

Read All About It!

The following newspaper articles are from different time periods. Both describe tornadoes, but the articles differ in how they are reported. Read them both and use the information to answer the questions.

"The actual diameter of the tornado was about 150 feet, and whenever it happened to touch the earth it swept the surface bare of all obstacles. It tore a wagon from the horses and took the vehicle up about 60 feet from the ground before dropping it. Spectators saw the wagon ascent, whirling rapidly around in the diameter of the serpent-like form that had seized upon it."

Winfield Courier, May 8, 1884

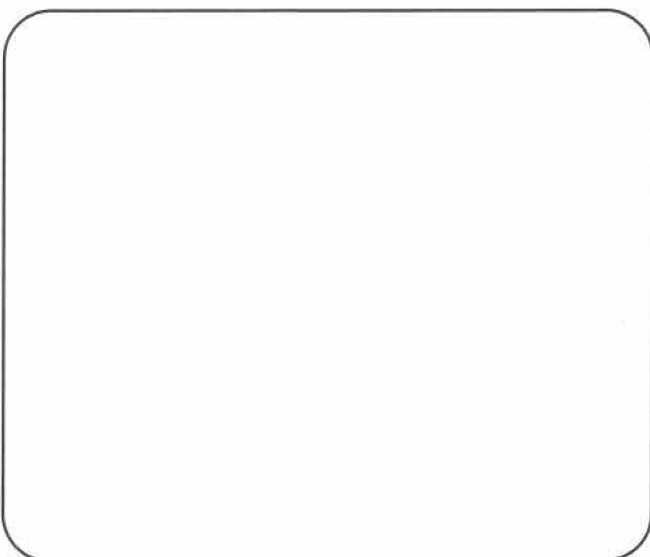
"The storm first struck about 5:30 p.m. northeast of Clearwater, then moved into Haysville, dropping down at Broadway and 55th South and 47th South and K-15 before it hit McConnell Air Force Base, said officials with the National Weather Service. After McConnell, the funnel moved on to Greenwich Road, then to Andover and toward El Dorado."

Wichita Eagle, April 27, 1991

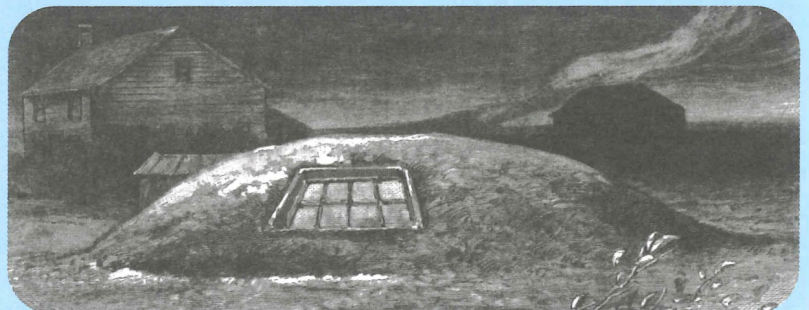
Circle the correct year.

Best description of the damage caused by the tornado.	1884 or 1991
Best description of what the tornado looked like.	1884 or 1991
Best description of where the tornado landed.	1884 or 1991
Article includes official information from the National Weather Service.	1884 or 1991

Using one of the articles, draw a picture of what you think the tornado looked like.



It is reported that one man near here has made a "fraid hole" near his house. He has made a chute from his upstairs window down to the cave door. A rope is attached to the window and the door. When he raises the window the cave door is pulled open. All he and his wife have to do when they think a twister is coming is to raise the window, jump into the chute, land in the cave and pull the door after them and they are safe. *Marquette Tribune*, June 8, 1905



This sketch of a tornado shelter appeared in *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, May 7, 1887.