

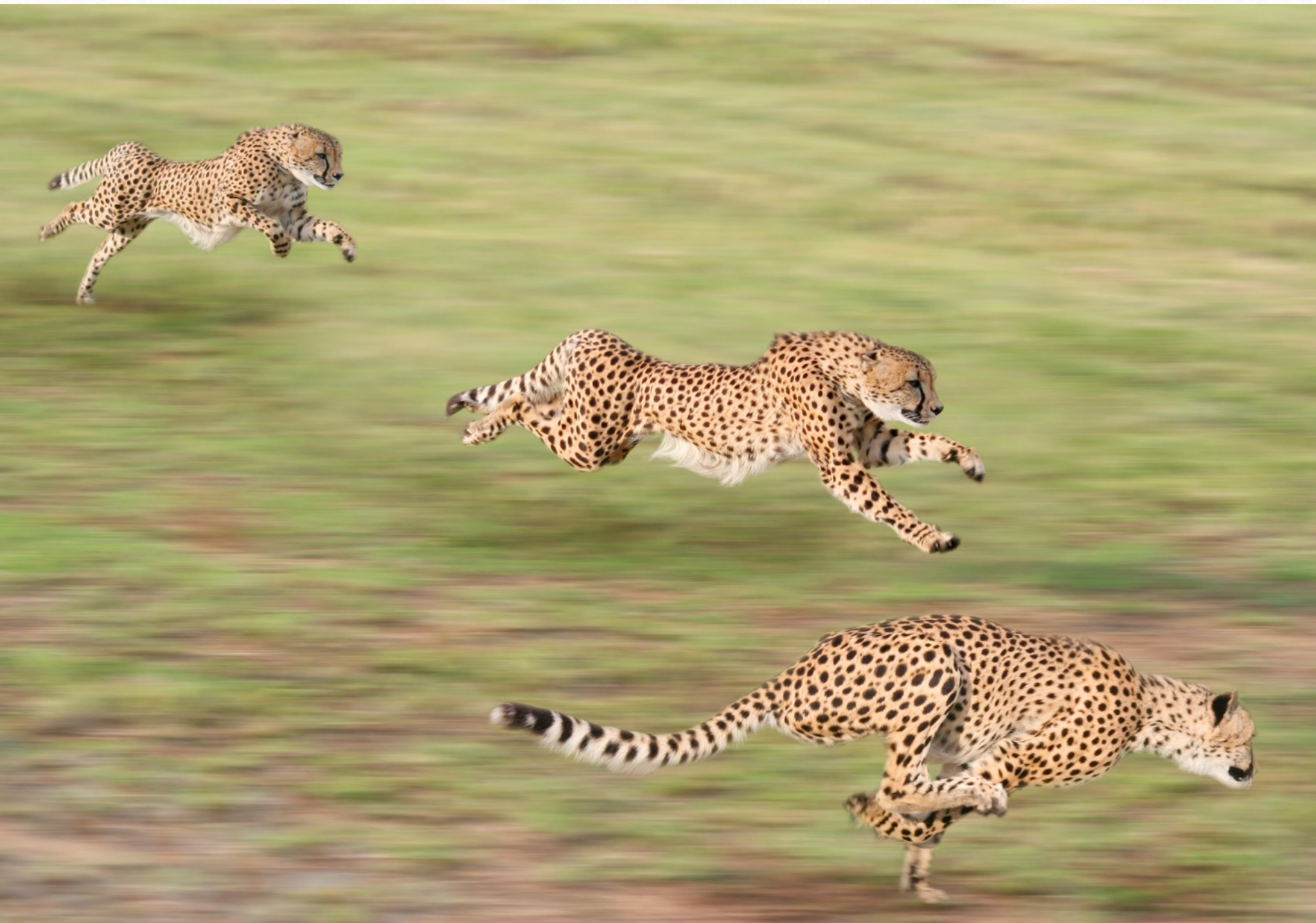
Non Chronological Reports



Year 5 English
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1

What does a non chronological report look like?





A non chronological report is a non-fiction text. Other non fiction texts that we have written this year are explanations, recounts (diary entries) and instructions. All of these non-fiction texts have a specific order that they need to be written in: **chronological** order. This helps them to make sense.

A non chronological report is different. It focuses on a single topic (or can compare similar things) and includes various facts about this topic. In this unit we will read and write non chronological texts about animals in the rainforest to link to our work in geography.

Non chronological reports have these features:

- a **title** telling us about the subject (can be a question).
- an introductory paragraph which introduces the topic telling us **who/what/where**
- text split into **paragraphs** and each paragraph about a different aspect of the subject.
- Written in the **present tense**.
- Some **organisational features** e.g. pictures with captions, diagrams or fact boxes.
- **Third person**.
- May have **relative clauses**.
- A **glossary** for technical information.

Your first task is to make sure you understand what these features mean.

Cheetahs

title

general
introduction

Cheetahs are members of the cat family and are the world's fastest land animals.

They inhabit open grasslands and scrub in Africa, southern Asia and the Middle East.

present
tense

Cheetahs **are** often mistaken for leopards and **have** many similar features. Their distinguishing marks **are** the long, teardrop-shaped lines on each side of the nose from the corner of the eyes to the mouth.



A cheetah has a very distinctive appearance

image and
caption

technical
vocabulary

The animals have muscular and powerful bodies which are **aerodynamically** perfect for short, fast runs. Their bendy backs keep the body flexible as they sprint. They can **accelerate** from standing to 40 mph in three strides and to a full speed of 70 mph within seconds. Cheetahs' feet are like running shoes and have grips and spikes to dig into the ground. The grips are special **ridges** on the animals' **footpads** and the claws act as spikes. These claws stay out all the time. This is different from other cats, whose claws tuck away in special **sheaths** in their paws.

relative
clause

Cheetahs are carnivores and eat gazelle and small antelope (**which are both a type of deer**). A long tail helps the cheetah keep its balance as it swerves after its prey, using large eyes that point forward to judge distances accurately. Once the cheetah has pounced, the victim is gripped by the throat to stop it breathing. However, the cheetah has weak jaws and small teeth and cannot always protect **its** kills or **its** young, especially if tired out after a run.

third
person

Female cheetahs give birth to an average of three young that **they** rear by themselves. Once fully grown, the animals usually live alone, though males sometimes form small groups. Most cheetahs live about twelve years.

Cheetahs are now an endangered species and many conservationists (**who work to save plants, habitats and animals that are threatened**) are trying to help protect the habitats of these interesting creatures.

Your task is to write a definition and give an example of each of these features using the text above to help you.

2

Finding features in examples



The Greater Horseshoe Bat

The greater horseshoe bat is, like others of its species, a **nocturnal** mouse-like mammal. Its name comes from its distinctive nose that forms a U shape.

The bat is a mammal that can fly. It is nocturnal, which means that it sleeps by day and hunts by night. It finds its food, which consists mainly of moths and beetles, by **echolocation**. The bat sends out pulses of high-frequency sounds from the mouth or nose. Sound waves bounce off its prey. It is impossible for humans to hear these **ultrasound** pulses.

This species is found mainly in the south-west of Britain. It has been known to live for up to 30 years and is one of the longest-living British bats. Most bats live in caves, buildings, hollow trees and abandoned mines. However, in winter, the bat **hibernates** (spends winter in a sleep-like state) in roosts.

The fur of the greater horseshoe bat is buff-brown and fluffy. Its large ears help to compensate for its poor vision. Layers of **transparent** skin make up its wings, which are very light. Although its flight is slow, the greater horseshoe bat is extremely agile. It makes short, swooping glides, helping it to catch insects in flight.

Unfortunately, bats are an endangered species, even though they are protected by law. Much needs to be done in order to save the greater horseshoe bat, and others of its species, from **extinction**.



greater horseshoe bat in hibernation

Which features can you find?

Elephants

Elephants are the largest land-dwelling **mammals** on earth and they can live up to 70 years.

Elephants are brown to dark grey in colour and have long, coarse hairs sparsely covering their bodies. They have very thick skin that keeps them cool. Elephant trunks serve as another **limb** and they may contain more than 40,000 muscles that help the elephant use it to gather food and water. They also have large ears and thick tree-trunk-like legs to support their weight.

There are two **species** of elephants: the African elephant and the Asian elephant. There are a number of differences between the two species; overall size, tusks and shape of the back and forehead are some. In comparison to Indian elephants, African elephants have very large ears.

The basic diet of the elephant includes grasses, leaves, bamboo, bark and roots. In addition they are known to eat crops like banana and sugarcane which are grown by farmers. Adult elephants eat 150–200 kgs of food per day.

Whereas African savannah elephants are found in savannah zones in 37 countries south of the Sahara Desert, African forest elephants **inhabit** the dense rain forests of west and central Africa. The Asian elephant is found in India, Sri Lanka, China and much of southeast Asia.

Elephants form deep family bonds and live in tight family groups of related females called a herd. Many groups of animals are led by the dominant male. In contrast, the elephant herd is led by the oldest and often largest female (called a **matriarch**). Herds consist of eight to 100 individuals depending on terrain and family size. When a calf is born, it is raised and protected by the whole herd. Males leave the family unit between the ages of 12 and 15 years and may lead solitary lives (live alone) or live temporarily with other males.



A young elephant with the matriarch of the herd

Habitat loss is one of the key threats facing elephants. Increasing conflict with human populations taking over more and more elephant habitat and **poaching** for ivory are additional threats that are placing the elephant's future at risk.

3

Sloths



Research sloths – [click here to see a video for note taking](#)

Paragraph	Facts
APPEARANCE	• Between 58 and 68 cm long • Covered in fur with markings on their face - always look like they're smiling! • Different types of sloth have either 2 or 3 toes. • Almost no ears with a round head. • Very long limbs and long claws • Fur is brown but can appear green if bacteria is growing on it.
HABITAT	• In the forest canopy of the South American rainforests • Also lives in dry forests and deciduous forests in Central and South America
DIET	• Herbivore • Mainly eat leaves which have little nutrition • They need large slow working stomachs to digest the leaves. • It takes a month for them to digest food and they only pass waste once a week.
LIFE CYCLE	• Live around 25 to 30 years • Females have roughly one baby every year. Baby clings to mother for around nine months and then lives alone. • They live alone.
HABITS	• They only move when necessary and then very slowly. • They have hardly any muscle tissue so they hang from trees using their long curved claws. They eat and sleep like this. • Sleep around 18 hours a day!



Add some extra facts to your grid.

Extension task

Visit these websites to find out even more:

[easy factfile](#)

[another easy factfile](#)

[harder science report](#)

4

Howler Monkeys



Research howler monkeys – [click here to see a video for note taking](#)

Paragraph	Facts
APPEARANCE	• Between 46 and 72cm long • Naked faces framed by fur • Snub noses • Long silky, reddish-gold coats • long muscular tails
HABITAT	• In the forest canopy of the South American rainforests
DIET	• Omnivore • Fruit, leaves, small birds, reptiles, mammals • Fruit and meat give them energy for moving quickly.
LIFE CYCLE	• Live around 15 to 20 years • Females have one baby roughly every 2 years. Baby rides on mother for at least one year and stays with mother for 2 years • Very sociable and live in groups of between 5 and 40 animals.
HABITS	• Very active in morning and evening and sleep in the middle of the day and at night. • Their roars can be heard over 3km away in the forest - they are the loudest land animal in the world. • They swing around in the trees - their tails have no hair on the underside to help them grip.

Add some extra facts to your grid.

Extension task

Visit these websites to find out even more:

[fact file](#)

[easier science report](#)

[harder science report](#)



Chronological

arranged in the order that things happened

Related Glossary Terms

Drag related terms here

Index

Find Term

Chapter 1 - features

Echolocation

a physical process for locating distant or invisible objects using sound reflected back to the animal that sent it

Related Glossary Terms

Drag related terms here

Extinction

the situation that occurs when something such as a plant or animal has completely

Related Glossary Terms

Drag related terms here

Habitat

the place where a plant or animal naturally or normally lives or grows

Habitat

Related Glossary Terms

Drag related terms here

Hibernates

for an animal - to spend the winter sleeping or resting

Related Glossary Terms

Drag related terms here

Inhabit

to live in a place or to have a home in a place

Related Glossary Terms

Drag related terms here

Limb

a leg, arm or wing on a human or animal

Related Glossary Terms

Drag related terms here

Mammals

an animal that gives birth to live young, feeds milk to its young and uses hair or fur covering its skin

Related Glossary Terms

Drag related terms here

Matriarch

a female who controls a family or group

Related Glossary Terms

Drag related terms here

Nocturnal

animals which sleep during the day and are awake during the night

Related Glossary Terms

Drag related terms here

Poaching

to take animals by illegal methods e.g. trespassing on property or hunting protected animals

Related Glossary Terms

Drag related terms here

Species

a group of animals or plants that are similar and have shared qualities

Related Glossary Terms

Drag related terms here

Transparent

able to be seen through

Related Glossary Terms

Drag related terms here

Ultrasound

a type of sound that is too high for humans to hear

Related Glossary Terms

Drag related terms here