

MAR GREGORIOS COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCE

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JOURNALISM

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Reference Texts:

Mass Communication in India – Keval Kumar

The Professional Journalist – M V Kamath

The Press – Chalapathi Rao

Journalism as a Career - Sengupta

UNIT –I

INTRODUCTION TO JOURNALISM:

What is Journalism?

“Journalism includes the writing and editing of newspaper and periodicals...The gathering and transmission of news, business management of journals and advertising in all its phases are often thought of as coming within the field of journalism and following the advent of radio and television, there is a trend toward including all communication dealing with current affairs in the term”.

Some definitions of Journalism

1. “Journalism is instant history, an account of history as it is being made.” (Anonymous)
2. “Journalism is a report of things as they appear at the moment of writing, not a definitive study of a situation”. (Anonymous)
3. “Journalism is a contemporary report of the changing scene, intended to inform readers of what is happening around them.” (Anonymous)
4. Journalism is a form of writing that tells people about things that really happened, but that they might not have known about already.

People who write journalism are called "journalists." They might work at newspapers, magazines, websites or for TV or radio stations.

The most important characteristic shared by good journalists is curiosity. Good journalists love to read and want to find out as much as they can about the world around them. (Definition given by Robert Niles)

5. Journalism, the collection, preparation, and distribution of news and related commentary and feature materials through such print and electronic media as newspapers, magazines, books, blogs, webcasts, podcasts, social networking and social media sites, and e-mail as well as through radio, motion pictures, and television. (Brittanica).

What is journalism? Journal“ is a French word derived from the Latin term „diurnalis“ which means „daily“. The word“s first newspaper was perhaps the Acta Diurna - a handwritten bulletin put up daily in the Forum in ancient Rome. In course of time, pamphlets, periodicals, news books, gazettes, tracts, reviews, essays, etc., came to be called newspapers. The authors of these

were called „essayists“, „news writers“ and later „journalists“. The Mughal rulers in India had news letters read to them called “vaquianaves” in court, every evening

Several changes took place since then culminating in the advent of journalism. It grew by leaps and bounds and has now blossomed into a profession. It has become a subject of study in universities. Naturally experts in the field have attempted to define Journalism and analyse its various dimensions in the modern context.

Journalism Outlets: Non-print Media Sources

S.NO	Journalism media	Example
1.	Radio broadcasts	Australian Broadcasting Corporation
2.	Television broadcasts	Public Broadcasting Service (USA)
3.	Public forums	Press conferences
4.	Digital cinematic media	DTube
5.	Recorded media e.g. CD, DVD	BBC Worldwide Media
6.	Social network media	Twitter account of the Press Secretary – President of the United States of America

There is no academic, professional or governmental institution that has sole authority to define and classify different types of journalism. Examples of journalism classifications include:

Advocacy journalism: a partisan branch of journalism that disseminates information to pursue a social or political outcome. This type of journalism is ethical if the creator/publisher is transparent and desist from intrusively disseminating false or misleading information. This branch is associated with propaganda. Audiences are frequently skeptical of content.

Alternative reporting: a branch of journalism whose character is defined as opposite to or noticeably different to the consensus in mainstream media that reports identical issues in the same region. It may publish topic content or perspectives that no mainstream media report.

Current affairs: a popular branch of journalism that aims to disseminate developments that concerns a variety of news topics such as sports, politics, entertainment and finance.

Database journalism: The writer/s aims to build a repository of knowledge for public consumption.

Documentaries: The creator/s aim to construct a motion cinema production that offers an accurate account of public interest information that is available for public consumption. Digital media is the dominant format for documentary production nowadays.

Gutter press: “Press that engages in sensational journalism (especially concerning the private lives of public figures)” (Farlex, 2012). This term has a strongly negative connotation.

Investigative research: A branch of journalism that aims to collect and analyze a range of data sources to independently extract a true account of a matter of historical significance.

Mainstream: A branch of journalism that disseminates information to mass audiences.

Muckraking: This type of journalism aims to expose political corruption. It also uncovers unconscionable, fraudulent and wasteful business practices committed by industry, government and non-governmental institutes (Encyclopaedia Britannica, 2018). This category may overlap with the notion of ‘whistleblower journalism’ associated with media publishers such as Wikileaks. This branch of journalism has a negative connotation as it may expose journalists, publishers and their supporters to grave danger.

Realpolitik journalism: An ideological approach to journalism that argues any reporting style is legitimate if it causes a just outcome: ‘the end justifies the means’. This approach may reject the need to adhere to prescribed ethics codes. It is associated with advocacy journalism.

These categories of journalism are not mutually exclusive. For example, some muckraking alternative media journalists use investigative research to interview whistleblowers to produce documentaries that are intended to be archived indefinitely in the public domain. They may foresee that this content will realize mainstream appeal over the medium- to long-term.

A Short History of Journalism in India:

Newspapers and magazines have always been the primary medium of journalists since the 18th century. We saw the emergence of radio and television in the 20th century and the Internet in the 21st century. Journalism is not naturally Indian. Starting in Europe, journalism emerged as something so crucial to a Indian’s life that a day that does not commence with flipping the pages to a newspaper, sounds odd to the average Indian. The history of journalism ranges over the growth of technology and trade, marked by the dawn of specialized techniques for gathering and disseminating information on a regular basis that has caused the steady increase of the scope of news and the speed with which it is transmitted. Before the printing press was invented, word of mouth was the primary source of news and this method of transmission of news was highly unreliable, and died out with the invention of the printing press.

Pre-Independence Period:

The pre-independence phase saw Wall Porter as the front-runner of newspapers in Europe. All the newspapers we know today are of European origin, however, it did not take shape until the early years of the 18th century. The Wall Porter, initially called ‘Notize Secrette’ which meant ‘Written Notices’ first appeared in Venice and was displayed in public places.

A small coin called ‘gazette’ was levied as a token fee. The Chinese discovered the art of printing in 868 AD. In 1476, the first printing press was established in England. 8-paged

newsletters came in London and Italy both, in the 16th century. News books were published in 1513. In 1621, a n/p appeared in London. It was a primitive news sheet called Coranto and it carried only foreign news. First domestic news came in 1628. A new era of journalism was ushered with the publication of 'Oxford Gazette' in 1655. In March 1702, the first daily newspaper appeared in London under the name 'Daily Courant.'

James Augustus Hicky launched the first print in India called 'Bengal Gazette' or 'Calcutta General Advertiser' on Jan 29,1780. Bengal Gazette announced itself as 'a weekly political and commercial paper open to all parties but influenced by none'. It was a two-sheet paper measuring 12 inches by 8 inches, most of the space being occupied by advertisements.

Its circulation reached a maximum of 200 copies. Within six years of Bengal Gazette, four more weeklies were launched in Kolkata. 'Madras Courier' was launched in 1782 and Bombay Herald in 1791.

'Bombay Courier' was launched in 1792. In 1799, the East India administration passed regulations to increase its control over the press, which caused disruption in the existing peace in the field of journalism. The first newspaper under Indian administration appeared almost after 17 years, in 1816. It was also called Bengal Gazette and was published by Gangadhar Bhattacharjee and was a liberal paper which advocated the reforms of Raja Ram Mohan Roy. Raja Ram Mohan Roy brought out a magazine in Persian called 'Mirat-ul-Ukhbar'. He also published The 'Brahmanical Magazine', an English periodical to counteract the religious propaganda of the Christian missionaries of Serampore.

In 1822, the 'Chandrika Samachar' was started in Bengal. The years of 1830 to 1857 saw a large number of short-lived newspapers in Indian languages like Bengali, Gujarati, Marathi, Urdu and Persian.

The advent of 1857 brought out the divide between Indian owned and British owned newspapers as during the Indian Rebellion of 1857, the "Gagging Act" had been passed by Lord Canning which sought to regulate the establishment of printing presses and to restrain the tone of all printed matter. After 1857, the pioneering efforts in newspapers shifted from Bengal to Mumbai. In 1861, Mr. Knight merged the 'Bombay Standard', 'Bombay Times' and 'Telegraph', and brought out the first issue of '**Times of India**'. In 1875, he started 'Indian Statesman', now known as 'The Statesman'. Around the same time, 'Amrita Bazar Patrika' was able to establish itself in Kolkata.

Starting out as a vernacular paper, it was constantly in trouble due to its outspokenness. In order to circumvent the strict provision of the Vernacular Press Act in 1876, intended to prevent the vernacular press from expressing criticism of British policies, Amrita Bazar Patrika converted into an English newspaper. Amrita Bazar Patrika inspired freedom fighter Lokmanya Tilak to start Kesari in Pune, which he used to build anti-cow killing societies and reviving the

Chhatrapati Shivaji cult. He used mass communication as a powerful political weapon, something politicians of the 21st century have quickly learnt. By 1905, the English and vernacular press had become pretty professional. The 1920s and 1930s saw newspapers that reflected popular political opinion. While big English dailies were loyal to the British government, the vernacular press was strongly nationalist. Nehru started the Independent of Lucknow as a newspaper of extreme Indian opinion. The Home Rule Party started Young India, which later became Mahatma Gandhiji's mouthpiece.

As more and more Indians started learning English, many became reporters, editors and even owners. The Anglo-Indian press began to lose ground except in Bombay and Calcutta. In 1927, industrialist G D Birla took over the infamous, **Hindustan Times** and placed it on a sound financial footing.

Post-Independence

(1974-Present)

In the post-independence era, the press enjoyed a large measure of freedom because Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India was a liberal who realized that for the successful functioning of democratic set-up, the freedom of the press was crucial. Although Nehru was a liberal and believed in freedom of the press, but he was forced to enact laws curbing freedom of the press after independence in order to check increasing writings with communal overtones.

He found that the press was contributing to the already difficult situation created by the partition of India on communal lines. On October 23, 1951, he got new Act passed called '**The Press Objectionable Matters Act**' Which was a reflection of Nehru's concern over the newspapers' role in rousing communal discontent in India. Objectionable matters included any words, signs, or visible representations which were likely to incite or encourage any person to resort to violence or sabotage for the purpose of overthrowing or undermine the Government.

However, during **Indira Gandhi's** regime, she expected that the press should blindly support her government without questioning her ability to deliver the goods. In 1971, the government led by Mrs. Gandhi made its first attempt to control the press when her own ministry of Information and Broadcasting. Indira Gandhi's son, Rajiv Gandhi, became Prime Minister after the assassination of his mother in 1984. He had a smooth relationship with the public and the press for the first few years. The press started becoming critical of his government afterwards and so, he got the Defamation Bill, 1988, passed in Lok Sabha, thereby making an attempt to suppress the press. The mounting pressure of the public and the press forced the government to withdraw the Bill without referring it to the Rajya Sabha. Looks like both the mother and the son did not handle criticism well.

Economic liberalization in '91 also brought in new resources, including foreign money, which in turn induced new morals and manners. Journalists were now paid handsomely and the profession attracted new talent and television journalism changed dramatically. After 1991, a kind of

corporation of the media was inevitable. The upside was that the newspapers were no longer entirely dependent upon the government for advertisements, nor were the journalist's dependent upon the government's discretion. After 1991, successive minority governments in Delhi found themselves having to humor and appease an increasingly aggressive media, demanding a role for itself in determining the public interest. However, Narendra Modi disrupted this arrangement. He bypassed the newspapers, using television to reach the people, which well, has proved to every effective.

ETHICS OF JOURNALISM:

Fairness, lawfulness, Organizational principles, Accuracy, Transparency, Safety, Freedom, Acknowledgement, Independence and Responsibility. These are some of the ethics of journalism.

1. **Fair.** Uses hateful or degrading speech Exploits disempowered persons/groups 2. **Lawful.** Abides by civil and statutory laws 3. **Organization's publication charter is adhered to** 4. **Accuracy.** Provides relevant context Uses misleading or deceptive language Emphasizes facts and avoids speculation Triangulates and validates data sources Explores reasonable counter arguments Offers stakeholders the right to reply Title reflects the substance of the content Apologizes for and corrects prior inaccuracies 5. **Transparency.** Discloses conflicts-of-interest Discloses primary and secondary sources Pursues a non-disclosed or biased agenda Employs psychological manipulation ('psy-ops') 6. **Safety and health of stakeholders are respected** 7. Freedom of speech and thought is promoted 8. **Acknowledgement.** Recognition of contributors 9. **Independence.** Content reflects author's opinion 10. **Responsibility.** Expert contributors are qualified Emphasizes negativity, despair, defeatism.


- **Fairness** The notion of 'fairness' is widely debated in the public and private spheres. It is a principle that is difficult to define universally and slippery to illustrate. Rawls (2001), argues that fairness underpins the notion of justice. A crude summary of his thesis argues that people should not do to others, things they would not like to be done to themselves if they were in the other person's position. We hear children talk instinctively about Rawlsian notions of Justice as Fairness from a young age. It is common to hear one sibling say to another, something along the lines of "how would you like it if I went into your room when you were away from home and read your diary!". Print, radio and television media frequently identify a person's residential suburb, age, gender, occupation and other personal demographic information when they describe perpetrators and 'victims' of crimes. These details are usually irrelevant. Their inclusion stereotypes and sensationalize the details reported.
- **Lawful** The need to act in a way that is lawful is arguably among the most important factors that members of the journalism profession should perpetually respect. A major error of judgement in this regard can result in dramatic outcomes. Dire consequences may include the bankrupting of staff and publishers in serious cases of defamation. It could also result in the arrest and imprisonment of these agents if they purposefully or unwittingly break the law.


- **Organizational Principles** Most media outlets follow an institutional code of ethics. They may also be required to abide by a code that is enforced by private and statutory accreditation authorities that regulate the 36 www.journalistethics.com industry. In Australia, the Australian Communications & Media Authority (2018) publicizes an inventory titled “Codes of Practice and Compliance”. This website lists various codes of conduct that governs those who broadcast media content via television and radio outlets.
- **Accuracy** The imperative of providing accurate news and media content arguably ranks as the highest priority among most ethical professionals who work in the realm of journalism. Truth and accuracy underpin the credibility of content created/disseminated by individuals and collectives. Inaccurate media content is invariably attributed to two main causes. The first source is ‘fake news’ – deliberate distortions of messages via lies and misleading conduct. The second origin occurs via unintentional errors. The notion of ‘sloppy journalism’ fits into the second category. Journalists may unwittingly report erroneous content due to numerous factors. For example, they may not check the accuracy of secondary sources by consulting the primary sources. This may occur because they are perpetually time-pressed to produce a large amount of publishable content in a tight-time frame, to maximize newspaper sales and advertising revenues.
- **Transparency** Media professionals have an ethical obligation to be open and accountable to their stakeholders. For many people, the notion of secrecy is synonymous with deception. Privacy, on the other hand, refers to the legitimate needs of persons or collectives to limit sharing their personal details with others on a ‘need-to-know’ basis. Secrecy is often associated with antisocial actors who selfishly guard information that may benefit humankind. It may also be associated with agents concealing knowledge and motives, because of criminal/unethical past behaviors and future intentions.
- **Safety** Journalists and citizens have an obligation to avoid harming conscious entities: animals, plants and the environment at-large. The environment includes Earth’s atmosphere and beyond. Journalists should not reveal their sources if disclosure could endanger the health or safety of these collaborators or their family and associates. Journalists need to carefully consider balancing the competing issue of disclosure. Journalists that use pseudonyms and cite anonymous sources generally lack transparency and credibility. Journalists, editors and publishers that cite anonymous/undisclosed sources should offer a fair account of the reasons that justify this action. They should encourage readers to critically evaluate their content based on this lack of disclosure.
- **Freedom** The right to free: speech, thought and conscience are important in Western democracies. This imperative is amplified in nations such as America and Canada which enshrine them in legal documents such as constitutional amendments (USA) and a Bill of Rights (Canada).
- **Acknowledgement** Intentional plagiarism is one of the most serious accusations that can be levelled at a journalist or author. Intentional plagiarism includes failure to acknowledge that work claimed as one’s own is a partial adaptation of an existing work. Plagiarism is theft; it is dishonesty. A nuanced message that underlies accusations of plagiarism is that the journalist lacks the talent and/or work-ethic required to write respectable content. In other words, they

are a lazy and/or talentless fraud. Journalists have an ethical obligation to acknowledge sources that inspire their work. Such recognition may appear in a range of locations that directly cross-reference media content. This includes notes on their personal webpage and footnotes at the end of their article.


- **Independence** Feedback from proofreaders, critical audiences and editors may enhance the quality of our work. The pinnacle of journalism and authorship are situations where content creators enjoy unfettered control over the essence of material published in their name. Few journalists who contribute to mainstream media outlets can exert this level of influence. Their opinions and evidence-based arguments cannot conflict with the agenda of higher authorities with veto rights. Higher powers include editors, owners, majority shareholders and major corporate sponsors. This is the nature of institutional journalism, especially mainstream corporate journalism. One way that journalists can publish content independently, and reach large global audiences, is to use online platforms to disseminate written, spoken and artistic content. Two major categories of these platforms include webpages and social network media applications.. Specific examples of these platforms include:

Twitter (social network media) 

Steemit (social network media) 

Ezine articles (webpages) 

Personal websites (webpages) 

Hosted podcasts e.g. DTube; Steemit (webpages) 

Self-managed blogs that publish opinions (webpages).

- **Responsibility** It is fitting to end the discussion of journalism ethics with an exploration of issues that relate to responsibility. The imperative requirement for media professionals to constantly act in a dutiful manner inextricably overlaps with all issues that concern ethical behavior. A court of law is the best place to determine the guilt or innocence of those accused of crimes. Journalists should quote the opinions of those who are licensed in their jurisdiction to provide expert commentary on high-stakes matters. Journalists should use language and style that is appropriate for their intended audience. Journalists who pay sources for their information may bring their profession into disrepute. The motives of people who demand rewards for information that serves the public interest are questionable. Those who engage in ‘checkbook journalism’ should disclose this information.

UNIT- 2: PRESS

THE ROLE OF THE PRESS

The Press is often called the Fourth Estate. The term „The Press“ refers to printed periodicals or the newspapers, in general. Every newspaper has its own identity and wins the loyalty of is

reader though a combination of words, pictures, presentation techniques, distinctive comments and exclusive news stories. Almost every newspaper lives on criticism and exposure of those who abuse their authority, misuse their powers and resort to corruption in various ways. Newspapers also contain public grievances and reflect public opinion. They are thus the voice of the people – „vox populi“ – and a builder of public opinion. Napoleon

described the press-person as a grumbler, a censorer, a giver of advice, a regent of sovereigns, a tutor of nation“. “Four hostile newspapers,” he said, “were to be feared more than a thousand bayonets”.

The press is the common man’s university – it is pulpit, theatre and councilor, all in one. As the press is responsible to the high trust placed in it, it should play a positive and constructive role expected of it. Journalism is a noble profession – it enlightens people, broadens their vision and discourages sectarian, communal and other divisive trends.

It is rather unfortunate that some newspapers indulge in substandard journalism. They distort truth, exaggerate juicy news reports, violate all ethical standards and fawn at the feet of Mammon. They use their columns for exploiting vulnerable people who cannot be regarded as good, honest citizens. They are the black sheep in the profession – the yellow press. Truly did Jefferson divided the contents of a newspaper thus: „First chapter, truth; Second chapter, probabilities; Third, possibilities; Forth, lies; and the First is the shortest“. These newspapers are anti-social elements. What they do is worse than black - marketing or smuggling. They betray society for petty personal gains for themselves. They resort to sensationalism, inflame passions, incite sensitive people and act against public interest and welfare. They create disharmony and discord. It is better to ban such undesirable journalism than encourage it.

Newspapers serve as a powerful link between the Government and the people. They convey Government policies and action to the people. They speak up for the people and voice the grievances against mismanagement of public affairs at various levels and thus make the authorities aware of public feelings. Newspapers thus complete the chain of action and reaction. The Press should not be afraid of upholding and supporting a just and righteous cause, because it may antagonize the governmental machinery or some influential interests. The Press has to be eternally vigilant to protect the rights of the workers, backward people, the minorities and the suppressed sections of the society. It should project a correct perspective of events and promote the formation of a healthy public opinion. The Press is the voice of the people, the conscience-keeper of the society and the watchdog of the nation. The role of the press is great indeed.

Freedom of Press and Threats to Press Freedom:

Freedom of Press - Article 19(1)(a)

To preserve the democratic way of life it is essential that people should have the freedom of express their feelings and to make their views known to the people at large. The press, a

powerful medium of mass communication, should be free to play its role in building a strong viable society. Denial of freedom of the press to citizens would necessarily undermine the power to influence public opinion and be counter to democracy.

Freedom of press is not specifically mentioned in article 19(1) (a) of the Constitution and what is mentioned there is only freedom of speech and expression. In the Constituent Assembly Debates it was made clear by Dr. Ambedkar, Chairman of the Drafting Committee, that no special mention of the freedom of press was necessary at all as the press and an individual or a citizen were the same as far as their right of expression was concerned.

The framers of the Indian constitution considered freedom of the press as an essential part of the freedom of speech and expression as guaranteed in Article 19 (1) (a) of the Constitution.

In **Romesh Thaper vs State of Madras** and **Brij Bhushan vs State of Delhi**, the Supreme Court took it for granted the fact that the freedom of the press was an essential part of the right to freedom of speech and expression. It was observed by Patanjali Sastri J. in Romesh Thaper that freedom of speech and expression included propagation of ideas, and that freedom was ensured by the freedom of circulation.

It is clear that the right to freedom of speech and expression carries with it the right to publish and circulate one's ideas, opinions and other views with complete freedom and by resorting to all available means of publication. The right to freedom of the press includes the right to propagate ideas and views and to publish and circulate them. However, the freedom of the press is not absolute, just as the freedom of expression is not. Public Interest has to be safeguard by article 19(1)(2) which lays down reasonable limitations to the freedom of expression in matters affecting:

- a. Sovereignty and integrity of the State
- b. Security of the State
- c. Friendly relations with foreign countries
- d. Public order
- e. Decency and morality
- f. Contempt of court
- g. Defamation
- h. Incitement to an offence

Freedom of Press Defined

It is an absence of statutory and administrative control on dissemination of information, ideas, knowledge and thoughts.

The freedom of the press and of expression is guarded by the First Amendment to the US Constitution which specifically lays down that this freedom be in no way abridge by the laws. It

is not Indian Leaders were not aware of the US First Amendment or of Jefferson's famous declaration when he said that "Were it left me to decide whether we should have a government without newspaper or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter." Jawahar Lal Nehru echoed similar views "I would rather have a completely free press, with all the dangers involved in the wrong use of that freedom, than a suppressed or regulated press." Voltair once said, "I do not agree with a word you say but I defend to death your right to say it."

Mrs. Gandhi has never had much faith in the press. Her misgivings about the press were first expressed in her address to the International Press Institute Assembly in New Delhi on November 15, 1966, when she blamed the press for giving wide publicity to student unrest in the country. She said, "How much liberty should the press have in country like India which is engaged in fighting a war against poverty, backwardness, superstition and ignorance." Mrs. Gandhi would not suggest restrictions that might be imposed on the press but said that it was for the leading editions, and journalists of the country to decide. Nine years later when Mrs. Gandhi declared emergency action was taken against the press immediately and complete censorship was imposed.

Kuldip Nayar, a veteran journalist wrote to Mrs. Gandhi soon after she imposed the emergency, "if newspaper have criticized the government, it is largely because of its sluggish administration, slow progress in the economy field and the gap between promise and performance. My concept of a free press is to ferret out the truth and let the public know."

To preserve the democratic way of life, it is essential that people should have the freedom to express their feelings to make their views known to the people at large. The press, a powerful media of mass communication should be free to play its role in building a strong viable society. Denial of the freedom of press to citizens would necessarily undermine the power to influence public opinion.

Besides the restrictions imposed on the press by the Constitution, there exists various other laws which further curtail press freedom and the right of the citizen to information as well as the right to freedom of speech and expression. They are all in force in the interest of public order of the sovereignty and security of the state.

Freedom of Press in India: Constitutional Perspective

In India before Independence, there was no constitutional or statutory guarantee of freedom of an individual or media/press. At most, some common law freedom could be claimed by the press, as observed by the Privy Council in **Channing Arnold v. King Emperor.**

"The freedom of the journalist is an ordinary part of the freedom of the subject and to whatever length, the subject in general may go, so also may the journalist, but apart from statute law his privilege is no other and no higher. The range of his assertions, his

criticisms or his comments is as wide as, and no wider than that of any other subject.”

With object and views, the Preamble of the Indian Constitution ensures to all citizens inter alia, liberty of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship. The constitutional significance of the freedom of speech consists in the Preamble of Constitution and is transformed as fundamental and human right in Article 19(1)(a) as “freedom of speech and expression.

For achieving the main objects, freedom of the press has been included as part of freedom of speech and expression which is a universally recognized right adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations Organization on 10th December, 1948. The heart of the declaration contained in Article 19 says as follows:

“Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression, this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.”

The same view of freedom of holding opinions without interference has been taken by the Supreme Court in Union of India v. Assn. for Democratic Reforms in which the Court has observed as follows: (SCC p. 317, para 38)

“One-sided information, disinformation, misinformation and non information, all equally create an uninformed citizenry which makes democracy a farce. ... Freedom of speech and expression includes right to impart and receive information which includes freedom to hold opinions.”

In India, freedom of press is implied from the freedom of speech and expression guaranteed under Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution of India. Article 19(1)(a) says that all citizens shall have the right to freedom of speech and expression. But this right is subject to reasonable restrictions imposed on the expression of this right for certain purposes under Article 19(2).

Keeping this view in mind Venkataramiah, J. of the Supreme Court of India in [Indian Express Newspapers \(Bombay\) \(P\) Ltd. v. Union of India](#) has stated:

“In today’s free world freedom of press is the heart of social and political intercourse. The press has now assumed the role of the public educator making formal and non-formal education possible in a large scale particularly in the developing world, where television and other kinds of modern communication are not still available for all sections of society. The purpose of the press is to advance the public interest by publishing facts and opinions without which a democratic electorate [Government] cannot make responsible judgments. Newspapers being purveyors of news and views having a bearing on public administration very often carry material which would not be palatable to Governments and other authorities.”

The above statement of the Supreme Court illustrates that the freedom of press is essential for the proper functioning of the democratic process. Democracy means Government of the people, by the people and for the people; it is obvious that every citizen must be entitled to participate in the democratic process and in order to enable him to intelligently exercise his right of making a choice, free and general discussion of public matters is absolutely essential. This explains the constitutional viewpoint of the freedom of press in India.

The fundamental principle which was involved in freedom of press is the “people’s right to know”. It therefore received a generous support from all those who believe in the free flow of the information and participation of the people in the administration; it is the primary duty of all national courts to uphold this freedom and invalidate all laws or administrative actions which interfere with this freedom, are contrary to the constitutional mandate.

Therefore, in view of the observations made by the Hon’ble Supreme Court in various judgments and the views expressed by various jurists, it is crystal clear that the freedom of the press flows from the freedom of expression which is guaranteed to “all citizens” by Article 19(1)(a). Press stands on no higher footing than any other citizen and cannot claim any privilege (unless conferred specifically by law), as such, as distinct from those of any other citizen. The press cannot be subjected to any special restrictions which could not be imposed on any citizen of the country.

At last it can be concluded that, The Freedom of the Press is nowhere mentioned in the Indian constitution. The Right to Freedom of Speech and Expression is provided in Article 19 of the Indian Constitution. It is believed that Freedom of Speech and Expression in Article 19 of the Indian constitution include freedom of the press.

Freedom of expression enables one to express one’s own voices as well as those of others. But freedom of the press must be subject to those restrictions which apply to the freedom of speech and expression. The restrictions mentioned in Art. 19 are defamation, contempt of court, decency or morality, security of the state, friendly relations with other states, incitement to an offence, public order and maintenance of the sovereignty and integrity of India.

The status of freedom of the press is the same as that of an ordinary citizen. The press cannot claim any immunity from taxation, is subject to the same laws regulating industrial relations, and press employees are subject to the same laws regulating industrial employment.

HISTORY OF FREEDOM OF PRESS IN INDIA

The beginnings of the battle with the expectation of complimentary discourse in India go back to eighteenth century British India. The historical backdrop of the flexibility of press in India is indivisible from the historical backdrop of the patriot development. The patriot development for a free India was battled with suppression of the right to speak freely and articulation through a progression of enactment's gone for smothering the likelihood of a merged outcry against frontier

oppression. That the press assumed an important part in creating political cognizance is obvious from the way that the English government thought that it was important to acquaint abusive institutions from time with time kill the energy of the print medium. Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867. The soonest surviving order exceptionally coordinated against the press was passed in 1867, the Press and Registration of Books Act. The question was anyway to build up government control over the flexibility of press. It was an administrative law which empowered government to direct printing presses and daily papers by an arrangement of enlistment and to protect duplicates of books and other issues imprinted in India. Official Secrets Act, 1923 A general demonstration which greatly affects the press, specifically is the Official Privileged Information Act, 1923, which is gone for keeping up the security of state against breakage of mystery data attack and so forth. The Indian Press (Crisis) Control Act 1931 forced on the press on commitment to outfit security at the call of the official. The demonstration (as altered by the Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1932) enabled a common government to guide a printing press to store a security which was at risk to be relinquished if the press distributed any issue by which any of the evil demonstrations listed in S. 4 of the demonstration were facilitated e.g bringing the legislature into disdain or scorn or actuating antagonism towards the administration, affecting sentiments of contempt and ill will between various classes of subjects including an open worker to leave or disregard his obligation.

CURRENT SCENARIO OF PRESS AND ITS ACHIEVEMENTS As talked about before, press is viewed as one of the mainstays of a vote based system as it goes about as a guard dog of the three organs of majority rules system. However, the right to speak freely and appearance (counting of press) is delighted in by the residents yet there are numerous cases where the press needs to confront troubles also, in the ongoing past, in the Teheika case, the entryway Teheika.com was compelled to close down totally and its writers were persistently pestered as the columnists uncovered the trick in the protection service including ex-resistance faculty and focal government pastors. There are numerous occasions where columnists were debilitated and even attacked now and again. Regardless of these troubles the press has made a great deal of progress in the ongoing past. In Jessica Lal's case, Manu Sharma, child of a Haryana serve, slaughtered Jessica on April 29, 1999 in light of the fact that she declined to serve him alcohol in the eatery where she is working. The case was shut and all the blamed were liberated because of need for confirmations, however at last, the case was revived after media and open clamor, which prompted Sharma's conviction. In Priyadarshini Mattoo's case, Santhosh Kumar, child of an IPS officer assaulted and murdered his associate, Priyadarshini Mattoo, a Law understudy in 1996 after she declined his proposition. Weak and matured father of Priyadarshini got judgment in October 2006., after a long trial. The Delhi high court reproached bring down courts and specialist under scrutiny for quittance of denounced. The media assumed a critical part for this situation as well. Similarly, in Nitish Katara's case the media assumed an essential part. In Aarushi Talwar's kill case, media had a critical influence by featuring the escape clauses for the situation inferable from which the police was compelled to make some move. Aarushi's father is the prime suspect for the situation. As of late, in Ruchika's case, Ruchika Girhotra, a 14 year old tennis player, was attacked by then Haryana police IG S.P.S. Rathore in Panchkula in 1990. After

three years, Ruchika murdered herself, which her companion and case witness Aradhana credits to the provocation of Ruchika and her family by people with great influence. After nineteen years, Rathore leaves with a half year of thorough detainment and a 1000 rupee fine, purportedly because of his seniority and the delayed trial. This prompted open shock and media assumed a huge part for the situation and police decorations granted to s.p.s Rathore was Aldo stripped. An instance of abetment of suicide under segment 306 of the ipc was likewise recorded against s.p.s Rathore. In 2005 news channel Aaj tak completed activity Duryodhana which uncovered 11 MP's of the Lok Sabha tolerating trade for making inquiry out the Lok Sabha. Later on an examination board of trustees was set up headed by senior congress MP Pawan Kumar Bansal. All the MP,s were discovered liable and were sacked from the Lok Sabha.

Defamation Any intentional false communication, either written or spoken, that harms a person's reputation; decreases the respect, regard, or confidence in which a person is held; or induces disparaging, hostile, or disagreeable opinions or feelings against a person. Defamation may be a criminal or civil charge. It encompasses both written statements, known as libel, and spoken statements, called slander. There are 10 exceptions and four explanations for this. Exception:

1. It is not defamation to impute anything which is true concerning any person, if it is for public good that the imputation should be made or published.
2. It is not defamation to express in good faith any opinion whatever regarding the conduct or character of a public servant in discharge of his public function.
3. It is not defamation to express in good faith any opinion regarding the conduct or character of any person touching any public question.
4. It is not defamation to publish a substantially true report or result of a court of justice or any such proceedings.
5. It is not defamation to express in good faith any opinion regarding the merits of any case, civil or criminal, which has been decided by a court of justice, or the conduct of any person as a party, the witness or the agent in any such case, or regarding the character of such person as far as his character appears in that conduct, and no further.
6. It is not defamation to express in good faith any opinion regarding the merits of any performance which an author has submitted to the judgment of the public, or respecting the character of the author so far as his character appears in such performance, and no further.

7. It is not defamation if a person having any authority over another person, either conferred by law or arising out of a lawful contract made with that other, to pass in good faith any censure on the conduct of that other in matters to which such lawful authority relates.

8. It is not defamation to prefer in good faith an accusation against any person to any of those who have lawful authority over that person with respect to the subject matter of accusation.

9. It is not defamation to make an imputation on the character of another person, provided that it is made in good faith by the person for his protection, or of any other person, or for the public good.

10. It is not defamation to convey a caution to one person against the other, intended for the good of a person to whom it is conveyed or for public good.

Explanation: 1. It may amount to defamation to impute anything to a deceased person, if that imputation would harm the reputation of a person, if living, and is intended to be hurtful to the feelings of his family or other near relatives.

2. It may amount to defamation to make an imputation concerning a company or an association or collection of persons as such.

3. An imputation in the form of an alternative or expressed ironically, may amount to defamation.

4. No imputation is said to harm a person's reputation, unless that imputation directly or indirectly, in the estimation of others, lowers the moral or intellectual character of that person in respect of his caste or of his calling, or lowers the credit of that person, or causes it to be believed that body of that person is in a loathsome state or in a state generally considered as disgraceful.

Section 500: Punishment for defamation Whoever defames another shall be punished with simple imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine, or with both.

Section 501: Printing or engraving matter known to be defamatory Whoever prints or engraves any matter, knowing or having good reason to believe that such matter is defamatory of any person, shall be punished with simple imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine, or with both.

Section 502: Sale of printed or engraved substance containing defamatory matter Whoever sells or offers for sale any printed or engraved substance containing defamatory matter, knowing that it contains such matter, shall be punished with simple imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine, or with both.

Section 95: power to declare certain publications forfeited and to issue search warrants for the same

1. Where –

(a) Any newspaper, or book, or

(b) Any document, wherever printed, appears to the state government to contain any matter the publication of which is punishable under section 124A or section 153A or section 153B or section 292 or section 293 or section 295A of the Indian penal code, the state government may, by notification, stating the grounds of its opinion, declare every copy of the issue of the newspaper containing such matter, and every copy of such book or other document to be forfeited go government, and thereupon any police officer may seize the same wherever found in India and any magistrate may by warrant authorize any police officer not below the rank of sub inspector to enter upon and search for the same in any premises where any copy of such issue or any such book or other document may be or may be reasonably suspected to be.

2. Section 96, (a) “Newspaper” and “book” have the same meaning as in the press and registration of books act, 1867 (b) “Document” includes any painting, drawing or photograph, or other visible representation.

3. No order passed or action taken under this section shall be called in question in any court otherwise than in accordance with the provisions of section 96.

Contempt of Court

Contempt of court is behavior that opposes or defies the authority, justice, and dignity of the court. Contempt charges may be brought against parties to proceedings; lawyers or other court officers or personnel; jurors; witnesses; or people who insert themselves in a case, such as protesters outside a courtroom. Courts have great leeway in making contempt charges, and thus confusion sometimes exists about the distinctions between types of contempt. Generally, however, contempt proceedings are categorized as civil or criminal, and direct or indirect. Salient features of the act According to this act, contempt could be civil or criminal.

Section 2(a) “contempt of court” means civil contempt or criminal contempt;

Section 2(b) “civil contempt “means willful disobedience to any judgment, decree, direction, order, writ or other process of a court or willful breach of an undertaking given to a court;

Section 2(c) “criminal contempt” means the publication (whether by words, spoken or written or by signs, or by visible representation, or otherwise) of any matter or the doing of any other act whatsoever which-

(i) Scandalizes, or tends to scandalize, or lowers or tends to lower the authority of any court; or

(ii) Prejudices, or interferes or tends to interfere with, the due course of any judicial proceeding; or

(iii) Interferes or tends to interfere with, or obstructs or tends to obstruct, the administration of justice in any other manner;

Privileges of Media personnel

The Indian Constitution does not provide freedom for media independently. But there is an indirect provision for media freedom. It gets derived from Article 19(1) (a). This Article guarantees freedom of speech and expression. The freedom of mass media is derived indirectly from this Article. Our Constitution also lays down some restrictions in the form of Article 19(2). Article 19 of the Indian constitution lays down, "All citizens shall have the right to freedom of speech and expression, to assemble peaceably, and without arms, to form associations or unions, to move freely throughout the territory of India, to reside in any part of the territory of India, to acquire hold and dispose of property and to practice any profession or to carry on any occupation, trade or business. However the right to freedom of speech and expression shall not affect the operation of any existing law or prevent the state from making any law insofar as such law imposes reasonable restrictions on the exercise of that right in the interests of the sovereignty and integrity of India, the security of the State, friendly relations with foreign states, public decency or morality or In relation to contempt of court, defamation or incitement to offence"

Indian copyright Act of 1957

Copyright is a bundle of rights given by the law to the creators of literary, dramatic, musical and artistic works and the producers of cinematograph films and sound recordings. The rights provided under Copyright law include the rights of reproduction of the work, communication of the work to the public, adaptation of the work and translation of the work. The scope and duration of protection provided under copyright law varies with the nature of the protected work. Except in relation to infringement of copyright, a work shall not be deemed to be published or performed in public, if published, or performed in public, without the license of the owner of the copyright.

The contempt of courts Acts of 1971.

Contempt of court is behavior that opposes or defies the authority, justice, and dignity of the court. Contempt charges may be brought against parties to proceedings; lawyers or other court officers or personnel; jurors; witnesses; or people who insert themselves in a case, such as protesters outside a courtroom. Courts have great leeway in making contempt charges, and thus confusion sometimes exists about the distinctions between types of contempt. Generally, however, contempt proceedings are categorized as civil or criminal, and direct or indirect. Anything that curtails or impairs the freedom of limits of the judicial proceedings. Any conduct that tends to bring the authority and administration of Law into disrespect or disregard or to interfere with or prejudice parties or their witnesses during litigation. Consisting of words spoken or written which obstruct or tend to obstruct the administration of justice. Publishing words which tend to bring the administration of Justice into contempt, to prejudice the fair trial of any cause or matter which is the subject of Civil or Criminal proceeding or in any way to obstruct the cause of Justice.

The aim of the Press Registration of Books Act

According to its statement of object and reasons, the **Act aims** to (a) regulate printing **press** and **newspapers** in India, (b) preserve copies of **books** and **newspapers** printed in India, and (c) provide for **registration of books** and **newspapers**.

Unit-3: Reporting News

- **Role of the Reporter and the Editor:**

The Editor and His Men

An editor is the key man in a newspaper. The identity or personality of a newspaper is attributed to its editor. In early times a newspaper used to have just an editor, doing all sorts of work. He was reporter, sub-editor, proof-reader and everything else – all rolled into one.

He had to shoulder all the burdens of running a newspaper. He was a much harassed person in his against vested interests and the draconian laws against the press.

Of course the condition of the editor has improved over the years. A big newspaper has a hierarchy of chief editor, editors, sub-editors, chief reporters, proof readers and technicians, each monitoring a particular area of work. Division of labour has become the order of the day in newspaper concern as in every other filed.

The Editor has to do a lot of administrative work. Much of his time is occupied in directing the complex machinery of his newspaper as well as attending the conferences with heads of departments. He commissions writers to write articles for his newspaper. He decides the subjects for the leaders and the lines along which they have to run, especially when some contribute leaders and special articles to their columns two or three days a week. In this way the life of an editor is not an idle one. He can influence the people for good directly through editorials and indirectly through various feature items in his newspaper.

Editorial

According to Harry, an editorial should have three parts: 1. Statement of the subject, issues or problem; 2. Comment on the subject; 3. Conclusion or solution drawn from the comment.

The editorial is the mirror of a newspaper's opinion. Hence the editorial policy should be based on fairness and accuracy. A good editor gives an honourable treatment even to the opponents of his newspaper and wins general popularity and esteem for it. A leader writer should be able to write powerfully on any subject. He should express the considered judgment of his newspaper on any issues. He should not thrust his personal views which may be whimsical. The leading articles can be used with advantage by launching a relentless campaign against many social, political and economic evils rampant in the country. An editorial should be objective. Generally important national newspapers write their leading articles without vested interests. They do not

write political, social and religious controversies in a partisan manner. Their editorials are broad minded and unbiased. “Writing good editorial is chiefly telling the people what they think, not what the writer thinks” according to Arthur Brisbane.

A leader, i.e leading article, should be the true leader of thoughts in a newspaper. A leading article should be written in such a way as to make a wide appeal. It should touch and move the largest number of readers. However, good editorials, written in an understandable style, are read with interest.

Editorial and leader writers would do well to deal not only with political issues but also with general topics which concern day-to-day life.

The chief duty is an editorial writer is to provide information, guidance and sound judgement that are essential to the healthy functioning of a democracy.

An editorial writer should be frank and bold. He should speak out without fear or favour. He should proclaim the truth even at the risk of danger. He should not be afraid of writing against the administration or government to safeguard the rights and freedom of the citizen. He should not compromise with public interest. An editor who clinches from the right course is unworthy to hold his high post. An editor who hesitates to fight for the right cause will stand self-condemned as a shirker of public responsibility. An editor must maintain the high principles of honesty and integrity to enhance the reputation of his paper.

THE SUB-EDITOR

Importance of sub-Editor

There is a woman behind every great man, there is a sub-editor behind every successful newspaper. „Any bloody fool can write. It needs a heaven born genius to editor“, says H. W. Nevinson. That shows the value of a sub-editor. The sub-editor plays significant role in the publication of a newspaper.

The sub-editor has to play maxim attention to the main news page or front page. The sub-editor has to serve as a link between the editorial room and the composing room.

It is the duty of the sub-editor to enlist the co-operation of all the staff connected with him in one way or another.

Requirements/ qualifications of a good sub-editor

A sub-editor profession requires special talents. It need knowledge at various levels and possession of certain qualities of head and heart. The following is a list of the requirement/qualifications of a good sub-editor:

1. The key words in the job descriptions of a good sub-editor are responsibility, proficiency and resourcefulness.

2. He must be able to follow mass interest and have an acquaintance with sectional interest.
3. He must have a vast general knowledge of men and matters. He must know about pop singers, cabinet ministers, film stars and company bosses.
4. He must have analytical mind and a sense of proportion.
5. He must be able to visualise not only the development of a story but also its likely impact on the reader.
6. He should have the knack of feeling the pulse of the reader and should respect their sentiments.
7. He must know the ins and outs of the journalistic world. He must be thoroughly familiar with every department. He must have a sound knowledge of the mechanical processes of newspaper production. He must have a firm grasp of the basic principles of typography. He must have a flair for type, design and make-up.
8. He must be able to boil down, i.e. cut short and shape up a long, tedious report so as to make it capture the reader's attention and keep him absorbed down to the last word.
9. He should have a flair for language so that he can spot out a bad copy and rewrite it better.
10. He should ruthlessly cut down verbiage and clichés.
11. He should have a sense of humour. „subbing“ is not a scientific operation of cutting and shaping news material. It is dressing and make-up as well. A good sub-editor should carry a lot of humour, to spice his product and make it enjoyable to the readers.
12. He must be a man with team spirit, not a lone plodder.
13. He must have a good memory.
14. He must be capable of quick decision-making.
15. He should have physical and mental stamina to withstand the stress and strain of his task.
16. He must be well-versed in law, especially laws pertaining to libel.
17. He must be free from any bias or prejudice.

In addition to these a good sub-editor should have some of the qualities required of a good report as well, as listed below.

Qualities of a good sub-editor (as for a good reporter)

- 1) News sense: A good sub-editor should have a sharp news sense. He is the first reader of a reporter's copy, and if the reporter has made a let-up in the news, the sub-editor has to smell

it. A bad copy may have the most important element of the story buried in the fifth paragraph. The sub-editor should have the nose for news to bring it to the first paragraph.

- 2) Clarity: A sub-editor is the judge of clarity of the reporter's copy. A good sub-editor will never allow a copy to escape him unless the meaning is crystal clear.
- 3) Objectivity: A sub-editor should not take sides but try to cover all the different points of view to achieve balance in a story.
- 4) Accuracy: A sub-editor should be a stickler for correctness, as even a minor mistake may damage the newspaper's credibility. He must check facts, names and figures. If anything is doubtful, he must leave it out. It is better not to say a thing than to say it wrong.
- 5) Curiosity: A sub-editor must have an unsatiable curiosity. He should read as much as possible to improve his know of various subjects constantly.
- 6) Alertness: A sub-editor has to be alert while working at the news desk. Lack of alertness will lead to mistakes which will render him awkward in the reader's eyes.
- 7) Speed: A sub-editor has to work fast. He cannot sit with a copy for long. He has to clear a lot of copy. A slow sub-editor is a curse to the news desk and is treated with contempt.
- 8) Doubting streak: A sub-editor should not take things for granted. He should have a doubting mind. It is part of his duty to entertain doubts about many things-facts, language and style, shape, policy, etc. But they should be genuine doubts and he must make every effort to clear them. He should not hesitate to approach any of his colleagues to ask about any doubt, standing on false prestige.

He should be wary of the dubious tactics of politicians and advertisers. He not allow a reporter or anyone else to pass an advertisement in the guise of news. He should cut out disguised or indirect publicity and / or propaganda.
- 9) Calmness: A sub-editor should develop calm temperament to work under pressure of deadlines.
- 10) Patience: Patience is necessary for a sub editor as he works long under trying conditions. He has to put up with many annoying situations everyday vis-à-vis reporters, proof readers and printers.
- 11) Imagination: This creativity faculty is very useful to a sub editor as he can add sparkle to reader's copy and make it lively.
- 12) Ingenuity: It helps him bringing out attractive page make-ups and in giving an artistic look to the newspaper. He has to be a creative artist.
- 13) Diligence: A sub-editor's job requires painstaking exertion of intense care and effort. He has to make fine distinctions while editing a copy. He should aim at perfection.

14) Abundant self-confidence: A sub-editor must feel that every change he makes in copy improves it. He must be ready to correct bad copy whoever may be its author. If a sub editor is unwilling to change copy for fear of committing an error, he will thrash around in a sea of indecision forever.

15) Maturity: Maturity prevents cockishness. It leads a sub-editor to use his blue pencil and make changes only when necessary, not for the sake of not to mess a good story.

DIFFERENT TYPES OF REPORTING:

Let us now turn to different types of reporting such as objective, interpretative, investigative and crime reporting.

Objective Reporting:

Reporting of news, unlike editorial writing, is often described as a coldly impersonal job. A reporter is essentially a story teller and he should tell the story in an objective and truthful manner, without lacing it with personal opinions or subjective comments. He should be fair and impartial and present both sides of the story. Complete objectivity is a mere concept. The reporter is a human being, not a robot, and he has certain ideas, feelings, attitudes, opinions and prejudices. However, a good reporter should try to rise above them and tell the facts as he has collected them in his search for truth. No responsible reporter would behave like the notorious American journalist, Janet Cooke, who won the prestigious Pulitzer prize in 1980 for a story about drugs which was later proved to be fictional and fictitious. The journalist committed a deliberate fraud by dramatising a fake scene in which an eight year-old boy is injected with heroin supplied by the lover of the boy's mother. Nearer home, the story of "mass rape" at a students function in a Madhya Pradesh town, published in a national newspaper was found to be baseless. When the report appeared on the front page of the newspaper it caused a sensation. The Editor asked a reporter to investigate. On arriving in the town the reporter first questioned the reporter of the news item, who insisted that the mass rape did take place. By way of corroboration he produced a number of eye-witnesses. However, when they were cross-examined and asked specifically to reveal only what they had seen, and not what they had heard, the investigator soon realised that the reporter had written the story on the basis of a bazaar gossip and filed it without verifying the facts. All that had happened was that during a function to celebrate the annual day of a local college, a 'portion of the shamiana came down, the electricity got cut off and a few students entered the women's enclosure and molested some of the girls. There is this apocryphal story of a cub reporter, who, on his first day at work wrote a piece with a cocksureness which was misplaced. On reading the piece, the editor advised him to be cautious and a little circumspect when writing about sensitive issues. The press, the editor reminded him, must not ordinarily violate the various laws on the statute book concerning libel, national security and parliamentary privileges.

In reporting news, you must remember that facts are sacred. You must check and cross-check the facts from different sources until you are absolutely sure of them. Only then should you write your story. The golden rule is: tell the truth. Objective reporting is, of course, not synonymous with dullness. It means fair and impartial reporting that is free from personal bias or prejudice.

Interpretative Reporting:

Interpretative reporting, as the phrase suggests, combines facts with interpretation. It delves into reasons and meanings of a development. It is the interpretative reporter's task to give the information along with an interpretation of its significance. In doing so he uses his knowledge and experience to give the reader an idea of the background of an event and explain the consequences it could lead to. Besides his own knowledge and research in the subject, he often has to rely on the opinions of specialists to do a good job. In the USA, the first important inputs to interpretative reporting was provided by World War-I. Curtis D. MacDongall writes in his book Interpretation Reporting that when the First World War broke out, most Americans were taken by surprise. They were utterly unable to explain its causes. This led to changes in the style of reporting. The result was that when in 1939 the Second World War began, an overwhelming majority of the Americans expected it or at least knew it was possible. MacDongall says that a successful journalist should be more than a thoroughly trained journeyman. With his reading of history, economics, sociology, political science and other academic subjects, an interpretative reporter is aware of the fact that a news item is not an isolated incident, but an inevitable link to a chain of important events. An interpretative reporter cannot succeed if he is hampered by prejudices and stereotyped attitudes, which would bias his perception of human affairs. Interpretative reporting thus goes behind the news, brings out the hidden significance of an event and separates truth from falsehood.

Investigative Reporting:

It is difficult to define the term "investigative" journalism. Some newspapers scoff at the very idea of an investigative journalist. In one way, of course, "investigative" journalism is a redundant concept, since all stories require some kind of investigation on the part of the reporter. However, the investigative reporter is expected to dig deeply beyond the facts stated in the hard news. Though we may face difficulty in defining the term, we cannot ignore the concept of investigative journalism. Many journalism students have an ambition to become "investigative" reporters. An "investigative" journalist sees himself as the conscience of society, pursuing corruption in high places without fear or favour. In his book Press and Law (Vikas, New Delhi 1990), Justice A.N. Grover has quoted from the foreword of Investigative reporting by Clark R. Mollevhogg. According to the Foreword, investigative reporting has three elements:

- It has to be the own work of the reporter. Under no circumstance should it be of others;
- The subject of the reporting should be such-that it is of importance for the readers to know; and
- There must not be any attempt made to hide the truth from the people.

Investigative reporting has made great leaps in western countries. In India, it is still in its infancy. Most Indian newspapers do not have, or do not allocate, the manpower and funds necessary for a first-rate Investigative job. Attempts at investigative reporting, to quote one eminent Indian editor, are like drilling for oil. A fair amount of wastage of effort has to be taken for granted. But when the oil is discovered and becomes marketable, the sense of achievement is usually more than in any other sector of journalistic enterprise. The best example of investigative reporting in our times, was the Watergate story which led to the disgrace and downfall of U.S. President Richard Nixon. . In India, investigative reporting started making a mark after the end of the internal emergency in 1977, particularly through the reports published in The Indian Express. In our country, investigative reporters have brought to light a number of scandals the Bhagalpur blinding's incidents by the police, Kuo oil deal, A.R. Antulay's private trusts, the securities scam involving Indian and foreign banks and stock brokers, etc. An enterprising reporter once got himself arrested so that he could give a first-hand account of life in Delhi's Tihar Jail. we must remember that investigative reporting is not everybody's cup of tea. It requires hard and sustained work. The investigative reporter should be a combination of a crusader, super detective and blood hound and he should have the necessary time ' and finance to carry out his work.

CRIME REPORTING:

Crime reporting is not separate from the objective, intetpretative and investigative form of reporting. Here it is separately dealt with because it is a separate and important beat in all big and medium level daily newspapers. There is a tremendous public interest in crime stories and no newspaper can afford to ignore them without damage to its circulation and credibility. Attempts made by some newspapers to keep crime out of their columns, proved to be counterproductive and were soon abandoned. Crime is a part of life and it is a newspaper's duty to inform the readers of what crimes are going on in their city, state or country. However, crime reporting should not aim at satisfying morbid curiosity or sensation mongering. Although crime reporting is usually assigned to one of the junior reporters in a newspaper, it is a highly responsible and specialized job. The reporter should not only have the ability to shift the grain from the chaff, and the truth from lies, he should also have good contacts in the police and other departments of the administration as well as a working knowledge of the penal codes and law on libel and other relevant matters. Besides, he must observe a code of honour. He should be as objective as is humanly possible and avoid resorting to sensationalism or cheap gimmicks to catch 'the attention of the readers. He should not suppress news of public interest. Nor should he seek to settle personal scores with police officers or lawyers or judges. And he must be careful that in the. course of this work, he does not unnecessarily invade a citizen's privacy.

HEADLINES: What does a headline do?

Headlines are designed to grab a reader's attention and hook them into the story. The job of a headline is to ultimately "tell and sell" so it must tell the reader enough to attract their attention but leave them wanting to know more so they read the full story.

How do you write a newspaper headline?

The perfect headline is short, accurate and attention grabbing. A headline should sum up the news story in as few words as possible; every word counts in a headline and any unnecessary words are left out.

For example:

Libya celebrates **the** future after **the** death of **Colonel** Gaddafi

A baby **is** found alive two days after **the** earthquake **in** **Turkey**

Journalists play with the language in the headline to grab attention. Tricks of the headline-writing-trade include puns, rhymes, well-known phrases, clichés, song references, alliteration and assonance. Rhythm and punctuation also play an important role in making a good headline.

Newspaper Headline Examples

Rhyming words

Headlines that use rhyming words sound appealing, like mini-poems. Example: Owl on the prowl

Alliteration

Alliteration headlines use repetition of the same sounds at the beginning of words; most tongue twisters use alliteration. In KS2 pupils will learn about alliteration which can be used to great effect in newspaper headlines. **Example:** Bamboo bikes in Britain

Puns

Puns are employed a lot in newspaper headline and use the altering of words to attract attention. **Example:** Baa-rilliant news! instead of 'brilliant news' for a story about Shaun the Sheep having new website pages.

Types of headlines:

- Banner Headline
- Cross line Headline
- Flush Left Headline
- Inverted Pyramid Headline
- Decks
- Kickers
- Subheads
- Blurbs
- **Banner Headline**
- The journalism industry is highly competitive, and attracting the attention of the readers, viewers or listeners is the most important thing. The audience should have a reason for choosing a particular newspaper, television channel or radio station.
- Headlines play an important role in attracting attention, especially in print media.
Banner headlines are words printed in extra large letters across the top of the front page of the newspaper on extremely important stories; they are not used frequently, but when they are used, they have significant impact.



Examples of Banner Headlines

- **Flush Left Headline**

This is one of the more modern headline forms in use. It consists of two or three lines of headline, each one set flush left to the left side of the space. The design is simple and allows freedom in writing the headline. No rules govern the writing of the flush left headline; however a uniform style for better results is generally adopted. This type of headline is popular because it is easy to write, allows flexibility in unit count and provides a feeling of airiness to the page with the white space.

Example of Flush Left Headline

- **Inverted Pyramid Headline**

There are distinct advantages to using the inverted pyramid headline style for news writing. People often are in a rush and seldom have time to read every word of a story. The advantage of the inverted pyramid headline is that it concentrates on presenting pertinent facts first. With inverted pyramid stories, the most important information goes in the first paragraph, and the less important information follows to the very end of the story. The inverted pyramid headline generally consists of three lines -- the first runs across the column and the other two lines are shorter than the first line. The headline is created from the informative facts presented at the start of the story, giving the reader the most important points quickly.



- **Cross-Line Headline**

- The cross-line headline is quite similar to a banner headline. **While it is a large headline, it does not span the entire width of the page, but it does run across all the columns of the story it pertains to.** The cross-line headline is one of the simplest types of headlines, consisting of a single line and one or most often more columns in width. It can run flush on both sides of the paper or it can have the words centered over the columns. This type of headline is generally used when there is more than one column for a story and to produce a formal look.

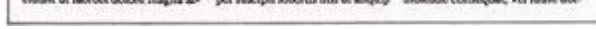


Decks

- The **deck** is one or more lines of text (usually not more than 3 depending on column width) found between the headline and the body of the article.
- Can be one column, two column, or full column width
- Multi-deck headlines must offer typographic contrast: if the main headline is bold, then the decks should be lighter in weight; a Roman main headline may be accompanied by decks set in Italics. Lately, many newspapers have opted to colorize decks.

Kicker/Shoulder

- Smaller head above main headline. Can be used to add additional information, tease.
- Usually italicized, underlined or centered



Subheads

- Used to break up long stories



FEATURE WRITING: Features are not meant to deliver the news firsthand. They do contain elements of news, but their main function is to humanize, to add colour, to educate, to entertain, to illuminate. They often recap major news that was reported in a previous news cycle. Features often:

- Profile people who make the news
- Explain events that move or shape the news
- Analyze what is happening in the world, nation or community
- Teach an audience how to do something
- Suggest better ways to live
- Examine trends
- Entertain.

TYPES OF FEATURES

Personality profiles: A personality profile is written to bring an audience closer to a person in or out of the news. Interviews and observations, as well as creative writing, are used to paint a vivid picture of the person. The CBC's recent profile of Pierre Elliot Trudeau is a classic example of the genre and makes use of archival film footage, interviews, testimonials, and fair degree of editorializing by the voice-over commentary.

Human interest stories: A human interest story is written to show a subject's oddity or its practical, emotional, or entertainment value.

Trend stories: A trend story examines people, things or organizations that are having an impact on society. Trend stories are popular because people are excited to read or hear about the latest fads.

In-depth stories: Through extensive research and interviews, in-depth stories provide a detailed account well beyond a basic news story or feature.

Backgrounders: A backgrounder--also called an analysis piece--adds meaning to current issues in the news by explaining them further. These articles bring an audience up-to-date, explaining how this country, this organization, this person happens to be where it is now.

- Feature Writing is an important aspect of journalism. A newspaper cannot confine itself to news reporting alone. It has to depend on many other components. It is rightly said that a newspaper survives by news reporting and thrives by feature writing. Features have become essential components of every newspaper. They occupy a major place in every Journal.
- The term 'feature' is most common among newsmen but one does not know what it exactly means. Mr. Brain Nicholas in his book Features with "air describes features as the 'soul' of newspapers. There is no consensus among journalists about its scope, type and other related matters.
- **Some definitions of Feature.**
- (1) The news story stops after it has presented facts or ideas. The feature story goes further. It explores the background, the birth and growth of the idea or event. provides a glance at future too. It conveys to the reader what you, the writer or some one else, think about the idea or event. It has greater appeal to the reader's imagination.
- (2) Feature is a detailed presentation of some interesting subject in a popular form. It deals with the day,,s news. a timely or seasonal subject or any topic that appeals to a number of readers. Its purpose is to entertain, inform or to give practical guidance, i.e. to show to readers as to how to do something.
- (3) It is a piece of writing which explains amplifies and interprets issues with study, research and interview.

These definitions give some idea of the 'feature'. A feature is an article giving background information on certain events or personalities in the news. It is a non-news article in a newspaper on some prominent subject, contributed by a named author Nowadays feature has become very popular in the newspapers and magazines.

A feature may be written by a prominent journalist or general author or some specialist. Every newspaper has some special correspondents for subjects like economics, politics, science, ,,etc. A feature may be written on a financial matter by an economics correspondent, on a political problem by a political correspondent, on a medical topic by a medical specialist, on a subject of art by an art critic on a social evil by a freelance writer. Sometimes important persons in different spheres of life an industrialist, a member of parliament, a sportsman, etc may write features on any topic in their specialised fields. '

A feature writer has considerably more time at his disposal than a news reporter. He can research more facts at a leisurely pace. Features may be planned in advance in such a way that they-are published at the time of some important event; for example inauguration of a conference, exhibition, project, etc.. celebration of the anniversary of famous leaders like Gandhi, Nehru, Kamaraj, Annadurai. MGR. etc. as well as significant events like Independence

Day, Republic Day, etc. But sometimes features may have to be written at short notice. For instance, when a significant event takes place, a feature has to be written quickly. When an earthquake strikes, an epidemic breaks out or a major calamity affects a lot of people, features are written immediately, dealing with various aspects of the subject on hand.

Features are written after the death of an important personality, national leader or celebrity. When an unknown person seizes power after a military coup d'etat, or an insignificant person suddenly shoots to prominence in some sphere of human activity, features are published providing all available information about that person and highlighting his achievement. In such a type of feature an attempt is made to anticipate all the questions likely to arise in the minds of the readers, and to provide the necessary information tactfully.

Feature articles of human interest or human value are immensely popular. They can be written on ever-green subjects like health, family planning, sex, women's liberation, fashions, social evils, etc. Nowadays many newspapers and magazines are full of features on sexual matters. Features regarding the private lives of past and present important personalities, men in power and position, film stars, etc. are immensely popular. Feature articles often appear on divorce and its repercussions, problems of working women, dowry harassment, child labour, bonded labour, etc.

Features are also written on matters of topic interest and current problems, such as deteriorating law and order situation, increase in eve-teasing incident daylight robberies, gold chain snatching, juvenile delinquency, etc. Medico Navarasu murder, college Sarika's death due to eve-teasing, death of under trials, rape of women in police custody, etc. have be

featured by many newspapers and magazines with aplomb in recent times.

Variety of Features.

It is said that 'the sky is the limit' for the scope of feature writing. A feature can be written on every possible subject if the writer has imagination and skill. As it is difficult to define a feature, it is also difficult to classify features. Journalists have come out with different classifications based on the technique of writing, purpose, content, etc.

(a) Features on the basis of technique

A feature which adopts some special technique or method is named after it. For example, a feature which is written on the basis of a personal interview is called 'interview feature'.

(b) Features on the basis of purpose

(i) Expository feature: It explains things or timely topics. '

(ii) Descriptive feature: It gives verbal pictures of persons, things or places of interest. (iii) Narrative feature: It narrates events with plot, setting and characters. (c) **Features on the basis of content**

1. News Features:

They are the most common type of features. They are also called 'news follow-ups', or 'news in depth', or 'news behind news'. They are tied to current events, and one gets ideas of such features from the news reports. For example, the news announcement of the visit of a foreign President or -Prime Minister to India may give rise to features on the visiting dignitary. News of a fire accident in a slum may prompt a feature pointing out the miseries of the poor 'slum dwellers and the need for slum clearance.

2. Background Features:

Features which are not directly connected with news but deal with subjects of continuing interest such as smoke pollution, road safety, water scarcity, etc. are known as background features.

3. Anniversary Features:

Features which deal with anniversary celebrations of events like birth, death, marriage, establishment of an institution, etc. are called anniversary features.

Features on religious festivals fall under the category of mythological background features. 4.

Personality Features:

They deal with the biography or personality of celebrities. They are about well-known persons and their achievements. The emphasis is on what has made a person great rather than cataloguing his achievements.

5. Serious or Analytical Features:

They deal with a subject in depth and analyse its various aspects.

6. Light or Entertaining Features:

They are meant for amusement or entertainment. Middle appearing in several daily papers are examples of this kind.

7. Human interest Features:

In such features human interest is the primary content. They deal with ordinary persons in extra-ordinary circumstances or extra-ordinary persons in ordinary circumstances. They touch the heart of the reader and appeal to his emotions.

8. Wild-Life Features:

The increasing interest in environment and wild-life has resulted in an increase of features with these subjects in newspapers and magazines. They are usually accompanied by suitable photographs.

9. Photo Features:

They are pictorial features. In a photo feature, a series of photographs, arranged according to a particular pattern, tell the story, in an effective manner. There is very little write-up in such a feature. A photo feature is different from an illustrated feature. An illustrated feature is a feature article that is suitably supplied with illustrative pictures or photographs. But a photo feature deals with a single person or theme. The photo feature may be on Thanaraj Pillai, the Indian Hockey captain at the Asian Games 1998, or on Sachin Tendulkar, the famous Indian cricketer, or on different kinds of butterflies, or on slum dwellers showing their pathetic living conditions.

10. Technical & Scientific Features:

They explain advances in science, technology electronics etc. in simple language so that even a layman can understand various aspects of science and modern technological developments.

11. Hobby Features:

They deal with usual or unusual hobbies. The hobbies of well-known retired people in all walks of life are sources of delightful features.

Differences between News and Feature

Both news and feature spring from the same source. But they differ in approach and treatment. Feature has some characteristics which distinguish it from news and make it a class by itself.

1. Scope: narrow x wide:

News is an objective and factual account of events. The reporter just gives a news story based on the six questions who, what, where, when, why and how. He estimates the relative value of different ingredients of an event and includes the most important of them in his news story. His purpose is to give facts or information of interest to the people.

But a feature goes much beyond a news story. It gives a new dimension to the news. It examines and dissects news and throws new light on different aspects. It explores the background and probes the event. It is not a mere narration of facts. Its purpose is to inform and entertain, and to arouse curiosity, sympathy, humour and other feelings „among the .readers. A feature writer reacts to the people, situations, events and places, and provides a colourful background and explanatory matter for his feature story obviously feature-writing is wider in scope than news writing.

Take for example a train accident. A news item would give the general facts time, place and cause of the accident and the casualties. But a feature writer probes deeper and comes out with a lot of things. He may describe the reaction of survivors and relatives of the wounded and the dead passengers, the human or technical causes of the mishap, and a statistical study of similar railway accidents in the past. His feature is generally interesting and enlightening.

In the case of a kidnapping, a news reporter gives only the bare facts. But a feature writer may give interesting details of why and how it was executed. He can portray the feelings and emotions of the relatives of the kidnapped person. He can bring out the inhuman aspects of kidnapping and make suggestions on putting an end to this pernicious activity.

Thus a feature and a news story differ in their scope.

2. Timeliness x. Remoteness

A news story deals with current events. It is like a vegetable, a perishable commodity. Speed is of great importance in communicating a news item. It has to meet some deadlines. A feature is not subject to such conditions. It can be on a recent or remote event, a current or past topic. An event of the distant past can become an interesting topic for a feature at any later time.

For instance, features appear on eve-teasing even now, long after the college girl Sarika's death.

3. Brevity x Elaboration

Brevity is the soul of news writing. A news story is matter-of-fact. There is not much room for background material or additional particulars. But feature writing enjoys more freedom and flexibility. Unlike a news item, a feature can be written elaborately and can occupy more space than a news story

4. Proximity x Distance

Nearness adds value to a news item. For example, a train accident in Tirunelveli has greater news value to the local people than to people in Chennai or Delhi. But this is not necessarily the case with a feature. A feature writer can deal with anything in a remote place if he can make it interesting to the readers. For instance, a feature on the wedding rituals of some tribals in the African jungles is likely to attract attention in any other part of the globe.

5. Style of writing: simple x ornate

Feature and news vary much in the style of writing. A news story is hurriedly written for urgent publication. So it is written in a simple, easy style. It is usually written in the inverted pyramid format to acquaint the hasty readers with the essentials of a news story within the short time available at their disposal. So it is concise, terse and matter-of-fact. News writing has to be done within the limits of a set format and pattern.

But feature writing is free from such constraints. The feature writer has more freedom. He can be long and descriptive. He can freely react to situations, events and people with emotion and imagination. He can write in a colourful and fiction style, or in a scholarly style, depending on the subject and circumstances. He can communicate with the readers in an effective, interesting and entertaining manner. He can employ a formal or informal style as the situation warrants. He can use a literary, ornamental and colourful style. A feature writer can use a wider vocabulary than a news writer.

6. Title, heading etc.

A reporter does not generally give his news story a title, sub-title or heading. It is the function of the sub-editor at the news desk. But a feature writer has to provide all these appellations in his feature. A news story usually carries only a heading short, ample. But a feature carries a catchy title. It is so formed as to capture everybody's attention and arouse his

interest in the feature. Dull, weary, stereotyped titles are avoided in a feature; For example, a title such as 'Population Control' is insipid, but a title like 'Population Explosion' or 'Baby boom' is certainly enticing. It can be followed by a subtitle '6000 babies a second - Can we prevent mankind's doom?' It will supplement the title and arrest the reader's attention. The title and subtitle depend to some extent on the type of newspapers or journals for which the feature is written. For example, tilting titles for serious topics, or snappy titles for features in sober newspapers or journals, will be out of tune and awkward

7. Structure : set pattern x flexible pattern

A news story often follows the inverted variety in theme and treatment, matter and method, pyramid structure. The 'intro' or lead carries the climax, and other details of the story are given in a logical, not a chronological order of priority or importance. But a feature is free to follow any structural mode. It can start with the beginning or middle. Distinction between Feature and Article or end of a story. It can be written in a conventional or unconventional mode. A feature can start with an anecdote, dialogue, and interesting conversation or startling statement but it should be interesting and have a direct bearing on the subject-matter. Some feature writer's plunge straight into the subject and simultaneously introduce the special angle which they have in mind.

8. Incompleteness x Fullness :

A news story is limited to a single time and place. It is not always complete. A full news story about an event is not possible at one stroke. A news story is followed by subsequent reports. For instance a murder appears as a flash news first and further details are reported as and when they become available. But a feature is generally an integrated whole. It appears in full form or in a few instalments if it is a serialized feature. Anyway a feature is a pre-planned, full-fledged write-up.

9. Commonness x Variety research.

News is more or less common in all papers since its sources are the same. News coverage and treatment may vary, but not extensively. So news does not give any distinctiveness to a newspaper. But features are not stereotyped like news. They can afford variety in theme and treatment, matter and method, subject and style. So newspapers and

journals derive much of their individuality and distinctiveness from the kind of features they publish.

Distinction Between Feature and Article

Many people confuse between a feature and an article in a newspaper or journal. Of course there are many common things between them; yet each has a character and identity of its own.

Both articles and features are non-news form of writing. They often assume the characteristics of each other. It is not easy to put them in water-tight compartments. However, they have some marked differences.

1. Subject matter : broad x specific

An article is generally written on broad subjects, covering many aspects. But in features, the subject matter is rather specific, minute and narrow. Only one or two aspects are dealt with at a time. A feature deals with a single mood. The approach to the subject is general in the article, but specific in the feature.

2. Scholarly x Emotional

An article is an elaborate piece of composition. It is a product of the mind. It is based on study and research. It is scholarly and serious in tone. It is usually well – documented, with facts, figures and a lot of statistics. But a feature is a product of the heart, involving emotions, feelings and reactions of the writer in a lighter vein. In features, facts and figures are not essential.

3.Length

An article can be lengthier than a feature.

4. Information x Entertainment

An article provides a lot of information and education. It is generally devoid of any entertainment or instruction. But a feature has often an element of entertainment and instruction, besides information.

5. Illustrations:

Photographs & other illustrations are essential in features, but not so in articles. **6. Style : formal x colourful**

In articles the style of writing is generally formal, scholarly, heavy and sober. But in features style is more informal, more colourful. Dullness is fatal to a feature. Features can dramatize, humanize an event or idea, and provide joy and delight so as to make greater appeal to the readers

7. Projection of opinion: personal x impersonal.

Articles are written by experts in special fields. An expert makes a comprehensive study of a subject second feature may be on his attitude to India's gives his conclusions and views, which carry an element of personal opinion directly.

But in features, personal opinion is projection. indirectly through others. **8. Structure**

An article has a conventional beginning, middle and end. It has a rigid structure. But a feature has a flexible structure. It can start abruptly and end abruptly. It can follow any order in presenting the materials, provided it sustains the reader's interest. **9. Mood**

A feature is generally „poetic“ while an article is prosaic. A feature is a sort of lyric in prose, „a momentary mood garnered in words“. But an article deals with several moods „from grave to the gay and from sublime to ridiculous“. While the feature is like a neat, little, beautiful one – room cottage, the article is like „a many –roomed mansion with several storeys“.

Let us have a concrete illustration to understand the differences between a news story, a feature and an article. A single event or situation comes handy for a news story, a feature and an article. Suppose there is a sudden announcement of the American President's visit schedule as issued from the White House. In a day or two features may appear in many newspapers and periodicals. None of them is likely to be about the President's visit schedule. One feature may be a personality feature on the President and point out how he rose to the highest position. A second feature may be on his attitude to India's successful atom bomb tests. A third feature may be on the social and cultural engagements of the President's wife.

But an article will be entirely different. It may be written by an expert. He may attempt an in – depth study of Indo-American relations in various aspects – political, economic, educational, social and cultural, giving abundant facts and figures.

COLUMNS: What is a column? A column is not a news article, but it is news. It generally answers why and how. It often is personal, using the first and second person (I and you). A column often states an opinion. It is said to be like writing an open letter. A column also has a standard head, called a title, and a by-line (name) at the top. These identify you and your column for the reader.

How do you write a column?

Before writing a column, think about purpose, audience, content and structure.

Purpose

Why are you writing? Is it to inform the community about an event? Does the paper's editor, the community or co-workers want it? Are you entertaining, informing or educating? Do you seek an identity or exposure?

Audience

Whom are you trying to reach? Who are you reaching? Decide on your audience. Write in their language, at their level, about things the audience needs to know or wants to know.

Content

What will your column discuss? How will you discuss it? Answering why and how will help determine what. Remember, columns should be based on facts and should be accurate.

Names are crucial in a personal column. Personal columns may be informal; yet accuracy and sourcing material counts.

Structure

How will your message get to your audience? There are other types of columns besides the personal column, too. Some of these cover specific topics or types of information. They can be "question and answer," "new ideas," "how-to-do-it" pieces or "calendars." Personal columns often have departments. These departments help you to write your column. Departments can be "coming events," applications, notes or some of the categories suggested for the non-personal columns.

Before writing, decide on the purpose, content, audience and structure. Personal columns should have many local names. They also use words like: "I," "we" or "you."

When writing a column, do

- Give the reader timely, helpful information.
- Develop a **structure** and keep it. Write on a regular schedule.
- Write simple and short sentences and paragraphs.
- In personal columns, use local names and places.
- Let others speak for you by use of quotes and references.
- Learn the difference between a column and a news story.

When writing a column, don't

- Use technical or complex words.
- Talk in jargon or unfamiliar terms.
- Talk about one topic constantly.

- Include too much detail or material. You should be stimulating interest, not exhausting a subject.
- Refer to yourself as a third person (this author, your reporter) or quote yourself (Jimmy Jones said). Instead use **mine**.

Writing a review

Reviews are a staple of journalism. Almost anything can be reviewed: music concerts, films, video games, products, books or restaurants.

The aim is to offer an honest critique of the object under review, and to make a recommendation to your audience.

Writing a review demands a different skill from writing a news story. Whereas in a news story, you must be **objective** and balanced, in a review you can be **subjective**, giving your opinion.

You can also be more personal and informal in tone: you want to create a **rapport** with the audience.

Your role as a reviewer is to

- inform
- describe
- analyse
- Advise

Reviews can be positive or negative but it is important to back up your opinions with evidence. In this video Mark Kermode reviews the film Ratchett and Clank.

Tips on reviewing a film

When reviewing a film, you are advising the audience on whether it is worth going to see this film, or spend two hours of their life watching it. Make sure you:

- Include all the relevant detail such as film title, director, lead actors, date of release.
- Summarise the plot concisely, avoiding spoilers and plot twists. Don't give away the ending!
- Select and use short extracts/ examples to illustrate what struck you most about the film. Was a particular scene particularly funny, or **poignant**? Give an example of good (or bad) acting.
- Other aspects may be worth commenting on, for example music or special effects.
- Give your opinion, but always back it up with evidence. Be fair – don't write off an entire film because you disliked one actor.

- Make a final judgement, for example you could rate it out of five stars.

NEWS AND NEWS VALUE

What is news?

What is news? This is an age-old question without a clear-cut answer. According to a popular belief, the term “NEWS” has coined as an acronym of North, East, West and South, and it connotes information coming from all the directions. There is a famous saying : When dog bites man, it is no news; when man bites dog, it is. This, of course, gives an idea of news. Some definitions of News.

1. News is anything you have come to know just now.
2. News is a report of any event, idea or opinion which affects a large number of people.
3. News is a compilation of facts and happenings which will be interesting to readers.

Factors Determining News Value

1. Novelty: Anything that has novelty attracts attention. A blind man riding a motor cycle or a month-old child swimming in water has great news value.

2. Timeliness: Like bun and cakes from the hot oven, news should be fresh, new and hot. Stale news, like stale bread, is only fit for the dust-bin. „As news ages, it loses potency“. So“ in a highly competitive world of journalism today, every medium tries to be the first to give the latest news.

3. Proximity: Something that happens close to home is of utmost interest. Local news arouses the greatest interest. News assumes value through emotional and geographical closeness. A train accident in Tamil Nadu claims greater attention than a volcano eruption in Java. When the Prime minister visits Chennai, it is of greater interest to people in Chennai and Tamil Nadu than in Bombay or Delhi.

4. Spot News: It is news gathered on the spot – live, immediate and fresh. A reporter may reach the spot of an accident or murder within minutes of its occurrence and flash full news immediately. People affected a calamity like a flood, house-collapse, explosion, etc. are interviewed on the spot. Spot news makes an effective impression on the readers as the reporter writes from direct experience at the scene of occurrence.

5. **Eminence & Prominence:** News about famous leaders or celebrities interest readers. Mother Teresa's missionary zeal, Sonia Gandhi's rise in politics, Amirtya Sen's winning the novel prize, Diana's life and death or Clinton's relationship with Monica , gets top priority.

6. **Size:** It is the odd size that always attracts attention. A small rare fish caught in a remote part of the world or the fossils of a dinosaur draw immediate attention. Usually major events come as news. But sometimes even minor things draw attention. The Prime Minister having tea with an ordinary villager can captivate people as much as the PM addressing a mammoth public meeting in a city.

7. **Change:** Change is the law of life. Every moment things are changing. They affect the people for good or bad. A new tax or a law banning lotteries causes some changes in people's life. It becomes important news. Any scientific development – putting a satellite in orbit, exploding atom bombs in Bokaren or striking oil in Cauvery river-bed – causes significant changes in life and becomes top news.

8. **Conflict:** Social, political or religious conflicts carry a lot of news value. All wars and threats leading to wars have proven record of news worthiness.

9. **Curiosity:** People are always curious and desirous of sensational news. Sandalwood brigand Veerappan kidnapping or murdering police officers makes immediate appeal as sensational news.

10. **Accuracy:** This is the most important quality of news. Accuracy in news reporting increases the value of any news. People value the authenticity of a news item in newspapers like The Hindu or The Times of India because these newspapers are known for their veracity.

11. **Information:** News value is proportional to the information it gives. Information about the weather, the share market, the bullion market, ect. carries great value of news to concerned people.

12. **Human interest:** Human interest stories, all sorts of accidents and calamities touch the readers' emotion and appeal to their sympathy. They give pep to a newspaper. 13. **Entertainment:** Along with serious reading, people need entertainment and pleasure. Light articles, write-ups, cartoons, crosswords, film news, anecdotes, etc. offer relief from the daily anxieties of the life and have the greatest attraction nowadays. They add colour and variety to a newspaper.

News is the life-blood of newspapers. The success of any newspaper of any newspaper depends upon its reporters' fetching out news from all possible sources and presenting various kinds of news in such a way as to captivate reader with different tastes for news.

Unit-4: Layouts, Advertising and News Agencies

LAYOUTS:

The layout of a newspaper is designed to attract readership and to optimize the newspaper's effectiveness in presenting information. Rules and conventions have evolved over the years and almost all western newspapers share well-established layout principles. The large screen allows for the use of newspaper layout techniques on a computer display.

Automating the Layout Process

Newspaper layout was one of the first newspaper processes automated with the help of computers. The application is obvious and the market is large. The problem is reasonably constrained; the program is given a set of news articles and advertisements. Advertisements are placed according to one set of rules, while news articles are placed in the remaining space (the "newshole") according to another set of rules. Since The Electronic Broadsheet does not contain advertisements, I do not discuss them.

Advertising is essential, both to make it economically feasible, and to enrich the content

Without the ads the problem is surprisingly similar to the computer game Tetris; blocks are to be placed to minimize white space.

Through grants from the American Newspaper Publishers Association, J F Reintjes of MIT and his students have done a substantial amount of work on automating newspaper layout. Their research focuses on assisting newspaper personnel in the layout process rather than automating the entire process:

"At the other extreme, a fully automated layout system is conceivable where layouts would be created according to pre-conceived algorithms. Ideally, such a system would be the fastest and most efficient approach; however, we believe the layout process is too complex and day-to-day conditions are too varied to permit the design of an algorithm that can achieve acceptable layouts

[Reintjes et al. 77] Reintjes, J F; Knudson, D R.; Kan, Hsin-Kuo: Computer-Assisted Layout of Newspapers; Electronic Systems Laboratory, MIT, 1977

consistently and cost-effectively." [Reintjes et al. 77]

Templates

When trying to automate newspaper page layout there are two basic approaches; algorithms and templates. Robert Polansky [Polansky 74] describes a sequential layout algorithm that develops a page one item at a time. A rectangular story envelope is constructed using a desired height-to-width ratio and the envelope is placed at a boundary of the remaining

[Polansky 74] Polansky, R: Documentation of News-Layout Program; Electronic Systems Laboratory Memorandum NEWSI-20, MIT 1974

newshole. The algorithm then shifts the envelope and/or modifies its shape to eliminate any overlap with items previously positioned on the page. The process is repeated until all items assigned to the page are placed. The algorithm shows satisfactory results when the number of articles is low, but is of limited use when placing the last items on a page. Again, think of Tetris!

[Kan 77] Kan, Hsin-Kuo: A computerized template-drive news-layout system for newspapers; Thesis E.E.Sc.D.

Kan [Kan 77]MIT 1977 gives the layout process more information about the desired page design by introducing templates. Templates are dummy pages that have been designed with the overall page layout in mind. A library containing all allowed templates for a newspaper page would number between 100.000 and 1.000.000 entries. The estimate is the product of the number of different possible layout styles, ad dummies, story and picture sizes, and story and picture counts. Although it is possible to store and process this amount of information, collecting the data in the first place would require a substantial amount of work.

By abstracting templates to contain geometrical data only, Kan reduced the number of templates to a few hundred. The new templates specify no metric data and each template can generate many different page layouts.

[DeTreville 78] DeTreville, J D: An analytical approach to computerized news layout for newspapers; Thesis E.E. Ph.D., MIT, Cambridge Mass

DeTreville [DeTreville 78]1978 defines a template grammar that describes the set of legal templates. The purpose of the grammar is to outlaw templates that should be avoided. The descriptive grammar consists of a small set of rules, e.g., "The shape of a template must never become larger as one scans from top to bottom." A large number of templates are in the set of legal designs, from which the template to be used is selected in a semi-random way.

The Layout of the Electronic Broadsheet

While the electronic newspaper borrows many elements from the newspaper metaphor, including the tiled layout, the process of laying out the pages is very different. Paper-based newspapers are issued in discrete editions, but the Electronic Broadsheet continuously receives articles. Accordingly, old or unimportant articles have to be removed and this complicates the shape of the newshole. It's a dynamic page and not your average Tetris game!

Unless news articles are constantly reformatted it is impossible to keep a dynamic page optimized with regard to open space. One story will be taken down and the new article will not cover the hole unless it is reformatted with the new space in mind. Doing so would delay the presentation, and the result could look awkward. But, virtual news space is cheap and since one white block will not multiply into large areas of white paper the problem is not critical.

The Layout in the Sections

The Electronic Broadsheet has one front page and several section pages. The layout in the section follows traditional layout rules and tiles the articles. Each page is laid out in a grid with a 5x8 resolution, and space is allocated as stories come in. The Electronic Broadsheet will search the grid for all possible positions. If more than one is found, it will use some simple rules to pick the final destination. The rules are:

- * if the priority of the article is high, it will try to get a position in the upper part of the page
- * if it's a one-column article it should go to one of the edges
- * there should be a horizontal balance of articles

The layout program never moves an article after it has been placed since that could interfere with news reading. However, there are situations where one would want to move articles to make room for the new story. E.g., if a high priority article comes in and there is only room at the bottom of the page, it would be better to move the top articles down instead of placing the new article at the bottom, which is where it goes now.

The Layout of the Front Page

The traditional newspaper front page displays only the first part of the articles and make the reader jump to an inside page to continue the story. This has been shown to lose readers; one out

[Nelson 68] Carl J Nelson
Research, Inc. The research
results were reported by
Clinton R Bush in News
Research for better
Newspapers, ANPAF, Volume

of five in one study [Nelson 68] 1968. Ideally, the whole story should be displayed to avoid jumps, but real estate on the front page is expensive and there is not enough room to show articles in full unless the number of front page stories is severely limited

Ridder spent more than \$2 million to make the "News" in Boca Raton, Fla. more desirable to younger readers, and all stories are now so short that they can be displayed in full [Palmer 91].

[Palmer 91] Palmer, T:
Newspapers battle to survive in new age; Boston Globe, April 14, 1991.

A possible solution is to format two versions of the article; one intended for the front page and one for the section page. This approach would require more processing power, and deciding how much of the article to put on each page is not trivial. Another approach is to format the whole article, but only display parts of it and let the user scroll through the content. Unfortunately, the

performance of the current system is not adequate to handle the increased burden of scrolling; it is already burdened by the X11 server and a formatting process running simultaneously. Also, both of the above solutions would hide parts of the article for the user while reading. As long as it's possible to fit the article on a page, I believe it should be shown in full.

Three different ideas of how the front page should look crystallized during the course of the project:

* The traditional: The newspaper front page is a highly successful channel of communication and should be transferred intact onto the screen. The most important articles are displayed with a tiled layout. This approach wastes screen space in a dynamic environment where articles come and go, but it is the most organized. Also, it is consistent with the layout in the sections.

* The volcano: The front page displays all articles in full with overlapping windows. Important stories float to the top of the stack, less important articles may be partly visible, while the articles with the least priority are totally overlapped. The page contains a lot of information and looks chaotic at times.

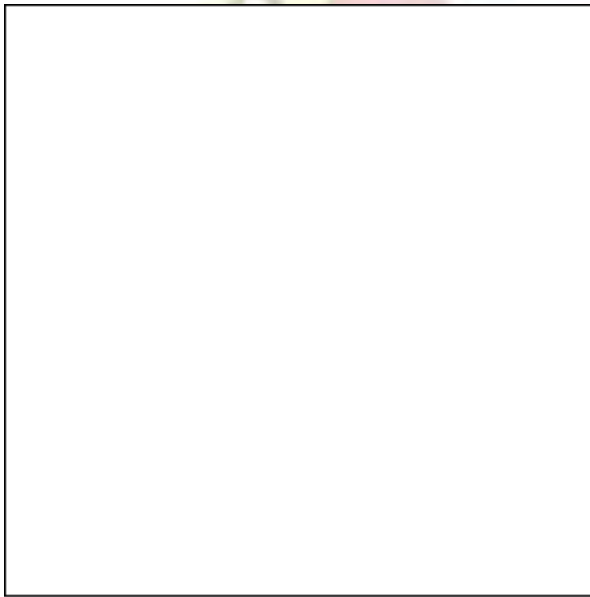


Figure 23: Screen dump of the volcano page

By clicking in a partially visible article, it will float to the top. This alternative quickly fills the front page with a segmented compound of articles. It is both serendipitous and chaotic.

* The headlines: As many articles as possible are stacked with the headline visible. By clicking and holding down the mouse button, a user can temporarily bring an article to the top of the stack. This approach offers a structured interface to a lot of data.

People feel strongly about front page design and opinions are diverse. The three alternatives all have their merits and some users might want to use them all.

Relations of Media with Business and Advertising

Advertising is communicated through various mass media, including old media such as newspapers, magazines, Television, Radio, outdoor advertising or direct mail; or new media. Business and Advertising has strong ties from the beginning. Media helps the advertisers to reach their target audience and increases the sale. A successful advertisement reaches thousands of people through media.

Types of Advertising

Advertising has evolved into a vastly complex form of communication, with literally thousands of different ways for a business to get a message to the consumer. Newspaper advertising can promote business into a wide range of customers.

Print Advertising

For decades, print ads were the gold standard for advertisers and their clients. To grab the center spread of a big magazine, or the back cover of a newspaper, meant millions of people were seeing the message. Advertising in a specialist magazine can reach target market quickly and easily.

Broadcast Advertising

A mass-market form of communication including television and radio, broadcast advertising has, until recently, been the most dominant way to reach a large number of consumers. Broadcast advertising has really taken a beating over the last few years, especially with the rise of DVRs and "ad skipping" technology.

NEWS AGENCIES

News agency, also called **press agency**, **press association**, **wire service**, or **news service**, organization that gathers, writes, and distributes [news](#) from around a nation or the world to newspapers, periodicals, radio and television broadcasters, government agencies, and other users. It does not generally publish news itself but supplies news to its subscribers, who, by sharing costs, obtain services they could not otherwise afford. All the [mass media](#) depend upon the agencies for the bulk of the news, even including those few that have extensive news-gathering resources of their own.

The news agency has a variety of forms. In some large cities, newspapers and radio and television stations have joined forces to obtain routine coverage of news about the police, courts, government offices, and the like. National agencies have extended the area of such coverage by gathering and distributing stock-market quotations, sports results, and election reports. A few agencies have extended their service to include worldwide news. The service has grown to include news interpretation, special columns, news photographs, audiotape recordings for radio broadcast, and often videotape or motion-picture film for television news reports. Many agencies

are cooperatives, and the trend has been in that direction since [World War II](#). Under this form of organization, individual members provide news from their own circulation areas to an agency pool for general use. In major news centres the national and worldwide agencies have their own reporters to cover important events, and they maintain offices to [facilitate](#) distribution of their service.

In addition to general news agencies, several specialized services have developed. In the United States alone these number well over 100, including such major ones as Science Service, Religious News Service, Jewish Telegraphic Agency, and News Election Service. Specialized services in other countries include the Swiss Katholische Internationale Presseagentur, which reports news of special interest to Roman Catholics, and the Star News Agency of Pakistan, which supplies news of Muslim interest in English and Urdu. The major press associations in the [United States](#) have expanded their service to include entertainment features, and some feature syndicates provide straight news coverage as a part of their service. The Newspaper Enterprise Association distributes both news and features in the United States. The world agencies have established a variety of relationships with other agencies and with individual news media. Most of them purchase the news services of national or local agencies to supplement news gathered by their own staff representatives at key points. Reuters, like the Agence France-Presse, supplies a worldwide news file to be distributed by some national agencies along with their domestic news reports. The American services more often contract to deliver their service directly to individual users abroad.

News agencies in [communist](#) countries had close ties to their national governments. Each major communist country had its own national news service, and each news service was officially controlled, usually by the minister of information. [TASS](#), the Soviet news agency, was the principal source of world news for the [Soviet Union](#) and its allies; it also made Soviet Communist Party policy known. Communist states outside the Soviet sphere, e.g., [China](#) and Yugoslavia, had their own state news services, which were controlled in similar fashion. China's Hsinhua, or [New China News Agency](#), was the largest remaining news agency in a communist country by the late 20th century.

Most other countries have one or more national news agencies. Some depend on a common service, such as the Arab News Agency, which provides news for several states in the [Middle East](#). Others are national newspaper cooperatives, such as the Ritzaus Bureau of Denmark, founded in 1866. A few, like the Agenzia Nazionale Stampa Associata of Italy, have expanded coverage abroad in a limited degree to supplement their domestic service but still depend on Reuters and Agence France-Presse for much of their foreign news. Germany since 1949 has built Deutsche-Press Agentur into one of the more important news agencies in Europe, including extensive exchange with other national services. In Canada the Canadian Press is a cooperative news agency with headquarters in [Toronto](#). The oldest and largest news agency operating exclusively in Britain is the [Press Association](#), founded by provincial newspapers on a cooperative basis in 1868. It began active work on February 5, 1870, when the postal service took over the private [telegraph](#) companies that had previously supplied the provincial papers

with news. It supplies news to all the [London](#) daily and Sunday newspapers, provincial papers, and trade journals and other periodicals.

The ability to [transmit](#) news rapidly greatly increased during the 20th century. Radioteletypewriters that make possible fast [automatic transmission](#) of news messages linked all major areas. Picture transmission by radio and high-fidelity wires became well developed. From the major agencies, teletypesetter service, pioneered by the Associated Press in 1951, was available to newspapers wishing to have [computerized typesetting](#) done directly from news-service transmissions. By the 21st century, most news agencies had moved the bulk of their operations and transmission to computers.

For brief coverage of the major world news agencies, *see* [Agence France-Presse](#); [Associated Press](#); [Kyōdō tsūshinsha](#); [Press Trust of India](#); [Reuters](#); [TASS](#); [United Press International](#). For treatment of newspaper feature syndicates, *see* [newspaper syndicate](#).

Proof Reading:

Proofreading means carefully checking for errors in a text before it is published or shared. It is the very last stage of the [writing process](#), when you fix minor spelling and punctuation mistakes, typos, formatting issues and inconsistencies.

Proofreading is essential for any text that will be shared with an audience, whether it's an academic paper, a job application, an online article, or a print flyer. Depending on your skills and budget, you can choose to proofread the text yourself or to hire a professional.

Proofreading example

In the publishing industry, proofreaders usually check a printed “proof copy” of the text and mark corrections using specialized proofreading marks. In other fields, though, professional proofreaders often work with digital texts and make corrections directly using the track changes feature in Microsoft Word or Google Docs.


Communes first appeared in Belgium, France and Italy at the end of the 11th century. They were ~~actually a town~~^{towns} where everyone agreed to take an oath of mutual aid~~e~~. Communes were formed because Europe had just finally turned away the attacks ~~from~~^{by} the Barbarians, and the people needed better protection and better legal and economic systems.

Communes then were ~~sort of~~^{sort of} like districts or states that were usually respected by the King of that country.

Sometimes ~~the~~^{the} king would honor ~~it~~^{them} with a charter.

At different times, living in a commune could mean simply a local self-government and at other times, it could mean a complete independence from the reigning authorities. All of the communes were different but there were fundamental similarities between them. Similarities, like loyalty to your fellow communers above all else, ~~the~~^{SP} sharing of common expenses, like the upkeep of fortifications, a group of elected officials who were the political authority, an authoritative structure that was directed toward keeping the peace ~~an~~^d protecting the community members, a communal court where disputes were judged, and all economic affairs, like taxes and trade, being regulated in the community's best interest.

The following list shows some of the most common proofreading marks and symbols used by [proofreaders and editors](#) – and explains their meaning (note that some proofreaders will use different symbols than those shown here; if you see a symbol on a document and you're not sure what it means, ask your proofreader).

 Insert something; the text to be inserted will likely be provided in the margin

 Delete  Close

up space  Delete

and close up



 Set as italics

 Wrong font


 Move left

 Move right

 Move up

 Move down

  Center

 Begin paragraph

Hints for Successful Proofreading

- Set your text aside for awhile (15 minutes, one day, one week) between writing and proofreading. Some distance from the text will help you see mistakes more easily.
- Work from a printout, not the computer screen. Enlarge the print or change the font to give you a new perspective.
- Use a blank sheet of paper or ruler to cover up the lines below the one you're reading. This technique keeps you from skipping ahead of possible mistakes.
- Read very slowly. Read one word at a time. If possible, read out loud so that you can hear each word. Read the entire paper several times, looking for different errors with each reading. Read into a tape recorder, and listen carefully while you play it back.
- Review comments on your old papers, and make a list of errors which were marked frequently. Prioritize your list. Read separately for each kind of error, following whatever technique works best for you to identify that kind of mistake.

Proofreading Strategies for Specific Errors

If you know by reviewing your instructor's comments that you frequently make one or more of the following grammatical errors, try the following suggested strategies to identify and correct your errors. Please note that this is only a limited list of possible mechanical errors. It will be up to you to determine other areas of special concern for you as a writer.

Spelling

- Examine each word in the paper individually. Move from the end of each line back to the beginning. Pointing with a pencil helps you see each word more distinctly. If necessary, check a dictionary to see that each word is spelled correctly. It is important to remember that a computer spell check can be helpful when writing your initial drafts, but won't catch mistakes with homonyms (such as *they're*, *their*, and *there*) or certain typographical errors (such as writing *he* for *the*)

Subject/Verb Agreement

- Find the main verb in each sentence. Match the verb to its subject. Make sure that the subject and verb agree in number (that is, both are singular or both are plural).

Pronoun Reference/Agreement

- Skim your paper, stopping at each pronoun. Look especially *at it*, *this*, *they*, *their*, and *them*. Search for the noun that the pronoun replaces. If you can't find any noun, or if it is unclear which noun is being referred to, change the pronoun to a noun. If you can find a noun, be sure it agrees in number and person with your pronoun.

Parallel Structure

- Skim your paper, stopping at key words that signal parallel structures. Look especially for *and*, *or*, *not only...but also*, *either...or*, *both...and*. Make sure that the items connected by these words are in the same grammatical form. For instance, "She likes golf, basketball, and soccer" rather than "She likes golf, basketball, and to play soccer." You might change "He is not only a great piano player but also plays the guitar well" to "He is not only a great piano player but also a good guitar player."

Compound Sentence Commas

- Skim for the conjunctions *and*, *but*, *for*, *or*, *nor*, *so*, and *yet*. See whether there is a complete sentence (containing a subject and verb) on each side of the conjunction. If so, place a comma before the conjunction.

Introductory Commas

- Skim your paper, looking only at the first two or three words of each sentence. Stop if one of these words is a subordinate conjunction (such as *while, if*), a transition word (such as *nevertheless, however*), a participial phrase (such as *serving four years in the Navy, he...*), or a prepositional phrase (such as *in contrast, about two years ago*). If you can hear a break or pause after the phrase when reading aloud, place a comma at the end of the introductory phrase or clause (before the independent clause).

Fragments

- Look at each sentence to see whether it contains an independent clause (subject and verb). Pay special attention to sentences that begin with subordinate conjunctions (such as *because, if, or when*) or phrases such as *for example* or *such as*. See if the fragment might be just a piece of the previous sentence that mistakenly got separated by a period. If so, attach it to the sentence. If not, add the missing subject or verb.

Run-On Sentences

- Review each sentence to see whether it contains more than one independent clause. Start with the last sentence of your paper, and work your way back to the beginning, sentence by sentence, stopping at every comma. Run-on sentences can be revised four ways. You may make the clauses into separate sentences, join the clauses with a comma followed by a coordinating conjunction (*and, but, for, or, nor, so, and yet*), join the clauses with a semicolon if the sentences are closely related, or restructure the sentence (for example, by adding a subordinate conjunction).

Plurals and Possessives (Use of apostrophes)

- Skim your paper, stopping only at those words which end in *s*. See whether or not an apostrophe is needed in order to indicate possession. If the words can be inverted, and *Maria's book* can be changed to *the book of Maria*, then the apostrophe is correct. If a word ends in *s* simply because it is plural, there should be no apostrophe.

Only now should you ask someone else to read through your paper to check for anything you might have missed. By revising, editing, and proofreading on your own first, you will ultimately improve your own ability to write well.

Photojournalism

Photojournalism is the process of story telling using the medium of photography as your main story telling device. While a journalist will use their pen and paper to tell stories, a photojournalist will use their camera to capture the visual representation of a story.

Most of us are familiar with the old adage “a picture is worth a thousand words”. Well this is the theory behind photojournalism. News publications are willing to pay top dollar to those photojournalists who can capture the most dramatic images on film or their CCD chip.

In its history, [Photojournalism was important to tell all the untold stories of the world.](#)

Photojournalists traveled the world to give a voice to the unheard. Their pictures gave awareness to the struggle of people that were left alone otherwise. A single picture in some cases was so powerful, that it changed the public opinion and also had a real impact on politics. Photojournalism in its core is an objective way to educate people about the stories that the Photojournalist is covering. With that goal in mind, Photojournalism continues the tradition of even older journalism that was using paintings or written stories. Through the technological advancement and improvement of photography, it became a more suitable and quicker medium to cover events.

Photojournalism is more immediate and a more truthful representation of reality compared to paintings, which were heavily influenced by the painter.



Telling a Story

Pictures of Photojournalism should have a meaning to the viewer. The meaning can be further explained by relevant captions and a description of the general context. Nonetheless, there is the saying that a picture is worth more than a thousand words. This is especially true for great

pictures that are not only drawing in the attention of the viewer but are able to encourage to see the story behind the picture.

The story is what “sells” the photograph and conveys the emotion. It helps the viewer to connect with the protagonists and see further than what is clearly visible.



There are different styles when it comes to telling a story in Photojournalism. Some photojournalists prefer to work on complete series and projects. Rather than having a single image that tells the story, they like to develop a story throughout the series of their pictures.

Sometimes, [photojournalists](#) also write the accompanying text themselves.

As You can see, a photojournalist is more than a photographer. He is not only there to picture the scene, he is a storyteller. Not only through the picture itself, but also with the help of written text.

Purpose of Photojournalism

The goal of photojournalism is to show the world and its stories to the average person in this world. Long before rolling film and the television as a medium where established, it was very difficult to find information on current events or stories about other parts of the world.

There were newspapers, but written text alone isn't that engaging and in a way not as easily accessible as pictures. When reading about these stories, there is a lot of room up for interpretation and it demands a heavy involvement of the reader.

A photograph, on the other hand, can be understood by everyone. The best photojournalistic photographs take people to different places and the viewer is able to relive the events, that unfolded in front of the photographer.

Though its original purpose has very good intentions in showing an unfiltered world, to the persons that are not able to travel themselves, we also have to account, that from its very beginning, photojournalism has been used to propagate certain opinions or views.

In fact, the first professional photojournalists were only able to do their work, because they got paid by the government to narrate a story that fits their agenda. In most cases, it was to promote a war and its causes. Of course, the war wasn't shown in its full detail. Rather, the published pictures were a very filtered version that glorified war and kind of painted a romantic vision of it.

In an ideal world, rather than being dependent on the government and its financial support, photojournalists would be an additional force to keep the government in check. The photojournalists present the real impact of their decisions and help to educate the voters about the actions of their representatives.



Ethics in Photojournalism

Photojournalists often travel to conflict zones, disasters or other areas that are struck by misery and misfortune. Traveling to these areas with the purpose of taking pictures opens up a lot of questions regarding the [ethics of photojournalism](#).

Often times, photojournalists are accused to exploit the distress of others, to benefit for themselves, rather than helping them directly. Although the photojournalists may not be directly helping the individual, I strongly believe that the photographs are still one of the most powerful mediums to raise awareness and indirectly help the people in need.

It does seem a bit harsh, but without these pictures and the impact they are enforcing, the rest of the world would never hear their stories. Without being aware of the suffering, there would be little interest in changing their situation and helping them.



News articles also don't have the same impact without some accompanying photographs. To be really affected by the suffering of others, we need to see the immediate situation. Emotions are the strongest instrument in addressing people that are able to help.

To address politicians that are able to intervene and the population to raise money. Putting the people that are suffering on a display might not be the most ethical thing, but it is the most effective way to bring attention to their dire situation.

Working in an emergency area requires the photographers to be aware of the ethical conflicts they are facing. They need to have a strong mindset to not be let down by their own emotions, when in the middle of a conflict zone and to be able to deliver great photographs. In addition, they need to be aware of the backlash that they might be facing, either by the public opinion or by some political groups, that disagree with the image that the photojournalist is sharing.

Rules in Photojournalism

Photojournalism can have a real impact on politics and the public view. Therefore it comes with a lot of responsibilities.

One of the earliest works in photojournalism that portrayed the housing situation in New York, lead to an improvement in the regulation of the apartments.

There are a lot of rules attached to photojournalism when it comes to the best practice. Apart from the typical rules in photography to create compelling pictures, photojournalism has its own set of rules, to enforce their legitimacy and establish trust.

Photojournalism should always be seen as the objective view. With the photographer having an active influence on the scene, it is obvious that there is always a subjective view to a degree.



To establish this objective view, there are a few rules that should be followed in photojournalism.

Here You can see [10 principles of photojournalism](#) that are stated by a US university. To make it short, I filtered out the photography related ones and focus on the rules, that are more about the moral of photojournalism.

Identify Your subjects

In Street Photography, it doesn't matter who Your subjects are or what their background is. What is more important is the single picture and which story it tells. It isn't important if the story

reflects the real situation or does tell something that hasn't been there. Street Photography is not about the objective truth, it is about telling a story and the subjects are only anonymous props.

In Photojournalism, there is a different standard. The story that is told should be as close to the objective truth as possible. If a person becomes the main subject in a photojournalistic work, then it becomes increasingly important to know their name. The name does add some legitimacy to the picture and the story that it tells. In addition, the photojournalist should also ask for more background information. This helps to understand the context of the photograph and the people that are in it.

Be Candid

Photojournalism is about telling real stories. Those stories can be told the easiest when the photographer simply captures what is happening in front of him. Obvious posing or re-enacting is something that should be left to Hollywood.

A photojournalist should aim to get his pictures candidly and if he needs a posed portrait for a series, he should state that the photograph is not candid.

Have Guts

To get unique pictures, the photojournalist has to enter a world, that would leave most people too afraid to enter. He has to have the guts, to overcome his own fears and get close to his subjects. Not be afraid of any repercussions and be determined to tell an outstanding story.

Aside from these principles, there are also other rules of photojournalism that have been established to keep the credibility of the photographs.

Post-Processing in Photojournalism

One of the most important rules is that photo manipulation should absolutely be avoided. Since the pictures are meant to show real scenes, any manipulation does break this goal.

The more difficult part is to determine which kind of post-processing already can be coined as manipulation. No picture, whether today or even in the film era is 100% pure. They are all edited in some way or another. Sometimes it is just a different crop and other times there is a little dodge and burning. Those are very basic editing techniques and don't really change the content of the image, but rather the appearance.

The line is clearly overstepped when the picture has been manipulated in a way that it does affect the content. For example, if You are using the clone & heal tool, even if it is just to brush away some dirt, or unpleasant objects in the background.

Steve McCurry has manipulated his images in this way and since then he acts as a “visual storyteller” rather than a photojournalist who tries to show the true life abroad.

To not risk any manipulation allegations, keep the post-processing minimal and rather try to get the image perfectly in-camera.



Recent Tendencies

If You are following the news, there has been a change in how photojournalism is perceived and how it does reach the news. Although one could argue, that this has been going on since the

beginning of photography, photojournalism is often misused and instead of trying to show the objective truth, it is often a booster to push one's agenda.

This misuse and propaganda style spread of these pictures isn't new. What is new is, that the content doesn't even really matter and that the visuals of the images are more important than their message.

Instead of presenting a story, news outlets are out hunting for the most dramatic and emotional pictures. Again, this is not to say that this has been going on forever, but it has reached an extreme, that it is very difficult to take the news seriously nowadays.

They are more focused on creating the most buzz, instead of informing people.

The Internet and additional sources of information might have facilitated this trend, as it puts some added pressure on the established news outlets. On the other hand, the Internet also offers some other sources of photojournalism.

I doubt that this trend can be stopped and the news will always be going for the more extreme and emotional stories, rather than trying to portray some objective information.

Nonetheless, Photojournalism is still very alive. It is different and not so much positioned in the mass media as it was some decades ago. The purpose also has shifted slightly. Has photojournalism been more focused on spreading information, photographers are more focused on the story part when creating a complete series.

Cartoon: Cartoons in Journalism

In England in 1843 a series of drawings appeared in *Punch* magazine that parodied the fresco cartoons submitted in a competition for the decoration of the new Houses of Parliament. In this way *cartoon*, in journalistic parlance, came to mean any single humorous or satirical drawing employing distortion for emphasis, often accompanied by a caption or a legend. Cartoons, particularly editorial or political cartoons, make use of the elements of caricature.

The political cartoon first appeared in 16th-century Germany during the Reformation, the first time such art became an active propaganda weapon with social implications. While many of these cartoons were crudely executed and remarkably vulgar, some, such as Holbein's *German Hercules*, were excellent drawings produced by the best artists of the time. In 18th-century England the cartoon became an integral and effective part of journalism through the works of Hogarth, Rowlandson, and Gillray, who often used caricature. Daumier, in France, became well known for his virulent satirical cartoons.

By the mid-19th cent. editorial cartoons had become regular features in American newspapers, and were soon followed by sports cartoons and humorous cartoons. The effect of political cartoons on public opinion was amply demonstrated in the elections of 1871 and 1873, when the power of Tammany Hall was broken and Boss Tweed imprisoned largely through the efforts of Thomas Nast and his cartoons for Harper's *Weekly*. In 1922 the first Pulitzer Prize for editorial cartooning was won by Rollin Kirby of the *New York World*. Other noted political cartoonists include John T. McCutcheon, C. D. Batchelor, Jacob Burck, Bill Mauldin, Rube Goldberg, Tom Little, Patrick Oliphant, and Herblock (Herbert Block).

Humorous nonpolitical cartoons became popular with the development of the color press, and in 1893 the first color cartoon appeared in the *New York World*. In 1896 R. F. Outcault originated *The Yellow Kid*, a large single-panel cartoon with some use of dialogue in balloons, and throughout the 90s humorous cartoons by such artists as T. S. Sullivant, James Swinnerton, Frederick B. Opper, and Edward W. Kemble began to appear regularly in major newspapers and journals. The *New Yorker* and *Saturday Evening Post* were among the most notable American magazines to use outstanding single cartoon drawings.

Single cartoons soon developed into the narrative newspaper comic strip, but the single panel episodic tradition also survived and thrived. It is exemplified by the work of humorists such as Charles Addams, Peter Arno, Saul Steinberg, James Thurber, William Steig, Helen Hokinson, Mary Petty, Whitney Darrow, George Price, Edward Koren, Roz Chast, the Englishmen Rowland Emmett and Ronald Searle, and the French cartoonists André François and Bil.

Books for Reference:

1. "Professional Journalism" M.V. Kamath
2. "Mass Communication in India" Keval J. Kumar
3. "Fundamentals of Journalism" N. Muthukrishnan and Dr. Sheila

4. “ Basic Journalism” Rangaswami Parthasarathy

Important Questions

1. Write an essay describing any ten categories of news.
2. Write a brief essay on the geneology of News Agencies.
3. What are the essentials requirements of a good Sub – editor?
4. The editor is a kingpin of a newspaper - Discuss.
5. Write a short note on the role of the Press.
6. „Crime Reporting“ is a digging assignment - Do you agree?
7. Write an essay on the „ Freedom of the Press“.
8. Give a detailed account of the Journalistic ethics.

