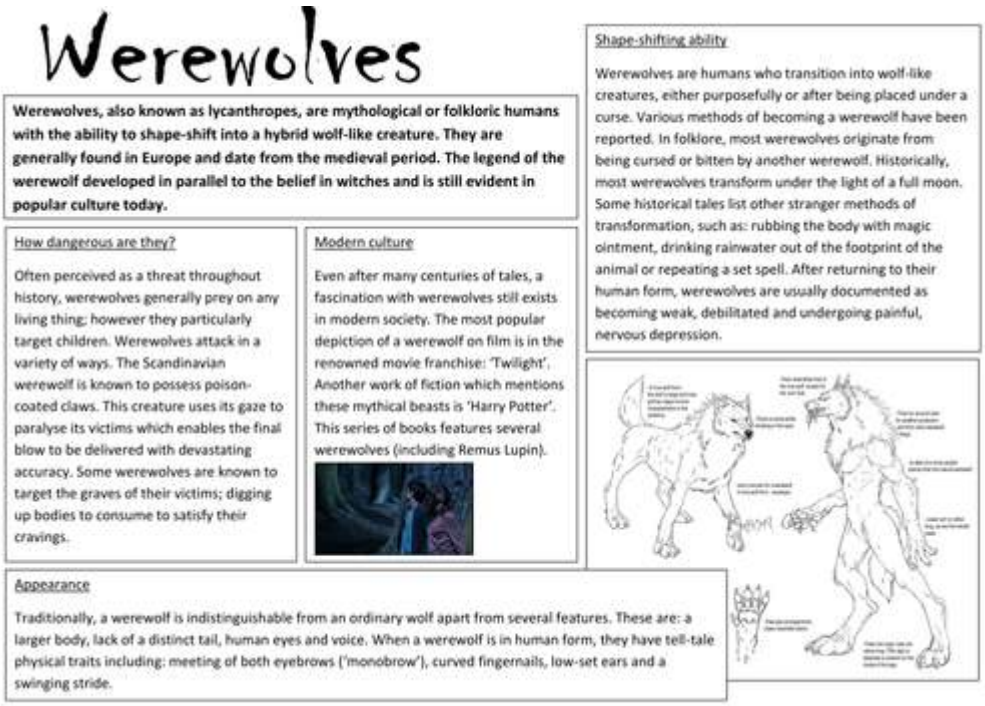
Wk. 11.05.20 Year 6 English 1

SHQ: What are the features of non-chronological reports?



Werewolves

Werewolves, also known as lycanthropes, are mythological or folkloric humans with the ability to shape-shift into a hybrid wolf-like creature. They are generally found in Europe and date from the medieval period. The legend of the werewolf developed in parallel to the belief in witches and is still evident in popular culture today.

How dangerous are they?

Often perceived as a threat throughout history, werewolves generally prey on any living thing; however they particularly target children. Werewolves attack in a variety of ways. The Scandinavian werewolf is known to possess poison-coated claws. This creature uses its gaze to paralyse its victims which enables the final blow to be delivered with devastating accuracy. Some werewolves are known to target the graves of their victims; digging up bodies to consume to satisfy their cravings.

Modern culture

Even after many centuries of tales, a fascination with werewolves still exists in modern society. The most popular depiction of a werewolf on film is in the renowned movie franchise: 'Twilight'. Another work of fiction which mentions these mythical beasts is 'Harry Potter'. This series of books features several werewolves (including Remus Lupin).

Shape-shifting ability

Werewolves are humans who transition into wolf-like creatures, either purposefully or after being placed under a curse. Various methods of becoming a werewolf have been reported. In folklore, most werewolves originate from being cursed or bitten by another werewolf. Historically, most werewolves transform under the light of a full moon. Some historical tales list other stranger methods of transformation, such as: rubbing the body with magic ointment, drinking rainwater out of the footprint of the animal or repeating a set spell. After returning to their human form, werewolves are usually documented as becoming weak, debilitated and undergoing painful, nervous depression.

Appearance

Traditionally, a werewolf is indistinguishable from an ordinary wolf apart from several features. These are: a larger body, lack of a distinct tail, human eyes and voice. When a werewolf is in human form, they have tell-tale physical traits including: meeting of both eyebrows ('monobrow'), curved fingernails, low-set ears and a swinging stride.

This week's unit is based on writing non-chronological reports and the opportunity to write about places of worship, linked to this half term's topic about Sacred Places.

Included in this file is a reminder about the features of reports and examples of different types of NCRs.

Instructions:

- Remind yourself about the features of reports by reading the labelled diagram
- Read the examples of reports i.e. Castle defences, Elephants and Tornados
- Make notes about or highlight printed versions of the example reports to show your understanding of how to write a non-chronological report
- As an extension you could find other examples of this type of writing wither online or in the books you have at home

Features of Non-chronological Reports

Heading

Sub-heading

Image

Paragraphs

Caption

Technical vocabulary

Fact box & bullet points

What is a Sloth?

A sloth is a mammal found in the rainforests of Central and South America. There are two types of sloth – two-toed sloths and three-toed sloths.

A three-toed sloth

Appearance

Sloths have long limbs, round heads and tiny ears. They have long, sharp claws for climbing trees and hanging from branches. Their fur often has a green tinge caused by the algae that grows on it. This algae can help camouflage the sloth, and hide it from predators such as eagles, snakes and jaguars.

An algae-covered sloth

Habitat

Sloths are arboreal animals – this means that they spend most of their time in trees. They eat, sleep and even give birth hanging upside down from branches. Sloths only come down from the trees to go to the toilet!

Diet

Sloths mostly eat leaves, twigs, buds and shoots, but they have been known to occasionally eat insects and birds. They have an extremely slow digestive process which takes up most of their body's energy – one leaf can take a sloth 30 days to fully digest!

Movement

Sloths move extremely slowly. They travel through the trees at an average speed of just four metres per minute, and are even slower on the ground. They are however good swimmers, and can move up to three times faster in the water.

Did you know...?

- Three-toed sloths can turn their heads around 270° (that's a three-quarter turn!).
- Sloths sleep for between 10 and 15 hours a day.
- They only go to the toilet once a week!

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Features of Non-chronological Reports

Sub-headings

Each main paragraph has a sub-heading. These tell the reader what each paragraph is about.

Heading

A non-chronological report needs a large, eye-catching heading so that the reader knows what the report is about.

Images

Non-chronological reports can include images such as photographs, illustrations or labelled diagrams to show pictures of the subject.

Paragraphs

Non-chronological reports are organised into paragraphs. Each paragraph focuses on a different aspect of the subject being discussed. Many non-chronological reports have an introductory paragraph that introduces the subject and gives some basic facts about the topic.

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Captions

A caption is a short sentence or phrase which describes or explains the image it is written underneath.

Technical vocabulary

Sometimes, more specialised vocabulary is used in reports – words and phrases that are specific to the subject that is being written about.

Fact box & bullet points

Lots of non-chronological reports have boxes with interesting facts, which are organised into a bullet-pointed list. This makes it quick and easy for the reader to read.

Formal language

Another feature of non-chronological reports is factual, formal language. The purpose of this type of report is to give facts, not opinions.

Present tense

Non-chronological reports are usually written in the present tense (unless they are about something that has happened in the past).

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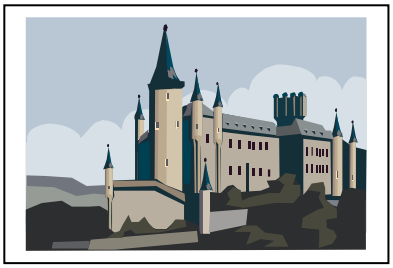
Castle Defences

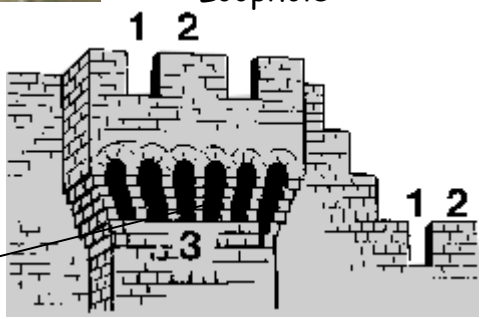
Castles were built for rich men – lords or kings – and their family to live in. Castles protected them against enemies and kept them all, including horses and valuables, safe.



Were castles built for attack?

Holes in the walls, loopholes, allowed archers to be protected, whilst attacking.
Machicolations were parts of the castle that jutted out. They had holes on the floor to drop stones or pour boiling oil on enemies.
In the 1300s keyhole-shaped holes appeared in the sides of castles. This was after the invention of guns!

Loophole



Machicolations

What was a moat?

A moat was a wide, deep ditch full of water surrounding the castle. It was dug to keep out enemies, as people could only enter over the drawbridge and through the portcullis. Moats also stopped enemies from tunnelling under the castle as any tunnels would fill with water.

What weapons were used to attack castles?

Traction trebuchet – This was operated by a team of men. They pulled down on one end of a beam, causing the other end to fly up. This flung a large stone towards the castle.

Catapult – Twisted ropes were used to bend a large beam. When the ropes were released, the beam flew upwards, sending heavy rocks towards the castle.

DID YOU KNOW?
Some castles were built on the sides of cliffs. This was so that the lord could protect his land from enemies coming from across the sea.

Twisted Tornadoes

Have you ever wondered what happens when the Earth gets angry? In this report, you will discover fascinating facts all about 'Tornadoes' and how they cause destruction in many countries around the world.

What is a Tornado?

A tornado is a violent rotating column of air extending from a thunderstorm to the ground. The most violent tornadoes are capable of tremendous destruction with wind speeds of up to 300 mph. They can destroy large buildings, uproot trees and hurl vehicles hundreds of yards. They can also drive straw into trees. Damage paths can be in excess of one mile wide to 50 miles long. In an average year, 1000 tornadoes are reported nationwide across the United States.

Did you know?

- Tornadoes can occur at any time of the year.
- 69% of all tornadoes are labelled "weak tornadoes" meaning they have a lifetime of 1-10+ minutes and winds less than 110 mph.
- 2% of all tornadoes are labelled "violent tornadoes" and can last over an hour.
- **Fujita–** Pearson **scale** (FPP **scale**), is a **scale** for rating tornado intensity.

How do tornadoes form?

Most tornadoes form from thunderstorms. You need warm, moist air from the Gulf of Mexico and cool, dry air from Canada. When these two air masses meet, they create instability in the atmosphere. A change in wind direction and an increase in wind speed with increasing height creates an invisible, horizontal spinning effect in the lower atmosphere. Rising air within the updraft tilts the rotating air from horizontal to vertical. An area of rotation, 2-6 miles wide, now extends through much of the storm. Most strong and violent tornadoes form within this area of strong rotation.

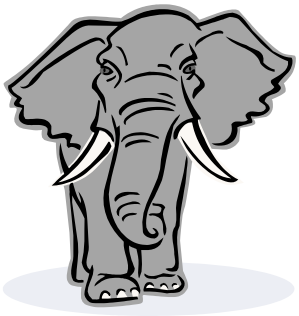
What do tornadoes look like?

Tornadoes can appear as a traditional funnel shape, or in a slender rope-like form. Some have a churning, smoky look to them, and others contain "multiple vortices", which are small, individual tornadoes rotating around a common centre. Others may be nearly invisible, with only swirling dust or debris at ground levels as the only indication of the tornado's presence.

Elephant reporting

Read this report on elephants thoroughly.

Elephants



Elephants are the largest land-dwelling mammals on earth and they can live up to 70 years.

Elephants are brown to dark grey in colour and have long, coarse hairs sparsely covering their bodies. They have very thick skin that keeps them cool. Elephant trunks serve as another limb and they may contain more than 40,000 muscles that help the elephant use it to gather food and water. They also have large ears and thick tree-trunk-like legs to support their weight.

There are two species of elephants: the African elephant and the Asian elephant. There are a number of differences between the two species: overall size, ear size, tusks and shape of the back and forehead among others.

The basic diet of the elephant includes grasses, leaves, bamboo, bark and roots. Also they are known to eat crops like banana and sugarcane which are grown by farmers. Adult elephants eat 300-400 lbs of food per day.

African savannah elephants are found in savannah zones in 37 countries south of the Sahara Desert. African forest elephants inhabit the dense rain forests of west and central Africa. The Asian elephant is found in India, Sri Lanka, China and much of southeast Asia.

Elephants form deep family bonds and live in tight family groups of related females called a herd. The herd is led by the oldest and often largest female, called a matriarch. Herds consist of eight to 100 individuals depending on terrain and family size. When a calf is born, it is raised and protected by the whole matriarchal herd. Males leave the family unit between the ages of 12 and 15 years and may lead solitary lives or live temporarily with other males.

Habitat loss is one of the key threats facing elephants. Increasing conflict with human populations taking over more and more elephant habitat and poaching for ivory are additional threats that are placing the elephant's future at risk.