

Writing Article 2

Most journalist have to hunt down their own story. They must complete plenty of research, interviews, and fact check their sources. This time around, I am bringing the story to you. You will focus on one of today's current events. Read the articles I have provided and write your own article about the topic. Make sure you remember to answer the 5 Ws: Who, What, When, Where, and Why.

You are expected to write this story in your own words and must attempt to write an article free of opinion. You provide the readers with the information and they shall form their own opinion. This is not an editorial.

DO NOT rewrite what is already written here. You may use quotes from interviews from the articles, but make sure to credit the source. For example, you may say: When interviewed by the New York Times on the subject, John Smith stated, "Insert quote here." Otherwise, your article should be in your own words.

What happens if there isn't enough information here? Research! Use your phones to look up any additional information you may need to understand or write about the event and how it is affecting people.

Do you feel that not all sides of the story are represented? Find more! Again, it is your job as a journalist to do the work if it is not immediately available to you. Do not leave any holes.

FIND: One resource more, a **different site** than what I have provided for you here. You must find one other online source which is not listed to finish writing your article. Make sure the source is a credible one by using what you know of CRAAP and CARS. Provide me with the URL for your site here:

Additional Online Source:

What information did you learn and pull from this source:

Maria, expected to become a major hurricane, takes aim at battered Caribbean

John Bacon, USA TODAY Published 2:52 p.m. ET Sept. 17, 2017 | Updated 11:03 a.m. ET Sept. 18, 2017

Maria is forecast to become a major hurricane as it moves near the Leeward Islands, the National Hurricane Center announced Sunday night.

Maria officially became a hurricane late Sunday afternoon, taking aim at already battered islands in the Caribbean amid growing concerns that Florida again could become a target.

The National Hurricane Center said Maria had maximum sustained winds of 75 mph as of 5 p.m. ET on Sunday, making it a Category 1 hurricane. By 11 p.m. it had strengthened to 85 mph. Maria is the seventh hurricane of the 2017 season.

As of 11 p.m., the storm was 100 miles northeast of Barbados and 210 miles east southeast from the island of Dominica. It was moving west northwest at about 13 mph. The government of Antigua and Barbuda on Sunday issued a Hurricane Warning for St. Kitts, Nevis, and Montserrat and a Tropical Storm Warning for Antigua and Barbuda.

The French government issued a Hurricane Warning for Martinique.

A Hurricane Watch was issued for the U.S. Virgin Islands as well as the British Virgin Islands and could be extended to Puerto Rico early Monday, the Hurricane Center said. Forecasters said Dominica and Guadeloupe are probably facing a Category 2 hurricane, with sustained winds of 96-110 mph, Monday night and Tuesday.

"It is moving along very quickly, which is concerning," AccuWeather meteorologist Dave Samuhel said. "They are going to have a direct hit from a hurricane. The question is how strong will it be."

By Wednesday, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico are among the islands likely to take the hit from what will likely be a Category 4 storm.

"A little less confidence about its track, but I would say be prepared for a major hurricane, a glancing blow if not full landfall," Samuhel said. "And it will likely be a stronger hurricane by at least a category."

In Puerto Rico, schools were already closed for Monday, government workers were told to work just half a day, and 450 shelters capable of housing 67,000 people — and almost twice that in a dire emergency — were being prepared.

Gov. Ricardo Rossello said the island is ready to provide food for up to 20 days to up to 240,000 evacuees if necessary. The island has a fragile electrical grid and much of its housing falls below standard code. The island avoided a direct hit from Hurricane Irma but still suffered massive power outages.

Rossello tweeted: "In prep for the passage of potential hurricane #Maria, thanks to @FEMA_Brock & @WhiteHouse for letting #PuertoRico know they stand by us."

While Maria does not pose an imminent threat to Florida, still reeling from the carnage wrought by Hurricane Irma, Samuhel said forecasters are watching closely. Maria is forecast to reach the Bahamas next weekend, putting it dangerously close to Florida's eastern coast.

The storm remains far out and other factors could change its course, Samuhel said hopefully.

"We may luck out and it turns north," he said. "Unfortunately it looks like a blocking high-pressure system could force it into Florida."

There was some good storm news on Sunday: Hurricane Jose appears to have peaked in strength with sustained winds of 90 mph and should weaken as it rolls north, away from the U.S. East Coast. Swells driven by Jose are already causing dangerous rip currents along the Southern coastline, a phenomenon that will move north in coming days, he said.

One hitch: A new moon Tuesday night will push tides up a foot or two. That coupled with Jose means the New England coast could face beach erosion, plus wind and rain from the storm.

Also in play was Tropical Storm Lee, which has slipped in strength to become a tropical depression. Lee actually formed ahead of Maria but has languished and is breaking up.

"Lee, at least, shouldn't be an issue for us," Samuhel said.

Contributing: Greg Toppo, USA TODAY

Hurricane Maria a Dangerous Category 5; Potentially Catastrophic Strike Ahead For Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands

Sep 19 2017 09:45 AM EDT

weather.com

Hurricane Maria, once again a Category 5 hurricane, has its sights set on a potentially catastrophic strike on the already storm-weary Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico, following a first-on-record Category 5 landfall for the island of Dominica Monday night.

The National Weather Service office in San Juan, Puerto Rico, warned of "catastrophic damage" from Maria's winds, as well as the potential for "devastating to catastrophic flooding" from rainfall flooding in a hurricane local statement issued Tuesday morning.

A report from a U.S. Air Force Reserve Hurricane Hunter mission early Tuesday confirmed Maria regained Category 5 status. Maria's center is currently 85 miles west of Guadeloupe, or 170 miles southeast of St. Croix, Virgin Islands.

A hurricane warning remains in effect for Guadeloupe, Dominica, St. Kitts, Nevis, Montserrat, the U.S. and British Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Culebra and Vieques. A tropical storm warning has been issued for Martinique, Antigua, Barbuda, Saba, St. Eustatius, St. Maarten, & Anguilla.

Hurricane watches include Saba, St. Eustatius, St. Maarten, St. Martin, St. Barthelemy, Anguilla and from Isla Saona to Puerto Plata in the Dominican Republic.

Tropical storm watches have been posted from west of Puerto Plata to the northern Dominican Republic-Haiti border.

Maria rapidly intensified Monday thanks to a combination of low wind shear, a moist atmosphere and warm ocean temperatures.

"Maria is developing the dreaded pinhole eye," the National Hurricane Center said in its late Monday afternoon discussion. This is an indication of a powerful, strengthening hurricane, and just three hours later, Maria reached Category 5 intensity.

Next up for Maria, a potentially catastrophic strike on the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.

Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Hispaniola Impacts

Time is quickly running out for the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico before conditions begin going downhill. Residents and visitors should rush their preparations to completion.

Some outer bands of showers are already pushing into the Virgin Islands.

Maria will bring a potentially catastrophic combination of storm-surge flooding, destructive winds and flooding rain to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, as a Category 4 or 5 hurricane Wednesday.

"Locations may be uninhabitable for weeks or months," according to the National Weather Service in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Tropical storm-force winds will arrive quickly in the Virgin Islands, with hurricane-force winds arriving Tuesday night, continuing into Wednesday morning, particularly in St. Croix.

In Puerto Rico, tropical storm-force winds will arrive by Tuesday evening, with hurricane-force winds arriving by the pre-dawn hours Wednesday, continuing into Wednesday evening.

Portions of the Dominican Republic, particularly near the north coast, may see hurricane-force winds develop as soon as Wednesday evening.

A storm surge of up to 7 to 11 feet above normal tide levels is expected in the British Virgin Islands, with 6 to 9 feet of storm surge possible in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Puerto Rico may see 12 to 18 inches of rain, with locally up to 25 inches in some areas, through Thursday.

The Virgin Islands are expected to receive 10 to 15 inches of rain, with locally up to 20 inches.

The eastern Dominican Republic is forecast to pick up 4 to 8 inches of rain, with isolated 12-inch amounts.

These rainfall totals have the potential to produce widespread, life-threatening flooding and mudslides.

Maria may be only the second Category 5 hurricane of record to landfall in Puerto Rico, joining the September 1928 San Felipe/Okeechobee hurricane.

Prior to Irma, only four other Category 4 hurricanes had tracked within 75 miles of central Puerto Rico in historical records dating to the late 19th century. Hurricane Hugo in 1989 was the last to do so, before Irma's Category 5 swipe just two weeks ago.

Leeward Islands Impacts

Hurricane Maria made landfall on the island of Dominica at 9:15 p.m. EDT Monday evening as a Category 5 hurricane with maximum sustained winds of 160 mph.

Hurricane-force winds may persist in St. Kitts and Nevis, Montserrat, Saba and St. Eustatius into Tuesday. This includes some locations in the northern Leeward Islands that were devastated by Hurricane Irma.

Winds will slowly subside Tuesday in Dominica, Guadeloupe, Antigua and Barbuda, though bands of heavy rain on the eastern flank of Maria may wrap into these locations, at times.

A storm surge of up to 7 to 11 feet above normal tide levels is expected in the hurricane warning area.

High surf and dangerous rip currents are already impacting the Lesser Antilles and will persist even for a day or so after Maria's center passes by.

Rainfall totals of 10 to 15 inches are possible in the central and southern Leeward Islands, with locally up to 20 inches in some spots. That has the potential to produce widespread, life-threatening flooding and mudslides, particularly on mountainous terrain.

Maria is also expected to produce 4 to 8 inches of rain, with locally up to 10 inches, over the northern Leeward Islands from Barbuda to Anguilla.

Two to 4 inches of rain, with locally up to 6 inches, can be expected in the Windward Islands and Barbados.

Will Maria Threaten the U.S. East Coast?

It is still too soon to determine at this time whether Maria will directly impact the East Coast of the U.S. next week.

Whether Maria will ever pose an East Coast threat will depend on steering currents in the upper atmosphere over the western Atlantic Ocean and the eastern United States that cannot be pinned down this far in advance.

Interestingly, the potential for Jose to stall off the Northeast coast this weekend could play some role in determining Maria's long-term future path. For more details, see the link below.

Also, if Maria interacts with the higher terrain of Puerto Rico and/or Hispaniola, that could also affect its future track and intensity.

For now, all residents along the East Coast should monitor the progress of Maria.

FLORIDA PREPARES AS HURRICANE MARIA AIMS TOWARD IRMA-BATTERED COAST

BY **CHRISTAL HAYES** ON 9/18/17 AT 2:32 PM

Newsweek

It's déjà blew all over again for Florida.

Hurricane Maria has intensified into a Category 3 hurricane with strong 125 mph winds—and it's moving perilously towards a Sunshine State still struggling to recover from its sister Irma.

"Stay away, Maria," Patti Murphy Dohn tweeted. "#Irma put us over the edge. South Florida is fed up with hurricane season."

Other residents didn't even want to see the forecast.

For now, the storm is slowly making its way towards the Leeward Islands—the eastern Caribbean archipelago that was so battered by the storm last weekend—and for now does not look like it will seriously harm Florida. But hurricanes are notoriously unpredictable.

“We’re liking what we’ve been seeing,” said Maria Torres, a forecaster for the National Weather Service in Miami.

Torres added that forecasters will know better by the end of the week, when the storm is expected to barrel through the Bahamas, but “right now, the latest tracks keep the storm east of Florida, so we might not be directly impacted like we were with Irma,” she said.

That would be good news for a state where 400,000 people were still without power Monday, according to Florida’s Division of Emergency Management.

“We could definitely see higher surf and some rip currents along the [east] coast, but it’s really difficult to say because we won’t know until it gets closer,” she said.

A Busy Hurricane Season

During an average hurricane season, there are typically 12 named storms, half of which become hurricanes, Torres said.

This season, there have already been 12 named storms—and four of the last six grew into major hurricanes.

“After Harvey, we’ve sort of been on a roll,” she said of the Hurricane Harvey, which hit at the end of August and left parts of Texas under water and completely devastated. “It’s a lot but it’s somewhat normal because we were expecting very active season in the Atlantic.”

She said there are a number of factors that have helped make this a busy year for hurricane forecasters, including climate change and a delayed return of the annual Pacific Ocean warming known as El Niño.

As a result, Torres said, the Atlantic waters have been acting like “juice” for the storm to “strengthen them to the point where they’ve become strong hurricanes.”

The peak of hurricane season is mid-August through mid-October, according to the [National Hurricane Center](#).

“We’re not done yet, so even if Maria doesn’t hit [Florida], it might be another storm or the one after that,” she said. “You have to be ready.”