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Class: Year 5
Date: 8 June 2020
Subject: Reading/Composition
Learning objective: I can identify the features of newspaper report

Features of a Newspaper Report

Out of This World Express

25th December 2015

APOLLO-GIES FROM OUTER SPACE!

Pensioner receives Christmas Eve telephone call from astronaut in mix-up. by Martin Gilson

Yesterday, Tim Peake tried to call home from the International Space Station (ISS) but accidentally dialled the wrong number due to a technical blunder.

Major Peake was intending to call his family with a festive greeting but a 'spreadsheet error' resulted in him ringing the West Sussex landline of retired teacher, Betty Barker. When he began the conversation with, "Hello, is that planet Earth?", Mrs Barker was convinced she had received a prank call. The call was made at around 11 p.m. British time and she explained to reporters that she immediately assumed the caller was a Christmas Eve reveller, asking about a pub or club called 'Planet Earth'. After replying, "No," to the British astronaut's question, the puzzled pensioner hung up the call.

It was not until the next day that Mrs Barker discovered the identity of the mystery caller, when her husband, Pat, 84, saw the story reported on the eight o'clock morning news. The grandmother expressed her amazement at being called by the high-profile ISS crew member, saying, "It's been a bit unbelievable to be thrust into this situation."

The International Space Station is Peake's base for the next five and half months.

Peake, who has been in space since 15th December, realised there had been a mistake and apologised on Twitter, describing it as, "Not a prank call... just a wrong number!" He explained that his list of telephone contacts had been entered into a spreadsheet which had rounded up the number, resulting in the mistake.

Fortunately, the widely-viewed Christmas Day video message sent by the British astronaut and his fellow ISS crew members, Scott Kelly and Tim Kopra, was free from technological errors! Peake is the first British astronaut to spend Christmas in space and is due to return from his historic journey in June next year.

Use these colours to add a colour code to this newspaper report to identify these features.

the name of the newspaper

headline

a sub-headline

a 'byline' (the writer's name)

an introductory paragraph

picture with captions

written in the third person and past tense — Underline where you see the third person or the past tense used

direct and reported speech

a conclusion paragraph to explain what might happen next