



# TALES OF ANCIENT EGYPT NEWSPAPERS

**Learning Objective:  
To write a news report.**

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# Let's look at an example newspaper report.

Tales of Ancient Egypt: Newspapers

Model Text 2A

## SURRENDER AT SEA

After declaring war on Egypt, Octavian, the ruler of Rome, has defeated Egyptian allied ships in the sea battle at Actium.

On 2nd September Octavian and Antony's fleets of ships met in battle in the open waters near the city of Actium. It is believed that Octavian's fleet had over 200 warships. Although he commanded a similar number of ships, Marc Antony's fleet were of higher quality and he had the support of Queen Cleopatra's ships. However, having more ships proved useless against Octavian's tactics and battle experience.

Throughout the battle, it seemed the two sides were evenly matched, until the sudden retreat of Queen Cleopatra's additional forces. Without clear support, Octavian's forces had the upper hand over Marc Antony's fleet. The



The battle in the the open waters near Actium.

Roman ship, soldiers and archers burned or captured many of Antony's fleet, forcing their leader to escape on a smaller ship. Eye witnesses observed Antony seizing an opportunity as he broke through a gap in Octavian's fleet, allowing him to escape with Queen Cleopatra close behind on her own ship. After seeing this, many of his own sailors expressed deep upset that their leader had abandoned them. This led to many of them being captured and surrendering to Octavian. The result of this violent battle leaves Queen Cleopatra and Antony in a weakened position. Because of this defeat, the war between these two great leaders has come to an end. Speculations are arising that Octavian will regroup his forces and advance on Alexandria. If this were to happen, Egypt could fall under the rule of Rome.

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What do you think are some key things to include in a newspaper report?



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# Newspaper report features

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Most news reports will have a headline. This is an eye-catching one-line phrase which summarises the report.

Think, pair, share...

What headline would you give the report you're writing today?

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The first paragraph gives a brief summary of the whole report. More details can be added in later in the report.

Think, pair, share...

What are the 5Ws of the Model Text?

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Some reports use pictures to attract the reader's interest. If pictures are used, a caption should be included to give an explanation of what the picture is showing.

What is the caption for this picture? Can you think of a different caption?

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The report has been written in columns and split into paragraphs.

Both of these features make the report easier to read.



How would you summarise each paragraph?

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# Today you will be focusing on using a variety of sentence openers in your report.

Look at the model text.  
Can you find and underline some interesting sentence openers?

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# Using a variety of sentence openers can make your report more interesting to read.

Compare this version to paragraph two in the model text. How do the sentence openers make the writing more effective?



Octavian and Antony's fleets of ships met in battle in the open waters near the city of Actium. Octavian's fleet had over 200 warships. Marc Antony's fleet was of higher quality and he had the support of Queen Cleopatra's ships. Having more ships proved useless against Octavian's tactics and battle experience.

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# Let's have a go!

Think, pair, share...  
How would you use  
these sentence  
openers in your  
report on Cleopatra's  
death?



Late last night,



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Let's have a go!

Think, pair, share...  
How would you use  
these sentence  
openers in your  
report on Cleopatra's  
death?

Eye-witnesses  
reported that

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# Let's have a go!

Think, pair, share...  
How would you use  
these sentence  
openers in your  
report on Cleopatra's  
death?



It is believed that



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# Let's edit and improve!

Work with a partner to read each other's writing. Where have they used good sentence openers? Which is your favourite?

Choose one sentence which you think could be improved by adding words in or changing the sentence opener.



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