

DESCRIBE

Often used for short quotes and to flag an opinion:

“Lead researcher James Tour **described** the finding as a “big deal”.

The climate campaigner, 17, and human rights activist, 22, were described as “the two most influential young women of my lifetime” by TV host Piers Morgan.



OXFORD



● Meeting of minds

Greta Thunberg and Malala Yousafzai met during Greta’s trip to Oxford. The climate campaigner, 17, and human rights activist, 22, were described as “the two most influential young women of my lifetime” by TV host Piers Morgan. Greta spoke to students at Oxford University, where Malala is studying politics, philosophy, and economics.



USEFUL ALTERNATIVES TO ‘SAID’

EXPLAIN

Being a children’s newspaper, we perhaps do a bit more explaining than most, so this crops us quite frequently.

Aquarist Sam Worthington **explains**: “Lobsters moult their protective outer shells in order to grow.”

Keeper Jodie **explains**: “Dads don’t usually play a part in the upbringing of babies and won’t have a lot to do with them until they’re older.”



TOLD

‘Told’ is used to make it clear that the person was speaking exclusively to a particular news outlet, or to a particularly audience.

Deputy Science Museum Director, Dr Julia Knights, **told** First News: “Climate change is the most urgent issue facing us.”

Trump told the crowd: “America loves India, respects India.”



SOCIAL MEDIA



‘Tweeted’ and ‘posted’ are now essential forms of attribution to explain the written source of the quotation.

MP Julia Lopez **tweeted**: “Just leaving Westminster office for the night and see a fox climbing escalator into Portcullis House!”

“It was smiles all round and we are happy to report that both Monty and the beach towel have lived to see another day,” they **posted** on social media after the op.



Subjectivity can be a difficult concept for children to grasp, and studying the use of this one word – the reasons for its use and the issues with the alternatives – can be a helpful introduction.

When you explain how to improve their news reports, your students may well say (complain/ moan/joke) that you have ripped up the rules on ‘said’, but they will be better journalists for it!

In the director’s commentary of his new film, Johnson **explains** that Apple says “bad guys cannot have iPhones on camera.”

19. SNEAKY FOX

A fox managed to sneak past security to have a wander around Parliament.

Conservative MP Julia Lopez

tweeted: “Just leaving Westminster office for the night and see a fox climbing escalator into Portcullis House!”



Joshywss/Twitter