

# Can I plan and write a newspaper report?

Lesson 5

I thought that I would write a  
newspaper report...

I made it up!

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## **Blackout – Town suffers!**

More than 2 000 homes were without power in Colchester last night when the main power grid failed at about 6:45 pm. People were in the dark for as long as six hours as ENERGEX workers battled to solve the problem.

Traffic lights were out, as well as street lights, making peak hour traffic conditions dangerous. Businesses getting ready for late night shoppers were forced to close down. Only those with emergency generators such as the Colchester Hospital could function.

“We found it very inconvenient with a family of six to feed. No stores were in operation and we couldn’t cook a meal,” a Monkwick resident reported this morning.

“I saw two cars collide at the Mersea Road intersection where the lights were out. No police were on duty. It was chaotic!” a motorist claimed.

Ron Maloney of ENERGEX calmed any fears of a repeat of the incident. He told us that the fault had been isolated and that it was something that only happened in rare circumstances.

Town police sergeant Harvey O'Donnell warned residents that in the case of a blackout, remain off the road. "If you can get home and keep your car off the road, the chances of dangerous traffic conditions are minimised."

Having read my effort, have a go and write your own! Use a real event or make one up!

Objective	
My introduction sets the scene with the five Ws; Where? Why? Who? What? When?	
I have recounted events in chronological order	
My closing statement brings the writing to a conclusion	
It has a neat last line to grab attention	
It is in the past tense	
I have used the third person	
I have linked paragraphs using time connectives	
I have used direct speech quotes and indirect speech.	