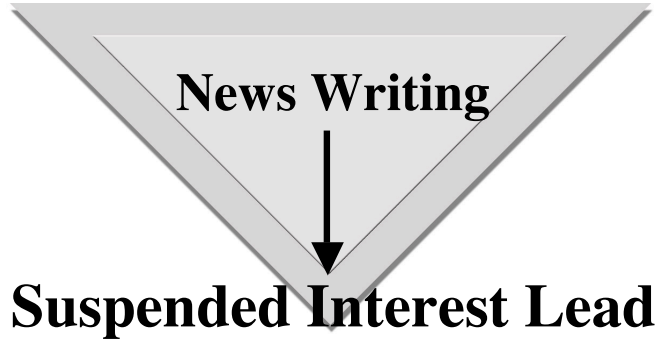


**Directions:** Write a suspended interest lead for each story, being sure to follow it with a nut graph that summarizes the news. **Then write the rest of the story,** using all the given information. Your producer can cut the story to size later..

**You:** A reporter for the pre-recorded Newark Valley Weekend Update.

**Audience:** Mostly Newark Valley students

**Remember:** These are notes with missing words. Rewrite these notes into a story that follows the inverted pyramid of news. Remember, notes have misspellings, lack capitalizations sometimes, leave out words and are what they are: **JUST NOTES.**



**A.** Two Newark Valley High School seniors are claiming a world record. They have asked that the Guinness Book of World Records include their names in the next edition. They played Halo for 75 straight hours over February break, pausing only long enough for bathroom breaks. The two are Dale Whittaker and Bill Moore. Moore contacted Guinness a day after the marathon by email, requesting that they be included in the famous book of records. "Some guy named Bob Stevens wrote me back on Friday, requesting my phone number. He said the process of getting in the book is a long one. Apparently it involves them interviewing several people, mostly witnesses," Moore said. Both boys are 17 and members of the NVHS Gamers Club. They played the marathon at Dale's house. They played 48 total games. When their marathon was over, they each slept for at least 14 hours. "All I could see were plasma grenades and rocket launchers behind my eyelids," Whittaker jokingly said. "It was kind of freaky." The two took the risk without knowing if Guinness would even consider it a record. No other record currently exists for consecutive hours playing a video game. "Even if they don't accept our marathon as a record, it was still worth it," Moore said.

**B.** A stray dog visited Newark Valley High School yesterday. No one knows where the dog came from. It first was seen just outside the gymnasium fourth period, according to physical education teacher Mr. Wandell. When he walked toward it, the dog ran down the hall past the guidance and main offices and into an empty chemistry lab. It upset some test tubes on the floor, spilling several experiments left to fester in a corner. It also ate part of Ms. Carroll's morning snack (half a plain bagel). From there, it trotted into the open door of a home and careers class, interrupting a lesson on resumes. Then it left. It was last seen going out the doors by the auditorium, released by a passing teacher, English teacher Mr. Smith. Student Jamie Volvo said the dog "licked my shoelaces and then sneezed on my pants" while he was in home and careers class. Volvo sits near the door. According to Bethany Anders, who just so happened to be in the cooridor when the dog came bouncing down the hallway from the Chemistry lab, "He seemed friendly." Anders said the dog was brown, white and black, probably some sort of terrier. Mr. Smith confirmed it was probably a terrier. The dog incident tastes of another recent incident involving several chickens which were released in an upstairs hallway across from room 209. Some of the foul pooped on the floor in 209 and two students were suspended from school because of their involvement. Mr. Harold, whose office is near a parking lot window, said he has never seen the dog before that day. "You can be sure that we'll be looking into who let the dog in," he said.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Week \_\_\_\_\_

**My Best News Story:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Why?** \_\_\_\_\_

**What Part of News Writing Am I Best At?** \_\_\_\_\_

**What Part of News Writing Do I Still Have the Most Trouble With?** \_\_\_\_\_

## News Writing Rubric

### Newsworthiness

The extent to which the story meets standards for newsworthiness and is directed at the interests of the intended audience: **1 2 3 4**

### Lead

The extent to which the lead clearly captures the most newsworthy elements and question words, is short, tight, makes the listener want to hear more, and uses a suspended interest lead where applicable: **1 2 3 4 5 6 7**

### Story Organization / Development

The extent to which organization follows the inverted pyramid of news writing, That is, it follows the line of what is most important / interesting to what is least without sacrificing necessary explanations for listeners. Moreover, the story moves well from paragraph to paragraph through the use of transitions. **1 2 3 4 5 6 7**

### Concision, Objectivity & Quotations

The extent to which sentences are tight, word and phrase choice are appropriate level for listeners, paraphrases and quotations are well handled and attributed, and the writer tells an objective news story: **1 2 3 4 5 6 7**

### Paperwork

Give 5 points if this rubric was turned in with a print copy of the recorded news story and 0 points if it was not turned in with a print copy of the recorded news story: **0 5**

## News Producing Rubric

### Clarity / Volume / Rate

The extent to which the broadcaster speaks with an appropriate news voice that is at an appropriate level of volume, clarity and a rate of speed, including pauses: **1 2 3 4 5**

### Professionalism / Tone

The extent to which the broadcaster's tone of voice invokes confidence and serious broadcasting professionalism: **1 2 3 4 5**

### Enthusiasm / Emphasis

The extent to which the broadcaster speaks with enthusiasm, appropriately adding emphasis to words important to listener's story comprehension and attention: **1 2 3 4 5**

### Noises / Distractions

The extent to which the news recording can be listened to without distractions caused by the recorder, mostly from shifting, including that of the microphone: **1 2 3 4 5**

### File Management

The extent to which the file was exported from Audacity as an mp3 file to the appropriate folder on the S: Drive: **0 1 2 3 4 5**

### Assignment's File Path:

### Production

The extent to which the recording was mixed together using the appropriate transitional noise (electrocuted) at the start of the news story: **0 1 2 3 4 5**

**Total:** \_\_\_\_\_ x2 = \_\_\_\_\_ /120