AL CAPONE'S VAULTS

The Story of an American Treasure Hunt

On April 21, 1986, television viewers in the United States all tuned-in to witness one of the greatest and most successful events in television history, when the host Geraldo Rivera opened the sealed, underground vaults of the infamous gangster, Al Capone, who had operated his illegal empire from the penthouse suite of the Lexington Hotel in downtown Chicago during the 1920's. The program was a failure. It was also a really a big success. The show was watched by 30% of all families in America and it kept millions of eyes fixed on the television commercials that are the real reason we have television.

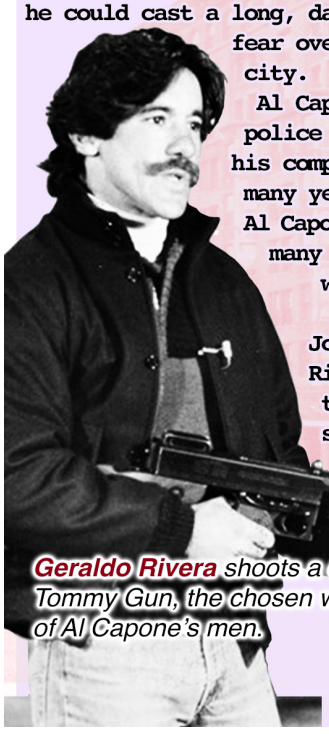
[Geraldo Rivera]
Outside the Lexington Hotel; Chicago

Viewers, thank you for joining me, outside the great Lexington hotel in the old streets of sweet home Chicago.

Behind me sits the shell of the historic Lexington Hotel, constructed in 1892; once the crown jewel of better times and the towering headquarters of one of the 20th century's most violent and notorious gangsters, now a rotting tenement.

During the age of prohibition, the Lexington was also known as Capone's Castle. Following the St.Valentine's Day Massacre, Capone ran his illegal empire inside the penthouse suite, from which he could cast a long, dark shadow of fear over the entire city.

Al Capone bought the police and got rid of his competitors. After many years in prison, Al Capone died taking many of his secrets with him to his to his grave. Join me; Geraldo Rivera as we try to dig up those secrets on live television.



Geraldo Rivera shoots a classic Tommy Gun, the chosen weapon of Al Capone's men.

[John Binder--Historian]
Voice (Fade-in) 1920's Montage
Binder with books in background

When organized religious groups had successfully pushed the United States passed the 18th Ammendemnt, which banned the sale or consumption of alcohol for non-religious reasons, it opened up a black market for hard drinks. Gangsters such as Al Capone used the opportunity to get into the illegal business of selling alcohol from Canada to become wealthy tycoons.

[Geraldo Rivera]
Interviews Bystanders
Three Quarter Shot

So, what do you think we are going to find down there? We have brought in a sonar machine and we do know there is something in there. Let's see what some of you think.

[Mavis Johnson]
Female Bank Clerk

I think they're going to find bodies. We know Al Capone was a bad man, and I would be sure he hid some of his old skeletons some place.

[Geraldo Rivera]
And you, sir.
What do you think they might find down in there?

[Davis Reece]
Male Electrician

I think they'll find the loot. They might find some gold. Capone was probably hiding his fortune away from the government. I bet it is down there in his vault along with the bodies and secrets. Who knows?

[Geraldo Rivera]

I want to remind the viewers that we do not know what, if anything, sits in the vaults behind a massive slab of concrete below this sidewalk. We do have representatives here from both the Chicago coroner's office and from the IRS. Al Capone died owing over $800,000 in tax, and the IRS is here to collect any cash or gold from inside. We also have experts, historians, city planners and we have even brought in a psychic and a clairvoyant to try and talk to the ghost of Al Capone to see what he left in that sealed vault.

Above: Al Capone leaving the Lexington Hotel.

[COMMERCIAL BREAK]
(1:20 min.)

[Geraldo Rivera]
Outside Cement Wall

We are moments away from finding out what is behind this wall. Is it treasure, bodies, secrets or something stranger- a UFO or bigfoot? We have our explosives experts ready with dynamite and a small bulldozer to clear the debris. Are we ready?

[Mike Armand]
Master of Explosives

We are ready. We just got the permit to set off a small bomb under the streets of Chicago. This has never been done before.

[Geraldo Rivera]
Covers Ears As Room Trembles

Oh wow! We have smoke. I see split timbers. It smells like smoke. I see rubble strewn all over. The wreckage is crushing down on the floor.

[COMMERCIAL BREAK]
(1:80 min)

[Geraldo Rivera]

Well, ladies and gentlemen, the vault is open. We have searched the wreckage...and we have found absoliutely nothing except a few bottles and parts from an old car. We didn't find bones riches or secrets— perhaps only Al Capone's trash.

VOCABULARY

trembles wreckage slab tenement
crushing rubble debris
timbers constructed possessions

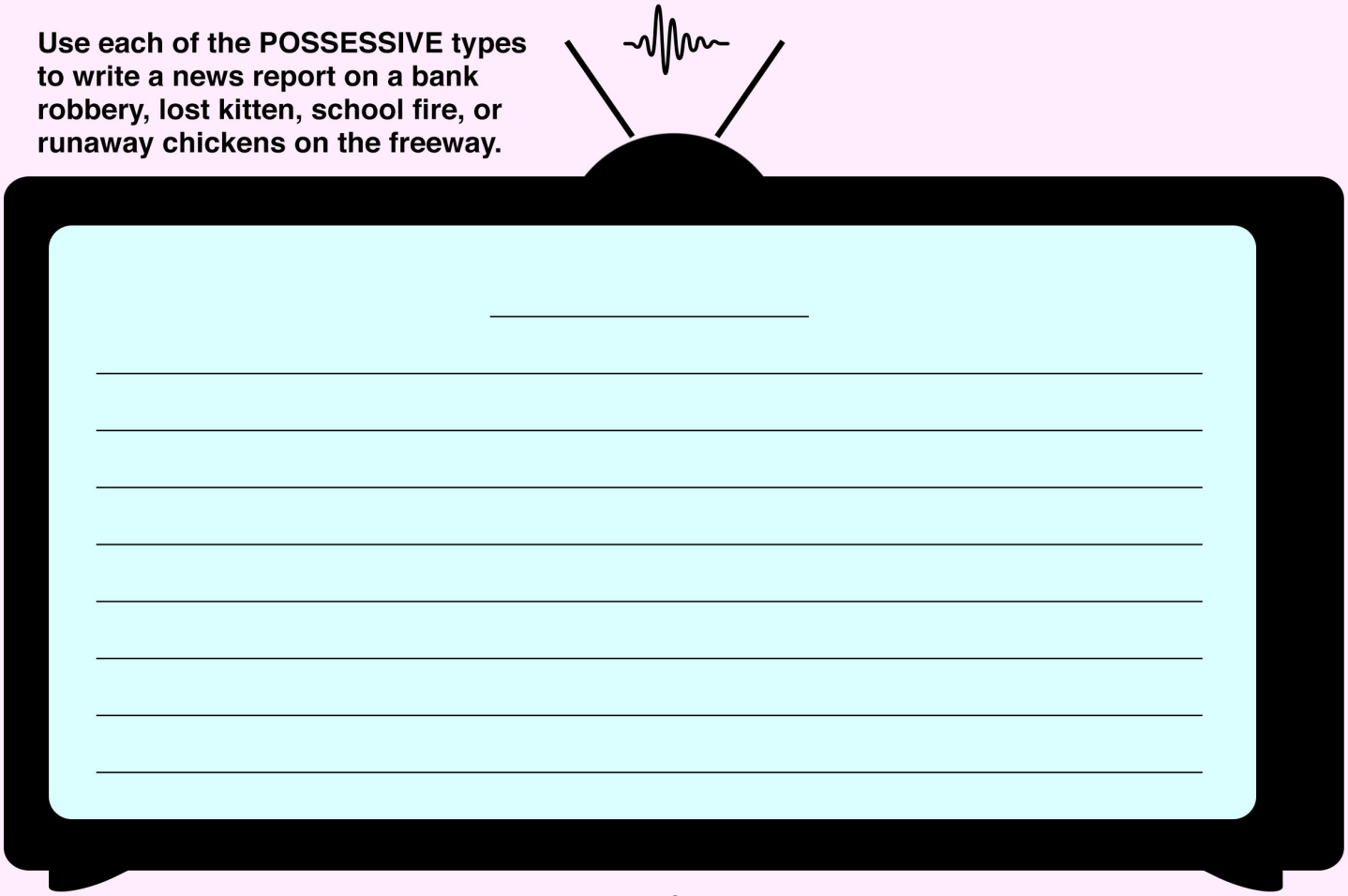
Suffux:	of	Double Possessive	Time, Distance Weight, Price:	Omit Second Noun:
Singular Possessive *The dog's tail is long.* **Collective** *The womens' hats are big and beautiful.* **Collective Possessive** *The childrens' store.* **Suffix:** *We like to spend other people's money.*	**Japan's capital** *The capital of Japan.* **The tree's leaves** *The leaves of the tree.* **The man's name** *The name of the man*	**He was a friend of mine.** **Any friend of yours is a friend of mine.** **No shirt of his is clean.** **Which pen of the teacher's is new.**	**I have a dollar's worth of candy.** **It is all in a day's work.** **I read today's paper.** **It is a hundred meter's distance to the shore.**	**This pen is John's** *(pen)* **We went to the doctor's** *(office)* **We went to John's** *(house)*

POSSESSIVES

Write the sentences with possessives:

1. This is a high school for girls. It is a _____
2. My school takes five minutes to walk to. It is a _____
3. Have your read the newspaper from today? Have you read _____
4. My wallet is bigger than the wallet Peter has. My wallet is _____
5. The cover of this book is broken. _____
6. The roof of the house is on fire. _____

Use each of the POSSESSIVE types to write a news report on a bank robbery, lost kitten, school fire, or runaway chickens on the freeway.



PHONICS and SPELLING

Fill-in the correct SPELLING WORD!!!!

1. Don't touch the bread dough, because it is _____.
2. The girl _____ her hand's outline on the paper.
3. We _____ the bark from the wood before cutting it.
4. A gust of wind blew hard and _____ the door shut.
5. I'm exhausted, as I've been _____ for two hours.
6. Zebras have black and white _____ fur.
7. Jill is _____ the race right now, but Jody is close, too.
8. Ed is a musician and he's always _____ his fingers.
9. She was _____ about her wonderful grades yesterday.
10. My family and I _____ the newborn baby carefully.
11. The broken faucet in the sink _____ endlessly.
12. She _____ her parents to buy her a new puppy.
13. Some boys _____ me to climb to the top of the tree.
14. We _____ around the track as fast as we could.
15. Steve is good at _____ a baseball, but not at throwing.
16. Cheetahs have beautiful orange and black _____ fur.
17. Tim happily _____ home after he won the contest.
18. The theater lights _____ before the movie started.
19. After rolling down the hill, my head was _____ around.
20. The four worst prisoners _____ from the jail.

Spelling Words

Label /ed/ sound /t/,/d/,/ld/.

traced _____
handled _____
begged _____
striped _____
spotted _____
skipped _____
raced _____
slammed _____
escaped _____
dimmed _____
stripped _____
dared _____
dripped _____

Write the base word.

rising _____
spinning _____
bragging _____
snapping _____
dancing _____
hitting _____
winning _____

Make sentences following this pattern: The sun **was** ris**ing** when I spott**ed** an elephant.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

LIVE, ON THE SCENE

Combine the phrases below to write a news report. Insert commas and circle your conjunctions

Early this morning

Moments ago

Over the course of ten days

Last night

Earlier this evening

This afternoon around 1:00pm

Today

Sometime this morning

on the private yacht of Rollie Fingers

in Taichung city

on a night just like tonight

deep beneath the city

in the downtown area

on the campus of Tunghai

at City Hall

at the home of a wealthy tycoon

the event of the century unfolded

a horrible accident happened

something amazing happened

we witnessed a miracle

live viewers were treated to a spectacle

an incredible event unfolded before our eyes

a shocking event occured

when a herd of pigs

the most shocking event occured

I witnessed the worst accident ever

as a cow on fire

as a talking dog

when a haunted plane

when a bright light

as aliens from outer space

when a man wearing a tutu

when a plane full of passengers

landed

when a robber driving a zamboni

flew

ran

exploded

got sick

performed

fought

danced

through the streets

in the department store

on the bus

on the head of an old lady

in the bathroom

through the smelly sewers

all over the city

on a teacher's face

and made a huge mess

to eat the free ice cream

to do some homework

to chase the teachers

while being chased by the police

and stole long underwear

and ate the police

to make a disaster

to find a pot of gold

while the students danced the polka.

while it rained green slime.

although the Army had been called to help.

as the people all ran around.

as a giant meteor headed toward the earth.

as a herd of dinosaurs in underwear appeared.

therefore everyone is running far away.

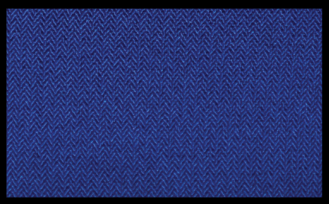
however the police are at the scene.

although the students didn't care to notice.

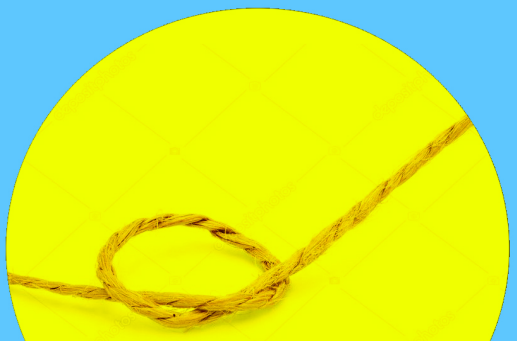
even as the city burns down.

S E N T E N C E

How many can you make?



Piece of Cloth

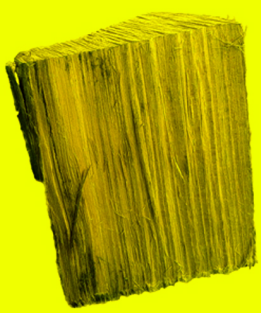


Piece of String

Advertise It!

Make a commercial to sell the object in the picture.

Make people feel excited about buying it!!!



Piece of Wood

Cotton Ball

REPORTING LIVE

In a team of 3 students, organize and produce a short investigative news report from school.
Organize group roles and responsibilities. Design station logos, clall letters and theme.
Each member shoud write their script below or in a notebook.

REPORTER 1

Name:

ANCHOR

Name:

REPORTER 2

Name:

BREAKING

REPORT

REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

STATION CALL LETTERS

W or K

Station Theme

STATION SLOGAN

STATION LOGO