

MYSTERY REPORTING article writing

PART A : GROUP ARTICLE

1. Your group is going to read about and watch various historical mysteries on History Channel.
2. Go to **www.edge-integrity.weebly.com** and click on the "10 BLOG" link. Links to the website are there.
3. Go to the History Channel: MysteryQuest website and click on Episode guide (<http://www.history.com/shows/mysteryquest/episodes/>).
4. Review the the trailers for the various historical mysteries (i.e. Jack the Ripper, Hitler's Escape)and, AS A GROUP, choose one to focus on.
5. Click on the MysteryQuest Case Files (<http://www.history.com/shows/mysteryquest/interactives/mysteryquest-case-files>) and read and take note the essential information and details.
6. You can probably find full episodes of most of these on YouTube.
7. Fill in the following chart:

w5h ?'s	answer
who/what is the mystery about?	
what is the main idea/story-line/point?	
when and where did the mystery take place?	
why is it a mystery?	
how was the mystery resolved and/or investigated?	

8. Use the information you have compiled and write a news-report.

9. The news-report must follow the format discussed in class. Use the following checklist/framework:

_____ headline / by-line

_____ first four (4) sentences that answer the questions:

- *who/what is the mystery about?*
- *what is the main idea/point/story-line?*
- *when and where did the mystery take place?*

_____ second paragraph that answers the question:

- *why is it a mystery?*

_____ third paragraph that answers the question:

- *how was the mystery resolved/investigated?*

_____ use strong "sounding" adjectives to convey the tone of the mystery

_____ correct sentence form (simple, compound, complex)

10. Find an image that best suits the content of your group's article and not what the History Channel provides. **Make sure you include a strong headline.**

11. Model the news report like Durham region article, "Dungeon Discovered in Pickering". Look closely and carefully at the organization/form of your article and the organization and form of the Durham Region article.

12. Before finalizing, review and revise the following:

_____ review the adjectives. Can they be stronger? Are they describing a noun?

_____ review the adverbs. Are they placed correctly? Are they describing a verb or adjective?

_____ review past and present tense. Do they match (ie. *past = was = ed; present = is = s / es / ing*)

_____ review your sentences. Are the simple sentences clear and formed correctly? Are the compound sentences clear and formed correctly? Are the compound sentences clear and formed correctly?

_____ are the w5H's answered?

Is...

- *who/what is the mystery about?*
- *what is the main idea/point/story-line?*
- *when and where did the mystery take place?*

... answered in the first 3-4 sentences?

Are...

- *why is it a mystery?*
- *how was the mystery resolved/investigated?*

... answered in the second (2nd) and third (3) paragraphs?

PART B : INDEPENDENT ARTICLE

1. Write a news article modeled after the *MysteryQuest* group article, as well as the "Dungeon Discovered in Pickering" article.
2. Use one of the images "mysterious and haunting" images ,or choose one of your own, and write a news article.
3. Brainstorm strong sounding vocabulary that will be included in the article. Use the chart below. The words should SOUND like the tone of the image.

nouns / pronouns	verbs	adjectives	adverbs	prepositional phrases

4. Use the words (not all) and your imagination to write a "mysterious" news article. Your news-article must answer the following questions:

- _____ who/what is involved?
- _____ what happened or what took place?
- _____ when and where did it occur?
- _____ how the events happened?
- _____ why the events happened?

5. Create a strong headline.

6. Use the following checklist to structure your article:

_____ headline / by-line

_____ first four (4) sentences that answer the questions:

who/what is involved?

what happened or what took place?

when and where did it occur?

_____ second paragraph that answers the question:

why the events happened?

_____ third paragraph that answers the question:

how the events happened?

_____ use strong "sounding" adjectives to convey the tone of the mystery

_____ correct sentence form (simple, compound, complex)

7. Model the news report like Durham region article, "Dungeon Discovered in Pickering". Look closely and carefully at the organization/form of your article and the organization and form of the Durham Region article.

8. Before finalizing, review and revise the following:

_____ review the adjectives. Can they be stronger? Are they describing a noun?

_____ review the adverbs. Are they placed correctly? Are they describing a verb or adjective?

_____ review past and present tense. Do they match (ie. *past = was = ed; present = is = s / es / ing*)

_____ review your sentences. Are the simple sentences clear and formed correctly? Are the compound sentences clear and formed correctly? Are the compound sentences clear and formed correctly?

_____ are the w5H's answered?

