

Human Interest Storytelling Structure

1. **Base your writing on the angle you chose** – the story that you want to tell your readers about the person you photographed.
2. **The first paragraph** should grab the reader...it can either be an anecdote, a description of a scene or a person, etc. Make sure to tell the reader what the story is about in the first paragraph.
 - a. **Descriptive**—a description of a person, place, or event
 - b. **Focus-on-the-person**—tell a story about the person (anecdotal approach) or show a person in action
 - c. **Narrative**—tell a story by reconstruct events so the reader feels like they are witnessing a scene
 - d. **Build-on-a-quote**—is there a great quote, build your lead around that quote
 - i. A quote by your human interest subject or
 - ii. A relative quote by a government official, writer, scientist, etc.
3. **The body of your story** should build on the story – create empathy or sympathy for the subject of your photos. It should generate a human interest — make your readers want to see more photos and to read about them
 - a. **Quotes** give your story life and personality
4. **The ending** should leave a lasting image in the viewer's mind. It should leave your viewers relating to your subject – inspired, in awe, wanting to help, appreciative, enlightened...