

The Ransom of Red Chief – O. Henry
Choice Assignment

Option #1: NEWSPAPER ARTICLE

You are a reporter for the local newspaper. You have been assigned to report on the kidnapping of Johnny Dorset, also known as Red Chief. This is an exciting opportunity for you since nothing like this has ever happened in the town of Summit.

Requirements for your article:

- Written in 3rd person objective point of view.
- Must answer the questions: WHO? WHAT? WHEN? WHERE? WHY?
- Needs a catchy headline (title)
- An attention-getting introduction
- Supporting paragraphs with specific details
- Minimum length: 2/3 of a page
- Be creative!

Option #2: FLYERS

You are one of the constables (police) in the town of Summit. You have been assigned to create a MISSING flyer for Johnny Dorset (a.k.a. Red Chief) and a WANTED flyer for the kidnappers. Use specific details from the story.

The MISSING Flyer should include:

- Red Chief's real name
- State his interests as noted (or inferred in the story)
- Provide a physical description of Red Chief
- State where and with whom he was last seen
- Include a fake address and phone number
- Offer a reward
- Draw his picture

The WANTED Flyer should include:

- The name (or any aliases) of the kidnapper
- Information connecting the kidnapper to possibly other crimes in the area
- Provide a physical description
- State any possible leads in the case
- Include a fake address and phone number
- Offer a reward
- Draw his picture