

Writing a Newspaper Report



Wednesday 20th January 2021

L.O. To write a newspaper report on The Great Fire of London.

Newspaper Reports

Read the following newspaper report, use the checklist to see if it has all the features of a good report.

Did I...	Child	Friend	Teacher
Structure and Language			
include an eye-catching headline?			
report the facts?			
include a photograph or illustration?			
include captions?			
include eyewitness accounts?			
Punctuation and Grammar			
use capital letters and full stops?			

LONDON'S BURNING

Monday 3rd September

London was in chaos last night, as a fire ripped through the city.

The fire, which broke out in the early hours of Sunday morning, is thought to have begun in a bakery on Pudding Lane. It is suspected that the bakery fire was not fully put out and that embers from it fell on to nearby straw, setting it alight.

The baker, Thomas Farriner, and his family, managed to escape the inferno by clambering on to the roof and across to a neighbour's house. It is believed that a maid in the house died in the flames, after being too frightened to climb out on to the roof.

Hundreds of houses have been destroyed and people are fleeing the flames with whatever they can carry.

Eyewitness, Samuel Pepys, described seeing the flames from his home. 'My maid woke me up during the night to tell me about the fire. It looked quite far away and we get lots of fires in London, so I went back to bed. However, my maid came again later to tell me that over 300 houses had been destroyed. It's a terrible sight. People are leaving, carrying as much as they can and nothing seems to be stopping the flames.'

King Charles has ordered that houses in the path of the fire are to be pulled down, to try to stop the flames from spreading.

However, dry weather and strong winds are helping the fire to spread, and at the moment, nothing seems to be slowing it down.



The fire was still burning out of control in the early hours of Monday morning.

Read and Check

Check your report.

Does it make sense?

Have you included facts?

Have you included a picture?

Have you written a caption?

Is your headline short and catchy?

Use the Newspaper Report Checklist to help you.