

News Built First

Shape the same news for readers and listeners.

6.P.AC.3.c "Apply knowledge of how mode and genre impact how ideas and information are structured and arranged in texts. (I/C)"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Label the three paragraphs: main news, background, and next steps. Notice how this written news report puts the event first. A spoken school bulletin must work for listeners who cannot reread a sentence; select and arrange its details with that difference in mind.

School Roof Garden Opens: Fictional School News

Riverbend Middle School opened its rooftop garden on May 10. Forty students planted lettuce and herbs in raised beds. The school plans to use some of the harvest in its cafeteria. Principal Elena Ruiz said, "The garden gives our science lessons a place to grow."

The project began in February, when the school board approved a garden grant. Science teacher Mr. Khan helped students plan the beds and a compost system. Student Jayla Morris said, "We can learn how plants grow and reuse some of our food scraps."

Students will water and weed before school. They will record plant growth for a library display. Families are invited to an open house on June 6 at 4 p.m. to see the garden and ask questions. These details belong to an invented school event used for writing practice.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

- 1 What makes the first paragraph useful as the opening of a news report? Name information it gives immediately.

- 2** Would the June 6 invitation always belong at the end? Explain how a reminder on the morning of June 6 might begin.

- 3** A reader can return to a paragraph; a listener hears a bulletin once. Describe two useful changes for the spoken version.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Use the fictional repair-station facts below to create a three-paragraph news report and a short spoken bulletin. Keep the core facts accurate in both. Facts: Oak Middle School opened a backpack repair station in the library on October 3; student volunteers and art teacher Ms. Chen repaired 18 backpacks; a September survey had identified broken zippers and loose straps; Ms. Chen said, "A small repair can keep a useful bag in service." The next session is October 10 at 3 p.m. in the library.

1. Write the main news

Begin your report with the event, who, when and where. Include the main result.

2. Add background and the quoted source

Explain why the station began. Include the supplied quotation accurately and identify its speaker.

3. Give the next step

Complete the report with the next session and useful attendance details.

4. Adapt for listeners

Write a brief school bulletin using the same core facts. Read it aloud to a partner. Then explain one detail you shortened or moved and why that helps listeners.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Label the three paragraphs: main news, background, and next steps. Notice how this written news report puts the event first. A spoken school bulletin must work for listeners who cannot reread a sentence; select and arrange its details with that difference in mind. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What makes the first paragraph useful as the opening of a news report? Name information it gives immediately.	It gives the main event, school, location and date: Riverbend Middle School opened a rooftop garden on May 10. It adds who took part and what they planted.
2	Would the June 6 invitation always belong at the end? Explain how a reminder on the morning of June 6 might begin.	No. In a same-day reminder, the invitation is the most useful news, so the time, place and invitation could come first. Purpose and context affect priority.
3	A reader can return to a paragraph; a listener hears a bulletin once. Describe two useful changes for the spoken version.	Select fewer supporting details, use short connected sentences and clear time/place information, and repeat the essential event or invitation if useful. Accept other changes justified by listening needs.

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Written report: three paragraphs

Oak Middle School opened a backpack repair station in its library on October 3. Student volunteers and art teacher Ms. Chen repaired 18 backpacks.

A September survey had identified broken zippers and loose straps. The station gave students a way to address those problems. Ms. Chen said, "A small repair can keep a useful bag in service."

The next repair session is October 10 at 3 p.m. in the library. Students with bags needing attention can ask Ms. Chen about the session.

Spoken bulletin

Oak Middle School has a new backpack repair station. It opened in our library on October 3, when students and Ms. Chen repaired 18 bags. The next session is October 10 at 3 p.m., also in the library. Remember: October 10, 3 p.m., in the library.

Adaptation note

I omitted the survey details and quotation to keep the bulletin focused. I repeated the next session's time and place because listeners cannot look back at the information. Both versions still give the opening event, date, place, participants and result.

TEACHER ASSESSMENT NOTES

Assess actual application in both written and spoken modes: three visible news paragraphs, accurate core facts, attributed quotation in the report, a readable-aloud bulletin and a reasoned adaptation. The bulletin need not repeat every background detail or the quotation. The model uses an invented case; students must not present these names or results as real reporting. Future details are not inherently less important: a reminder may lead with an upcoming event. Do not impose a word or sentence quota.