

EDITORIAL MEETING ACTIVITY

WHAT IS AN EDITORIAL MEETING?

In an editorial meeting, the editor and journalists decide what news stories should feature in the week's newspaper and in which section they should go.

HOW DO THEY DECIDE?

They make a judgement based on:

- The content of the stories: which stories they think are most important for their readers to know about
- The audience: which stories they think will be of most interest to the readers

OVER TO YOU:

TASK ONE: Investigate the news stories

Working as an editorial team, read and discuss the six stories in your group. For each one, think about the importance or interest of the content of the story, and how interesting it would be for First News readers.

TASK TWO: Decide which **four** stories you would choose to be in the newspaper

As a group, decide which **four** you would feature in First News and which **two** you'd leave out. Agree your reasons for your decisions ready to explain to the rest of the class at the end of the activity.

TASK THREE: Which **section**?

Now you need to decide which section of First News you think a story should appear in. Most stories are appropriate for more than one section.

So first, discuss all the different sections of the newspapers could your chosen stories feature.

Then choose a section. (TIP: Headline stories will often have room for a longer report, than if a story goes into Home News or World News.)

FRONT PAGE

BIG NEWS

HOME NEWS

SCIENCE

WORLD NEWS

ANIMAL NEWS

CRAZY BUT TRUE



TASK FOUR: Choose the **front cover** story

Choosing the front cover story is an important editorial decision for all newspapers as this is the story that they are promoting as being the most important story of the week for their readers. Which of your four stories do you think should feature on the **front cover** of First News and why? Discuss in your editorial team and come to a decision together.

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PITCH 1

'TRILLION TREES' PARTNERSHIP

THIS week two wildlife charities are launching the Trillion Trees programme to combat the fact that the planet is losing 10 billion trees every year. This new 25-year initiative aims to protect, restore and plant one trillion trees by developing major global and local initiatives.

PITCH 2

CAR BAN IN INDIA

NEARLY all vehicles have been banned from travelling on roads in India this week because thick smog has been causing lots of accidents. The smog has been caused by vehicle exhaust fumes, dusts and the illegal burning of crops.

PITCH 3

FLYING MAN

INVENTOR Richard Browning broke the record for the fastest speed in a body-controlled jet engine power suit. He flew at 32.02mph in his £40,000 Daedalus suit which he designed himself.

PITCH 4

SHEEP ARE ABLE TO RECOGNISE HUMAN FACES IN PHOTOGRAPHS

IT is already known that sheep can recognise their human handlers, but in a new study scientists have found that the animals can also be trained to recognise images of famous people.

PITCH 5

DINNER LADIES WIN LOTTERY AND QUIT JOBS

SIX dinner ladies from Wales have quite their jobs after winning a £25 million lottery jackpot.

PITCH 6

FOSSIL FIND

AMAZING fossils have been discovered on the Dorset coast. Teeth belonging to extinct shrew-like creatures have been identified as the oldest-known ancestors of most living mammals.

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As a class, discuss the decisions made by each editorial team. Make sure you explain the reasons for your decisions.

WHAT WOULD YOUR FRONT PAGE LOOK LIKE?



WHAT DID FIRST NEWS DECIDE?

Remember, there are no right or wrong answers with this activity. Stories that feature in any newspaper are the choice of the editorial team. Another editorial team will have chosen a different selection of stories.

BIG NEWS



FRONT PAGE



HOME NEWS



THE STORIES THAT DIDN'T MAKE IT IN...

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