

Getting the News:

Then and Now



News Then

A few hundred years ago, newspapers were small, often about four pages. They contained poetry, advertisements and essays, but very little actual news. Most were printed just once each week.

Few people read newspapers back then. That's because not many people could read. Often, people just told others the news they heard.

Newspapers then were hard to deliver. They were often only sent to people in the towns where they were printed. Many people shared one newspaper.

News Now

Today, people can follow the news in many ways. Growing numbers of people read the news on the internet. They may use their computers or mobile phones to go online so that they can get news very fast. There are plenty of news websites to choose from.

Many people get their news by watching TV. People like to see videos with the stories. Most homes have a TV nowadays and there are many news programs on offer. People may also listen to the news on the radio while driving.

Of course, newspapers are still popular today, both on paper and online. People still love to read all about it!



Literal Questions

1 What were newspapers like a few hundred years ago?

2 Draw a picture of two ways people can access the news today.

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3 What do most homes have now? _____

Focus: Features of Texts - Heading and Subheadings

Always read the heading and subheadings before you read a report. They will tell you what the text will be about. They also serve a purpose of dividing information into sections.

4 Write down each subheading and one fact from that section.

a Subheading: _____

Fact: _____

b Subheading: _____

Fact: _____

Focus: Making Connections - Students' Own Experiences

Making connections between the text and your own experiences will aid your comprehension.

5 How does your household access the news? Explain.

Inference Questions

6 The purpose of this text is to

7 News travelled slower in the olden days. Explain why.
