5 Values To Decide If A Story Is Newsworthy

1. **Breaking News**
   - **Timeliness**
     Immediate, current information and events are newsworthy because they have just recently occurred. It’s news because it’s “new.”

2. **Human Interest**
   - People are interested in other people. Everyone has something to celebrate and something to complain about. We like unusual stories of people who accomplish amazing feats or handle a life crisis because we can identify with them.

3. **Proximity**
   - Local information and events are newsworthy because they affect the people in our community and region. We care more about things that happen “close to home.”

4. **Prominence**
   - The more important a person is, the more valuable the news source. This involves people who are well-known such as political figures, celebrities, and professional athletes.

5. **Conflict**
   - When violence strikes or when people argue about actions, events, ideas or policies, we care. Conflict and controversy attract our attention by highlighting problems or differences within the community.
Newsworthy Stories

Directions: Determine if the story would be considered newsworthy and decide which of the five news values make it newsworthy.

1. A high school in California got evacuated due to a small electrical fire.
   ___________________________________________________________

2. Beyonce’s house got broken into last night.
   ___________________________________________________________

3. They’re going to shut down a local road to be repaved next week.
   ___________________________________________________________

4. A factory in Asia got evacuated due to a large fire and over 50 workers were injured.
   ___________________________________________________________

5. Taylor Swift visited and performed for a 96 year old war veteran during Christmas time because he was a big fan.
   ___________________________________________________________

6. The principal of the school nearby got a new dog.
   ___________________________________________________________

7. Billy Joe’s mom made macaroni and cheese for dinner Thursday night.
   ___________________________________________________________