

## Sports Article Template

*Before you can successfully write a sports article, you must be able to dissect one. Select a short article that interests you from the sports section of your local newspaper. Read it carefully and label it using the following categories.*

Label	Definition/Example
<b>LEAD</b>	<p>The <b>lead</b> of a sports article is creative and interesting. It grabs the reader's attention by describing a scene, introducing a player, or using a quote. It should transport you to the game.</p> <p><b>Example:</b> <i>A heavy hush blanketed Fenway Park in Boston. The fans in the packed stadium stood silently, shoulder to shoulder under a charcoal-gray sky, as Manny Ramirez, the home run-hitting Red Sox outfielder, stepped up to the plate. There were two outs and two men on base. The Sox were losing by one run.</i></p>
<b>NUT</b>	<p>The <b>nut</b> of a sports article is the paragraph that summarizes the main conflict and story. It is the place for vital information that doesn't appear in the first paragraph—and if a reader wanted to stop reading at this point, they should walk away with all the necessary answers.</p> <p><b>Example:</b> <i>This was the last game of the 2003 American League Championship Series between the Boston Red Sox and their arch rival, the New York Yankees. Not since 1918 had the Red Sox advanced to the World Series—and fans were watching with bated breath to see whether the curse would be broken. This was not to be.</i></p>
<b>INFORMATION</b>  (Who, What, When, Where, Why, How)	<p>The body of a sports article sounds like a real news article. It includes complete information and details about a game, in logical order.</p> <p><b>Example:</b> <i>Who was the star player? How did the game end? What was the final play? The winning score?</i></p>
<b>CONCLUSION</b>	<p>The conclusion lets the reader know what will happen as a result of the events described. It does so in a creative and interesting way.</p> <p><b>Example:</b> <i>Everyone was surprised when the ball landed in Bernie Williams's glove. A collective groan rose up from the Red Sox fans. Their team had lost. The Yankees had won again.</i></p>