

Yearbook Caption Writing

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Types of Captions

1. Identification (Ident)

Identification captions are used to clearly identify any people in a photograph, but do not tell a story. The focus is on clarity.



GIRLS BASKETBALL *Front Row:* Taylor Johnson, Kelly Congruani, Hanna Rohl, Ashley Disting, Kristin Jrika *Second Row:* Miranda Spockel, Emily Adams, Rachel Grave, Michelle Bremermann, Allie Robassie, JaRae Ellefson, Calleigh Brown, Elena Becker *Back Row:* Coach Craig Geyen, Coach Scott Sarreman, Coach Stacy Eggers *Photo by LifeTouch*

2. Group captions

Group captions are used for packages of pictures. These captions should be dedicated at least two sentences per picture and include a quote whenever possible. Group captions should be clear about which picture each caption describes. Use the entire copy block when writing.

3. Story-telling captions

Story-telling captions are ideal and should be used whenever possible. These captions tell the complete story behind pictures and include quotes.

Each of these captions involve reporting.

All captions should tell a story.

Captions
should tell a
whole story.

All captions are at least two sentences.

The first sentence is **present tense** and describes what's going on in the picture by answering as many as the 5 w's as possible. Don't just repeat what any one can guess by looking at the picture.

Captions
should tell a
whole story.

All captions are at least two sentences.

The second sentence is **past tense** and describes the background or situation behind the picture, giving out as much non-obvious information possible. The focus is on telling a story and giving new and interesting information to readers.

Captions
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whole story.

All captions are at least two sentences.

The third sentence should be a **quote** that completes the story in the picture. Readers love this because it makes each picture unique and each caption a story.

The quote can come from a person in the picture, a witness, or a person who is involved in the activity some other way.

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1. Present tense - 5 W's
2. Past tense - Background information
3. A quote or additional information



In Focus **Bad Example**

Junior Dana VanBruggen listens attentively to English Teacher and NHS advisor Ms. Vicki Cary. Members had many options for staying informed. "I like the meetings best because I forget to check the website," said Senior Karen Baker. *Photo by Kaia Hagberg*



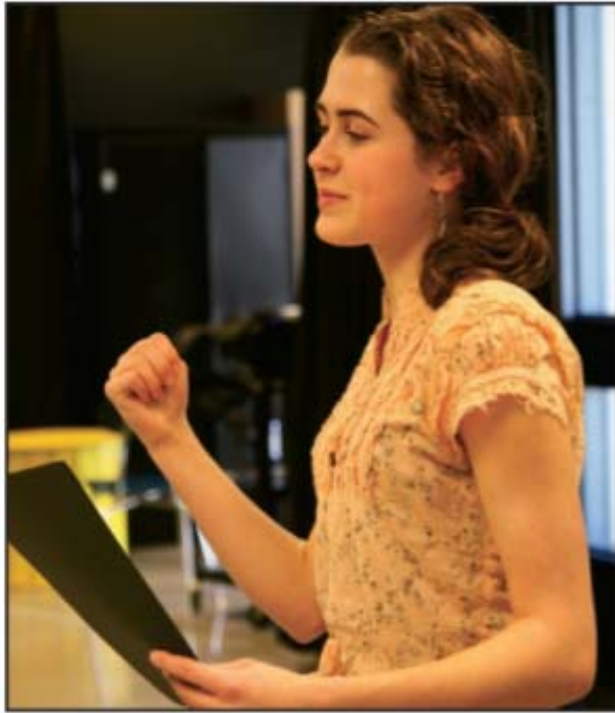
Good, not great

Filling Bigger Shoes

Freshman Kristin Jeske works hard to keep the ball in her possession. The team started out the season with more underclassmen than upperclassmen on the roster. "I don't think about being younger or not," said Jeske. "I was friends with them all before, so it's cool." *Photo by Elias Krumholz*

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REPEATED RENDITIONS

Freshman Abby Smith practices her prose speech after school. Speech members attended practices at school several times a week. "You practice three times a week with the coaches," said Senior Karen Baker. "At home you mentally prepare. I catch myself at school and work, just saying my speech in my head." *Photo by Elias Krumholz*

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Really good



After receiving the snap, Senior Joshua Franke holds the ball in place for Junior Cole Meyer to kick. The field goal was good and the Bison took the lead over Princeton. "Every time we line up for a field goal, I tell Cole to keep his head down and kick the ball," said Franke. "Then, I just make sure that the ball gets on the tee and the laces are out." Meyer comments, "After he gets the ball, I wait until I see the white laces, then just kick the ball." *Photo by Kelsey Bergmann*

With the help of Senior Anthony Ralph, Junior Travis Durst paints the engine compartment of his 1983 Chevrolet Camaro. Durst's interest in mechanics sparked at a young age due to his father and uncle's careers in engineering. "I wanted to go with them everywhere," said Durst. "I asked so many questions about everything and really wanted to know how it all worked." *Photo by Kayla Ronnie*

Really good



Yearbook Caption Writing

Let's write one!

TOGETHER!



Who?

What?

When?

Where?

The second sentence is **past tense** and describes the background or situation behind the picture.



The third sentence should be a **quote** that completes the story in the picture.



Joel said:

Yearbook Caption Writing

Now you try it.

BY YOURSELF!





