

PREPARING FOR THE OSSLT

(Web resource: www.dpcdsb.org/NR/rdonlyres/...9966.../SessionTwoPowerPointTheNewsReport.ppt adapted for
Olympiads School, Fall, Grade 9 and 10 Writing)

WRITING A NEWS REPORT



NEWS REPORT

- What is the difference between writing a story and writing a News Report?
- What makes the News Report so unique?

THE LITERACY TEST

- On the literacy test you will be asked to write a newspaper article based on a headline and a picture provided to you. You will have to use the facts and information you gather from these two items to answer all of the 5 W's.

- What are the 5 W's?



THE 5 W'S

- Who?
- What?
- Where?
- When?
- Why?
- and sometimes
- How?



USE THE HEADLINE

- Carefully examine the headline provided to you. Draw an oval around the title and brainstorm what you think the story will be about.



Example:

POLICE SHUT DOWN SWEAT SHOP

USE THE PICTURE

- Examine the picture provided to you.

Example:



USE THE PICTURE CONT'D

- Divide the picture into quadrants and label everything you see in each quadrant.
- This will be recognized by the evaluators.



EXAMINE THE PICTURE

- By dividing the picture into quadrants, you force your eye to focus on every detail. In the picture, you will focus on the people in the photo, the setting of the photo, and the event taking place.



USE THE PICTURE CONT'D

- Use the labels to answer the five questions: Who? What? Where? When? Why?
 - ❖ Who is the story about?
 - ❖ What situation took place?
 - ❖ Where is the sweat shop?
 - ❖ When did the police shut it down?
 - ❖ Why did the police shut the sweat shop down?

PROVIDE INFORMATION

- Provide a first and last name for every person in your picture and name the location of the event. Be sure to pick names that you know how to spell and that are generic.

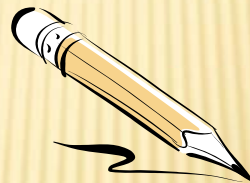
Example:

Lily Han had been working at the clothing factory in China since she was ten years old.



ORGANIZATION

- Organize your ideas into short paragraphs - the opening paragraph is usually just one sentence long.



Example:

Yesterday, in China, local police were able to close a sweat shop that was employing underage workers.

USE TRANSITIONS

- What are transition words?
- Transitions contribute to style, organization, and clarity. When you use transitions effectively, your writing flows smoothly and naturally.
- Here are some suggestions:
Afterward, finally, for example, then, also, furthermore, as well, additionally, in closing...



THE USE OF PRONOUNS

- Do not use "I, me, we, us, our, you or yours," except in a quotations from participants or bystanders.
- Remember, you do not want to include your opinion in a news report. This can be a very simple mistake, for example:
The sentence "Lily Han looked nervous" is an opinion not a fact because of the word 'looked'.



USE THE PAST TENSE

- Write the news report in the past tense.
- Using 'Yesterday' for the start of your news report will help you keep everything in the past tense.



For Example:

Yesterday, police stormed a sweatshop in China.

QUOTES

- Be sure to include quotations from witnesses or bystanders in your last paragraph.



For Example:

Officer Patrick Li stated, "There will be much relief now to the young workers who have slaved in this sweat shop for too long."

(AS SEEN IN PHOTO) (PICTURED IN THE PHOTO)

The Evaluators would very much like to see a statement like this.

Example: Student Mark Jeffries (as seen in photo, center) was very enthusiastic about the presentation.

FINAL THOUGHTS

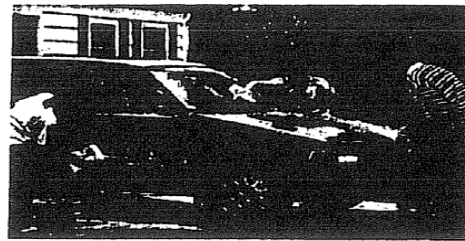
- Remember, this is your chance to really shine! You have the opportunity to write about an event or something newsworthy using only a picture, a caption and your imagination!



The following slides are sample responses that show a range of evaluations, from Level 10 to Level 50. The highest score for the News Report is Level 60. There are many sample answers on the OSSLT website.

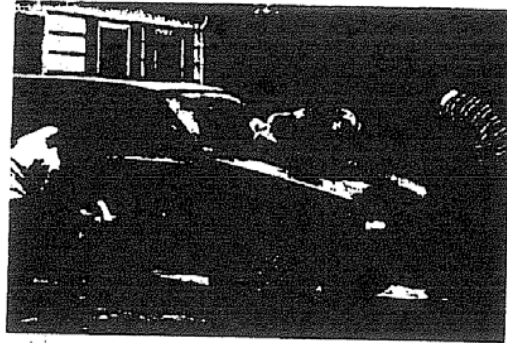
Car wash a success

My dad was on his way from work on a rainy day he did not reach home on time because of traffic so he took a short-cut home and got his car all muddy. This happened Mississauga on Sept. 6/08 he was a bit angry cause he did not like how his car looked so he called me and my two sisters to wash the car with me. My sister washed the car and I was just rinsing. When I was finished this car was shining like the sun like it's ready to sell. My dad was so happy we cleaned up his car. He has taken us to Wonderland, bought us pizza and threw a big party and invited my friends over to play video games with me just for washing his car. I have learned something from that washing car.



Car wash a success

It was a sunny day. The kids had raised about 1600 dollars. Couple of kids decided they were going to have fund raiser and wash people's cars. This all took place on Wednesday March 2nd 2009. It was only about 3 of them. They had adult supervision and they just went to work.



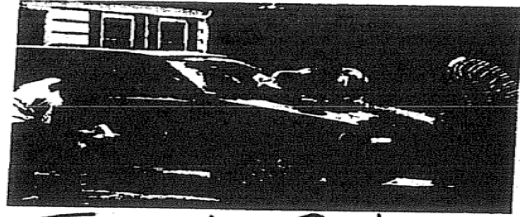
Car wash a success

On a beautiful afternoon kids had a car wash fundraiser. Student at Franklin Henry High School raised enough money for the Heart and Stroke foundation. They raised 1.5 million dollars by going to almost every neighborhood in Toronto. It was on September 15 of 2009 when they started this successful car wash fundraiser.



Car wash a success

Children from St. John's elementary School held a carwash on June 29th 2009. The kids gathered at the Elourance Community centre in Toronto, Ontario.

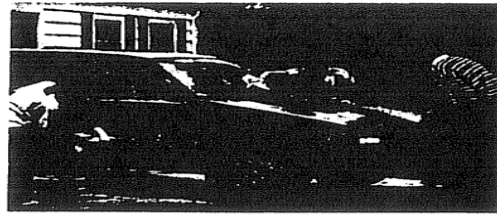


The carwash was a success, raising over 2000 \$ to go towards a local charity for autistic children. "I was surprised the students put all this together on their own" says principal of St. John's E.S.

45 Kids came out to participate in the carwash. They spent weeks preparing posters and sending out notice about where and when it was happening. They plan to make this an annual event.

Car wash a success

On Saturday, May 5, grade 8 students from Highview Public School in Aurora ran a carwash to raise money for their upcoming grad trip to Ottawa. The ~~grade~~ students worked hard all day from 8am to 4pm outside of their teachers home.



Armed with borrowed hoses, brushes and sponges, the students arrived ready to work. Most of these kids had no prior experience in washing cars, however being students, they were ready to learn. "I had never done anything like this before, but it sure was fun!"

This from 13 year old student Steve Pondak.

The students ask car owners for donations to support their trip, and were delighted by the outcome. Grade 8 teacher Chris Moss had this to say: "We came into this event hoping to receive donations to support us. We could have never imagined the amount of support and donations this community provided. We are very thankful."

Without a doubt, this event was a success. The students of Highview PS worked hard and are very deserving of their trip to Ottawa.