

# READ ALL ABOUT IT!

You can use your best **What If** in this exercise. Pick a **What If**, then think about how you would report it as a new story. News articles all have a similar format:

## **A CATCHY HEADLINE IN BOLD!**

followed by

**A paragraph of important info that sums the story up.**

followed by:

The details of the story. What happened, and how does it affect people? You could also write quotes from witnesses or people involved.

It should be written in past tense and end with a couple of lines that sum up the story, possibly including the journalist's opinion (yours!).

Let's use the example 'What if Christmas was cancelled?' It's so dramatic it only needs a simple headline. Read my article below, then write your own. You could even illustrate your article and create a name and logo for your newspaper.

## **CHRISTMAS CANCELLED!**

**Elves left in chaos as Santa disappears leaving no-one in charge of toy production and distribution at his Lapland workshop.**

Where is Santa? That's the question on everyone's lips in Lapland. When Santa didn't turn up to work this morning, Papa Elf found his room and wardrobe empty and a note reading: I quit!

When asked why Santa had left, Papa Elf said:

*'He was under a lot of pressure with the world's population growing. In the 1800's he was delivering to less than one billion people, now there are over seven billion people in the world, I think he's just had enough. I'm not surprised really, a lot of elves are talking about quitting too. We can barely keep up with the number of presents we need to make.'*

Santa didn't leave alone, his favourite reindeer, Rudolph, was missing from the stables.

*'They just galloped off together in the middle of the night.'* Rudolph's brother Blitzen told us. *'Rudolph never liked the cold. If you ask me, they've gone somewhere sunny, like the Bahamas, or Mauritius.'*

Wherever they are, this reporter wonders if they know just how much trouble they've caused. With no one to run the workshop, or deliver the billions of presents, Christmas is officially cancelled. We can only ask, who will step up to fill Santa's boots?

***Reported by Gabrielle Kent.***