

Caption me, now

PS. Windy, I made this green just for you!

Writing captions is a matter of good reporting and thoughtful writing. Remember, your first job is to know the 5 Ws and H (who, what, when, where, why and how)

Captions are the most read copy in your yearbook.

Step by Step

- Collect caption notes with 5 W's and H (know details and all names of people pictured)
- **Write primary sentence-** Reports the most important 5Ws & H & written in **present** tense. Don't start with names, but choose impact words you can "see" in the photo. Tell what is happening and don't add any opinion.

For example, "Tuning her violin, Sue Smith practices fret picking during her fourth period orchestra class on Oct. 21." Edit carefully! Remember, the words must keep your reader's attention. Notice the format we use for dates. Don't add the day of the week, and eliminate the year because it's obvious.

- **Write secondary sentence(s)** - Provides details not obvious in the photo & written in **past** tense. Dig in and find new information; provide the readers with **new reporting-** facts, figures and feelings.

For example, "Smith was first chair in the group of 24 students which performed four public concerts during the year."

- **Add additional sentence(s)-** The best captions will have 4-5 detailed sentences to tell the whole story. Our plan is to use at last three sentences whenever possible. This can include a quote.



Student Life example

Helping his mother, John Jones stuffs his family's 22-pound turkey the day before Thanksgiving. The Jones family hosted 12 family members the following day. In all, 61 percent of students ate their Thanksgiving dinner at home. "The best part is the gravy my grandma makes. I dumped a whole spoonful on every last bite," Marcia Chavez said.

Academics example

As part of the second lab for the semester, Mr. Alberto Gomez demonstrates the properties of oxygen with the help of Tyler Post in fourth period physics on Nov. 2. The gas created instant temperatures of 425 degrees.



Sports example

Stretched while running a corner route, Jordan Timmens picks up an 18-yard gain against Colfax defender Ian Brunning. Timmens was the team's top pass catcher on the year with 22 receptions for 185 yards and two touchdowns. He also won the team lunchbox four times at practice.