



# NEWS STORY

- **Overview:**

- As we all know that journalistic writing is totally different from other formats of writing that's why there are some basic rules for news writing that result in a clear, direct presentation, providing information efficiently and accessibly to a variety of readers. Here's a list of these rules for beginning news writers, based on the problems that crop most frequently:



## NEWS STORY

- Generally speaking, the Lead, or introduction to the story, should be a single sentence of 35 to 45 words that summarizes the main points of the story,



## NEWS STORY

- The lead should summarize the story from start to finish. So if you're writing about a fire that destroyed a building and left 18 people homeless, that must be in the lead. Writing something like "A fire started in a building last night" doesn't have enough vital information.



## NEWS STORY

- Paragraphs in news stories should generally be no more than one or two sentences each, not the seven or eight sentences you probably wrote for freshman English. Short paragraphs are easier to cut when editors are working on a tight deadline, and they look less imposing on the page.



## NEWS STORY

- Sentences should be kept relatively short, and whenever possible use the subject-verb-object formula. Backward constructions are harder to read.



## NEWS STORY

- Always cut unnecessary words. For example, "Firefighters arrived at the blaze and were able to put it out within about 30 minutes" can be shortened to "Firefighters covered the blaze in 30 minutes."



## NEWS STORY

- Don't use complicated-sounding words when simpler ones will do. A laceration is a cut; a contusion is a bruise; an abrasion is a scrape. A news story should be understandable to everyone.



## NEWS STORY

- The writing of a news story is totally impersonal so the reporter should avoid sentences like I, we, us, our, others, you, yours etc. He must not personally involve himself in a news story.





## NEWS STORY

- In Associated Press style, punctuation almost always goes inside quotation marks. Example: "We arrested the suspect," Police Officer said. (Note the placement of the comma.)



## NEWS STORY

- News stories are generally written in the past tense.
- Avoid the use of too many adjectives. There's no need to write "the white-hot blaze" or "the brutal murder." We know fire is hot and that killing someone is generally pretty brutal. Those adjectives are unnecessary.



## NEWS STORY

- Don't use phrases such as "thankfully, everyone escaped the fire unhurt." Obviously, it's good that people weren't hurt. Your readers can figure that out for themselves.
- Never inject your opinions into a hard-news story. Save your thoughts for a review or editorial.



## NEWS STORY

- When you first refer to someone in a story, use the full name and job title if applicable. On all subsequent references, use just the last name. So it would be "PM. Imran Khan" when you first mention him in your story, but after that, it would simply be "Khan."



## NEWS STORY

- The reporter should adopt the objective style of news writing. He is not allowed to conclude his personal comments and remarks in the news story. He must know the difference between facts and opinion ,as far as the opinion of other persons are concerned then it become news and the reporter must mentioned his or her name in his news story.



## NEWS STORY

- Don't repeat information.
- Don't summarize the story at the end by repeating what's already been said. Try to find information for the conclusion that advances the story.



## REFERENCES

- Rogers, Tony. "Learn to Write News Stories." ThoughtCo, Feb. 11, 2020, [thoughtco.com/learn-to-write-news-stories-2074304](https://www.thoughtco.com/learn-to-write-news-stories-2074304).
- Allan, S. (1999) News Culture, Buckingham: Open University Press.

A solid red oval shape is centered on a black background. Inside the oval, the text "That's All Thank You" is written in white, sans-serif font, arranged in three lines.

That's All  
Thank  
You