six: Conclusion

Weather forecasters are reporting that the area will experience a warm spell by the end of this week, which will take temperatures well above normal for this time of year. Rivers and streams may reach flood levels as the snow which shut down their region melts.

Very Important!

Remember: This is a news report from **a newspaper, not from T.V.**, so don't use phrases like, “tune in tomorrow...” or “Back to you in the studio...” etc.

Review your news report for grammar spelling and organization.