

How to Write a Newspaper Article (Class 13 – Abitur)

What is a Newspaper Article?

A **newspaper article** informs readers about an event, issue, or development. It should be **informative, engaging, and written for a specific audience**.

A newspaper article is different from an essay because it:

- has a **headline**
- attracts the reader's attention
- uses a journalistic style
- includes facts, opinions, and quotes

Structure of a Newspaper Article

1. Headline

Purpose: Catch the reader's attention.

A good headline is:

- short
- interesting
- related to the topic

Examples:

✗ *School Technology Report*

✓ *Digital Revolution: Are Schools Ready for the Future?*

2. Introduction / Lead (First Paragraph)

Purpose: Give the most important information.

Answer the **5 W questions**:

- **Who?**
- **What?**
- **When?**
- **Where?**
- **Why?**

Example:

Hundreds of students gathered at Green Valley High School on Monday to discuss the future of artificial intelligence in education. The event was organised to explore how technology could change the way students learn.

3. Main Body

Develop the information in several paragraphs.

Include:

Facts

- statistics
- background information
- explanations

Opinions

- expert opinions
- student/teacher views
- quotes

Different perspectives

Example:

While many students welcomed the introduction of digital learning tools, some teachers expressed concerns about students becoming too dependent on technology.

4. Conclusion

End with:

- future developments
- possible consequences
- final thought

Do not introduce completely new information.

Example:

Whether digital education will succeed depends on how schools balance technological innovation with traditional teaching methods.

Language Style

A newspaper article should be:

- ✓ Formal but engaging
- ✓ Clear and objective
- ✓ Written mainly in the third person

Avoid:

- ✗ "I think..."
- ✗ Informal expressions
- ✗ Very emotional language

Useful Expressions

Introducing the topic:

- Recently, ...
- A new development has sparked debate about...
- The issue of ... has attracted increasing attention.

Reporting information:

- According to...
- Recent studies indicate that...
- Experts have pointed out that...

Including opinions:

- "... " stated one student.
- Teachers expressed concerns that...
- Supporters argue that...

Showing different views:

- While some believe that..., others argue that...
- However, critics point out that...

Newspaper Article Checklist

- ✓ Catchy headline
- ✓ Clear introduction (5 Ws)
- ✓ Relevant facts and background information
- ✓ Quotes or opinions included
- ✓ Logical paragraphs
- ✓ Appropriate journalistic style
- ✓ Engaging conclusion

Length (Abitur level): 400–600 words