

The 5 W's

Teacher Information

Background Information

To write a good story, a reporter must be able to ask the right questions and then write stories to answer those questions for others.

Key Concepts and Student Information

- “5 W's” – Five main questions to answer when telling a story(Who? What? When? Where? Why? – and How?)

Materials

The 5 W's Student Sheet (1 copy per student)

Newspapers with news articles

Access to a television or radio (news program)

Procedure

1. Students should listen to a news story on the radio or watch a news story on television.
2. After hearing the news, students will determine the answers to the “5 W” questions based upon a news story.
3. Students will record the answers to the “5 W's” on the Student Sheet.

Extension Activities

Students can repeat the activity, answering the “5 W's” for several newspaper articles instead of a radio or television program.

The 5 W's

Student Sheet

A reporter's job is to get the facts. People who read the newspaper, listen to news reports or watch news programs want the basic information behind a story. Basic information can be summed up by addressing the 5 W's:

Who? What? Where? When? Why?

Instructions: Choose one of the following articles to read, then determine the Who? What? Where? When? & Why? (10 points)

Who?

What?

Where?

When?

Why?

Bonus:

Find and clip ~~or~~ copy up to **5 more** articles from the newspaper or a news magazine. Determine the 5 W's for each article. (5 bonus points each)