



FACULTY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES & ALLIED INDUSTRIES

How?

'How' is an important factor for people to make sure something terrible and that never happens again. 'How,' will add insight to a story.

Procedure in writing the news story

- Be alert in what is happening around you
- Know the format and the standard of your news paper
- Equip yourself with the literature and clippings on the subject
- allotted to you Establish contacts with people for information
- Collect all the facts you want
- Write them in the order of importance
- Pick the most important and most interesting facts
- for the lead Write the story in logical and organizing manner
- Develop the
- rest of the story Edit and rewrite
- Give an interesting caption

Kinds of news story

Extension news stories tend to group themselves into one or more of the following categories.

1) **Advance event articles** : It include announcements of approaching extension meetings, tours, speeches, and other events. Such articles are often brief, but should include details that would permit a reader to attend if interested i. e. the date, starting time, location, sponsor, nature of the event, agenda, and possibly the name of contact person who could answer furtherquestions.

2) **Follow-up event articles** : These report to readers about recent meetings, tours, speeches, or other extension events. Their main purpose is to report results, so they are often longer than advance event articles. They should include the date, location, sponsor, and nature of the event, to provide background for the reader, but the greatest emphasis should be placed upon the outcome of the specific event. For example, an article about a field tour should summarize what the participants saw and heard. An article about a business meeting should summarize the

decisions that were made.

3) **Information articles** : These are used widely in extension to provide helpful information of various kinds, timely advice, 'how-to' descriptions, reports of research findings, market news, relevant statistics and others. Such articles are not tied directly to events.

4) **Feature articles** : These are informational and sometimes involve news, but are distinct in several ways from the types of articles mentioned earlier. Feature articles often interpret the news and provide background for readers. Often they are intended to entertain or inspire as much as to inform. They may feature ideas, places, techniques, persons, organizations, goals successes, challenges and almost any other aspect of human activity. They often involve more human interest than do news or information articles.

5) **Experience and success stories** : It should include the experiences and success of the progressive or prize winning farmers.

6) **New developments** : Such as pest outbreaks, scientific discoveries, weather and crop conditions, progress made on problems, plans. Predictions - such as • long range crop and livestock reports, economic outlook information, long range weather outlook.

7) **Subject matter** : When tied to an event, situation, development, or problem of news value. But usually straight subject matter stories are deadly from the news standpoint.

News Structure

a) Heading

It is capsule opening centre at the top of news. Heading must summarize the entire news which arouses interest it should be apt and short it should be apt and stimulating. Effective words should be used to make it meaningful and catchy:

b) Lead

The lead is the opening part of a news story. The beginning of the story. The introduction of the story. It is a condensed news which gives abstract of entire information . It creates informs about subject and helps in developing receptive mood.

The purpose behind writing the leads is that readers expect basic facts in a story's first one or two paragraphs. The story with unimportant facts can never assure the

interact among readers therefore it must attract attention.

Types of lead

Most of the news lead falls into following two major forms.

Summary lead :The name is self-explanatory, because a lead written in this form summarizes its story. A summary lead is expected to answer as many as possible of the six questions - Who? What? When? Where? Why? and How?

Suspended interest lead: Placing the real climax or feature of story somewhere other than in the lead is effective and exciting in what is known as the suspended interest story. Often the climax in a story is in the final paragraph. To write a lead for a story of this kind, you must pick from your material a teasing question to incite the curiosity of the reader. But the real answer to the tantalizing question must be withheld until the last paragraph.

The other types of lead are as follows :

Dialogue lead :When lead begins with a dialogue.

Crowded lead : When many points are boiled into a single but crowded paragraph.

Cartridge lead : It is brief and contains one single news incident.

Historical or literary lead : It draws some character or event in history or literature in relation to an event or person in the news.

Descriptive lead :It tries to point a word picture of an interesting person, place or thing to help create mood for the story.

Preface lead :When a brief quotation or a few appropriate lines from a poem or familiar saying precedes a story to form a background that helps increase enjoyment of the article.

Question lead : The lead which starts with a question addressed to the reader.

c) Body :

It gives detail information about the event. It should be made simple, clear and easy to read.

Forms of News Writing

Different kinds of writing take different forms. Each kind serves a definite purpose. So does the news story or news report.

a) Inverted pyramid pattern

It is common to represent the structure of the news story in the form of an inverted pyramid, with lead or the summary or the most important facts forming

the base, at the top and the more important details in one or two paragraphs, followed by more details and additional facts supporting the main news. The minor details and the less important facts form the apex at the bottom

Diagrammatically this can be presented as below.

Probably more than 90 per cent of all news stories you write should be in this form. There are excellent reasons why this arrangement is so widely accepted.

1. It catches reader's interest.
2. It is the natural way to tell an exciting story
3. It gives essential facts quickly.
4. This style facilitates the make-up of a newspaper.

b) Chronological form

Sometimes it's used to tell a series of events in order in which they occurred, if you want the reader to catch readily the sequence of incidents.

Frequently you will find accounts of sports events told for the most part in chronological order to preserve the pattern of the game as it was played. Sometimes detailed accounts of trials must be told in chronological order to make clear the progress of the arguments.

C) Suspended interest form

Sometimes you can play upon the feeling of suspense in the minds of the readers in writing the story. Instead of starting with the climax of the story, you do not give it out at the beginning, but make the reader find it later in the story. This form of writing calls for a certain amount of imagination, sense of suspense and ability to think out a good and interesting way of writing.

Story length

It is impossible to set any hard and fast rule on how long a particular news story should be. News value, story treatment and available space all influence the space an editor will devote to a story, The ABC's of news writing - accuracy, brevity and clarity - are our best rule.