

# Analysing the Features of a Newspaper Report

As you read through the report, you might like to draw pupils' attention to the key features of a newspaper report or to some other important features in the text.

Includes facts<sup>1</sup>

Direct Speech<sup>2</sup>

Reported Speech<sup>3</sup>

Is written in the third person<sup>4</sup>

Is written in the past tense<sup>5</sup>

Formal, reporting language<sup>6</sup>

## The Once Upon A Times

Price: 1 magic bean

Sunday, 22nd Feb

### WICKED WOLF GETS HIS JUST DESSERTS

Yesterday afternoon, a young girl and her grandmother miraculously survived a run-in with a ravenous wolf. Little Red Riding Hood was visiting her grandmother's cottage in the forest when both were swallowed alive by the creature. However, luck was on their side, as a local woodcutter was on hand to cut them free.

At approximately 1:15 p.m. on 21st February, witnesses claimed that they saw Miss Riding Hood, a young girl aged 10, skip into the forest carrying a basket of cupcakes. The path from the village through the forest is a well-trodden route, used by



Mr B.B. Wolf would not 'paws' to comment.

everyone from school children to village elders. Local resident Goldilocks (12) of Porridge Drive said, "I've used that path hundreds of times and it's always seemed perfectly safe." Mr Hansel (35), who runs the village orphanage, commented, "Of course, I warn the children not to approach any gingerbread houses. But avoid the woods entirely? Nonsense."

Miss Riding Hood claims that she was nearly at her granny's cottage when she was approached by a wolf posing as a polite gentleman. She reports that the wolf acted kindly at first, and even pointed out a shortcut to her granny's cottage. However, all was not as it seemed. Miss Riding Hood explained that from

Includes the name of the newspaper

Includes date of newspaper

Includes a headline which grabs readers' attention using alliteration, rhyme or a play on words

Includes an introduction which includes the 4 Ws

All of the main events are in chronological order

Relative clauses offer extra information

**Includes  
facts 1**

**Direct  
Speech<sup>2</sup>**

**Reported  
Speech<sup>3</sup>**

**Is written  
in the third  
person<sup>4</sup>**

**Is written  
in the  
past tense<sup>5</sup>**

**Formal,  
reporting  
language<sup>6</sup>**

the moment she arrived at her granny's cottage, she could sense that something was not quite right.

Once inside, Riding Hood found her granny in her nightgown, tucked up in bed, apparently ill. However, after a short bout of questioning, Red soon realised that the person to whom she was speaking was not her granny at all, but the wolf in disguise.

Miss Riding Hood alleges that both she and her granny were gobbled whole by the cunning beast. "I found Granny alive, but very uncomfortable, inside the wolf's stomach," she told The Once Upon a Times.

After ten traumatic minutes inside the wolf, the pair were freed by an axe-wielding woodcutter.

"As soon as I saw the wolf on the bed, I knew that something was wrong," stated the heroic woodcutter. "You didn't have to be a genius to work out where Granny and Red had ended up. He'd had the old lady for starters and her granddaughter for the main course."

Miss Riding Hood and her grandmother are now staying with Miss Riding Hood's mother in the village, where they are said to be recovering well. Meanwhile, Mayor Gretel has announced plans for an investigation into the cunning, wolfish activity in Fairytale Forest. If she fails to act, could our beloved forest be lost forever?

*Pinocchio, Junior Correspondent*

Includes a final paragraph which explains the most up-to-date information using the present tense

A rhetorical question is used at the end of the report to question what might happen next

Includes the journalist's name