

The purpose of a non-chronological report is to document and store information about a topic.

## Features of a non-chronological report

Heading introduces the topic

Huddosaurus, the Eiffel Tower

Brief introduction with general information

Over a million years ago, the Huddosaurus roamed the plains of Africa.

The world-renowned Eiffel Tower was constructed in...

Subheadings organise each category

Diet, habitat, appearance, construction, history.

Technical vocabulary

Carnivore, engine, motte and bailey.

Pictures and captions

Third person – impersonal

The construction of the Titanic began in...

Present and future tense (unless it is a historical report)

The barn owl is well-known for its...

The Titanic was...

Formal tone

## Grammar, punctuation and spelling opportunities

The following list should be used as tool to help teachers plan where to cover explicit grammar, punctuation and spelling objectives from both the and the programmes of study:

• **Co-ordinating conjunctions** – link related points about your topic – **but, or, so, yet, and.** Most blue-ringed frogs are herbivores and eat a mixture of plants and berries, <u>but</u> a few are carnivores <u>and</u> eat a variety of insects.

Blue gibbons are found in the highest trees of the Umbongo forest <u>or</u> the prickly curbo bushes of the Tunstall Valley.

Permbo pythons hunt in packs <u>so</u> they are often found in groups of three to four. Most people think that silver river snakes live at the bottom of the Tumbo river, <u>yet</u> scientists have found evidence of them living in the barrier reef of the Yemen river too.





• Subordinating conjunctions - expand upon independent clauses - even if, if, so that, when, because

The huddosaurus defends its nest <u>even if</u> it is near death. <u>When</u> it is not threatened by predators, the blue-ringed frog loses its rings and is completely white.

If the reptile cannot find living prey, it will eat the bodies of dead animals.

The dragon covers its eyes <u>so that</u> the poisonous gases of the Khallad forest will not affect it. The dragon flies to the southern deserts during the winter <u>because</u> it prefers the temperature there.

• **Expanded noun phrases** - use single adjectives or an adjectival phrase to add detail to your nouns.

(Remember that expanded noun phrases can be adjective, adjective noun or noun + phrases starting with any preposition – of, from, under, around, surrounding, next to, above, with etc.)

The mane of the creature is... Its soft, tiny paws... The slime from its mouth... Its sharp, razor-like claws...

• **Present perfect tense** – use this tense to talk about what experts have discovered about your topic.

Most people think that silver river snakes live at the bottom of the Tumbo river, yet scientists <u>have discovered</u> a few living in the barrier reef of the Yemen river too. Berlingo birds usually lay four eggs a year, but scientists <u>have discovered</u> that some eggs <u>have hatched</u> after just three days.

• Collective nouns - if you're writing about animals, make sure you know the name for a group of your animals.

flock of sheep, herd of cows, parliament of owls etc.

- **Commas in a list** use commas to list information relevant to your topic. The yumbo's diet mainly consists of rabbits, small rodents and cockroaches.
- Apostrophes for possession show that features belong to the topic.
- Year 3/4 Spelling List

although, appear, breathe, build, circle, different, disappear, earth, exercise, extreme, guard, heart, height, history, increase, island, learn, material, natural, peculiar, separate, strength, various, weight.

• Spellings ending in -ous - great for adjectives to describe your creature.

poisonous, dangerous, hideous, enormous, tremendous, various

• Plurals of nouns (-s or -es)

fox -> foxes, penguin -> penguins etc. vicious, malicious, cautious, suspicious





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Headings and sub-headings	]	
Brief introduction with general information	]	
Technical vocabulary	]	
Pictures and captions	]	
Third person - impersonal	]	
Present/future tense (past if historical)	]	
Formal language	]	
Co-ordinating conjunctions	]	
Subordinating conjunctions	]	
Commas in a list	]	
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Present perfect tense	]	
Collective nouns	]	
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Year 3/4 Spelling Words	]	
Spellings ending in -ous	]	
Plurals of noun – s or es	]	

