

Name: _____

Artifacts in Ancient Mesopotamia – Writing Activity

Create a press release about finding the stolen Mesopotamian artifacts. The FBI found the banquet plaque, the standard merchant weights, and clay envelope and document. Your job is to write a press release about the importance of the documents and how the FBI identified the thief. A press release is a short article describing an event or the release of information. Organize your press release using the steps below:

Step 1: Come up with a catchy title that grabs people's attention.

Step 2: Write 3-5 sentences that describes background information on the artifacts.

Step 3: Write 3-5 sentences that describes how the FBI caught the thief.

Step 4: Write a concluding statement from the FBI about why they are proud of locating the stolen artifacts.

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Write your complete press release below or type it up on a computer.

This image shows a template for a piece of lined paper. It features a prominent thick black rectangular border. Near the top edge, centered horizontally, is a single solid black line representing a fold. Below this fold line, the page is filled with 20 parallel horizontal ruling lines, which are evenly spaced and extend across most of the width of the page. The entire design is set against a plain white background.

TEACHER KEY

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Step 1: Come up with a catchy title.

FBI Catches Artifact Thieves!

Step 2: Write 3-5 sentences that describes background information on the artifacts.

Last week, 3 ancient artifacts from Mesopotamia went missing. The first artifact is a banquet plaque used to keep doors locked. The second artifact was a set of merchant weights used to weigh food. The final artifact was a clay envelope with a document inside. These documents are important pieces of history because they help us understand how people live in Mesopotamia.

Step 3: Write 3-5 sentences that describes how the FBI caught the thief.

The FBI were able to catch the thief by matching blood found at the scene of the crime to a tourist who stole the artifacts. The FBI also found a note that gave instructions on how to find the artifacts. This meant that there was more than one robber! The FBI also interviewed 3 suspects and discovered that a security guard helped a tourist steal the artifacts.

Step 4: Write a concluding statement from the FBI about why they are proud of locating the stolen artifacts.

One FBI agent told us that she is very pleased with how the investigation went. "We are happy to announce that the robber and his accomplice are in custody and the artifacts have been returned without damage!"