



## Basics of news-writing: Episode 2



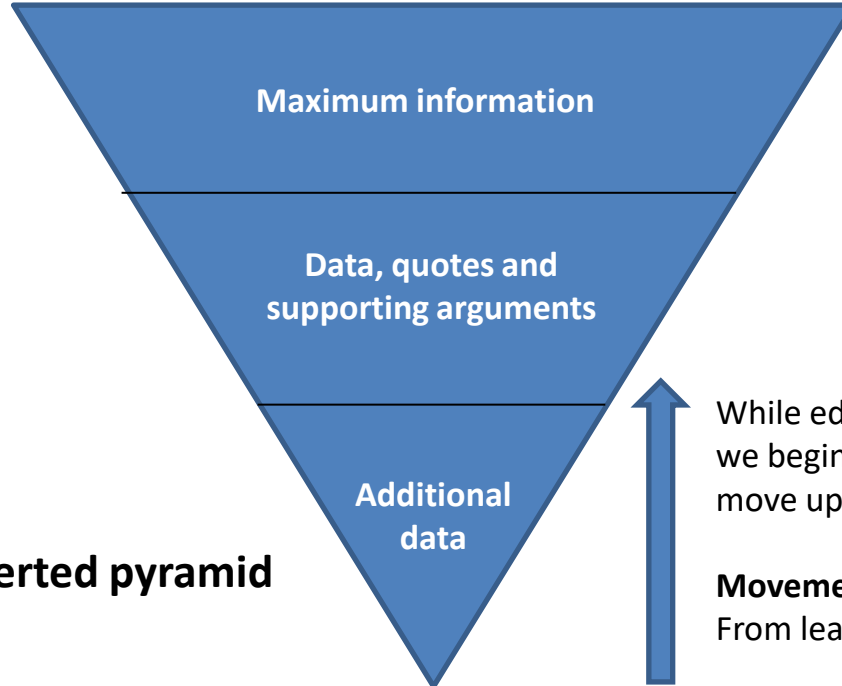


## What's this?

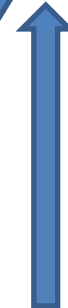
While writing a news story, we begin from the top and move downwards.

### **Movement**

From most relevant to least relevant



**Answer: The inverted pyramid**



While editing (removing content), we begin from the bottom and move upwards.

### **Movement**

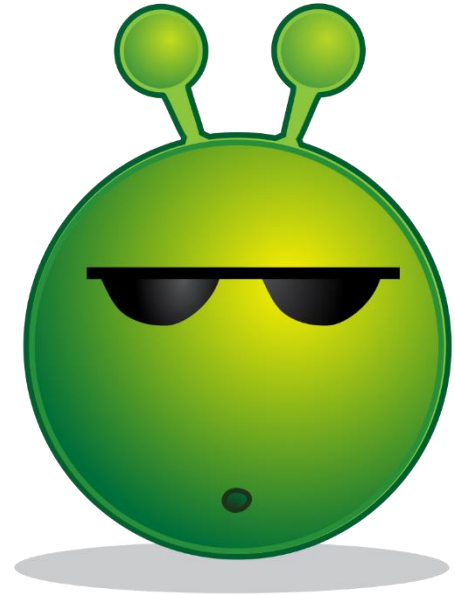
From least relevant to most relevant



## When and where to use the “full stop”?

There is no hard and fast rule about the length of a sentence. Typically, a sentence should be **no longer than 20 words** and should contain **no more than three ideas**.

The longer and more convoluted the sentence, the less reader-friendly it is.





## Active Vs passive voice



**Use active voice as far as possible.**

Example: Pallavi broke the table.

**However, when we don't have complete information, we use passive voice.**

Example: The table was broken.

If we change this sentence to active voice, we get:

**Someone** broke the table. (Lacks clarity, leads to confusion)



## How to determine news value?

Typically, the news value of a story is based on the following factors:

- Timeliness
- Proximity
- Impact
- Prominence
- Human interest
- Peculiarity





## What is a news package?

Pick up any news story, you will find a combination of these elements:

- Headline
- Strap/Intro
- Image/Illustration/infographic/cartoon
- Image caption
- Body of the story

A story is not complete if it does not have one of these elements.







## Who are environmental journalists?

Journalists who report stories that inform readers about relevant developments related to the environment (local as well as global) and how these impact:

1. Our planet and its resources like the land, water and air

**AND**

2. Its inhabitants-humans, yes but also other animals and plants.



Source: Greenmedia



## What do we write about?

Temperature changes  
and its impact

Pollution (air, water,  
land and noise)

CO2 emissions

Impact of technology



Extreme weather events  
(floods, cyclones,  
heatwave, etc.)

Biodiversity & wildlife

Waste management

Food





Science of climate change, GT style

For the children,

Of the children,

By the children.



Source: Wikimedia Commons



## Writing for the young

**For the children:** This is mainly a writing tip. Using a simple language, sharing fewer ideas (meaning instead of 3 big ideas, we identify 1 big idea and explain that) and keeping the article brief (500-600 words)

**Of the children:** The focus here is how climate change impacts children. For example, a story about school closures due to severe heatwave or coldwave, or extreme rainfall is more likely to connect with children.

**By the children:** Voices of children presenting their personal experience of their immediate environment.

### Example

[Days of COVID-19 confinement: How school-goers are dealing with lockdown](#)



# Now, the practicals

## YOUNG

**JOIN THE GT ENVIRONMENT E-SUMMER CAMP!**

From June 1 to June 5, attend online workshops on scriptwriting/ photography/ news writing as well as storytelling and quiz sessions. And many more fun sessions, especially for children!

On completion of registration, you will receive the guidelines and the link for the sessions.

To register visit [www.cseindia.org](http://www.cseindia.org)



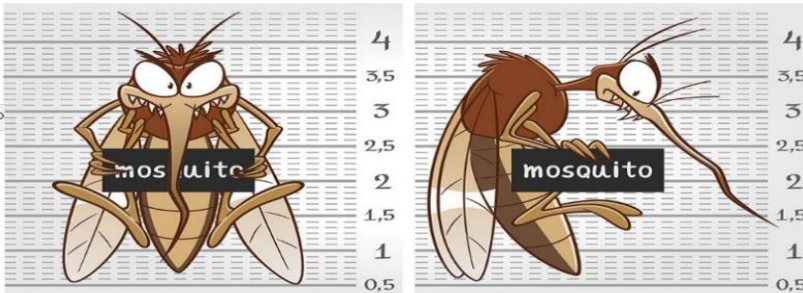
YOUNG  
International Tea Day gets a thumbs up from UN



YOUNG  
Days of COVID-19 confinement: How school-goers are dealing with lockdown



YOUNG  
All hail the "Rain Queen" of South Africa



YOUNG  
**Rise of the mosquitoes**

Scientists have mapped how rising temperatures will impact the population and distribution of mosquitoes in the world

Let us begin our live tour of the GT website and re-cap what we've learnt about newswriting so far...





End of Day 4: Campers, let's re-group tomorrow



Join us for quiz and news-writing sessions tomorrow

### **Time-table for Day 5**

Comic workshop  
(10:30 am-11:30 am)

Concluding session  
(11:30 am-12:30 pm)

See you!