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INVERTED PYRAMID STORY FORMAT

a.k.a. "Event-based" Stories

Read the following information and write a focus sentence. Then jot down an order for your story, following the inverted pyramid style. Finally, write the story assuming that you are a reporter in Tampa, Fla., and you are writing this story for the Monday morning newspaper.

Location: Riverview neighborhood of Tampa.

Facts: (This information comes from Tampa sheriff's deputies) Two robbers burst into a home in Riverview at 11:30 p.m. Sunday. The home is owned by Grace Ford, 20. Ford was sitting in a front room with her baby, Brandi, 10 months old, who was in a playpen. Ford's sister, Cynthia, 16 also was in the room.

According to the sheriff's reports: Both men were described as white, from 18 to 20 years old and of medium height and weight. One man was wearing a ski mask and jogging pants with the letters "UF" (for University of Florida) on the side. The other wore a white shirt and a baseball cap. Neighbors heard shots and called the sheriff's deputies. The men got away in a car that had been waiting in a nearby cemetery.

Information from an interview with Grace Ford: She said that the robbers took about \$5,000 worth of jewelry. The dog, a Rottweiler named Elka, began barking. The robbers fired three shots at the dog. They missed. The baby began crying. Ford said she picked up her baby and found a bullet hole in her diaper. The bullet was imbedded in the diaper.

Direct quotes from Ford: "There was about an inch left to the diaper that it didn't pierce. They were extra thick."

Focus Sentence:

Order for Story:
