

Journalistic texts

When studying newspaper articles the following expressions can be useful:

1. papers and print

journalist / correspondent / reporter / writer / author / editor

quality / popular / tabloid papers

daily / weekly / periodical / Sunday paper / magazine

front page / headline / sub-heading / crosshead (Zwischenüberschrift im Text) / opening paragraph / photo / caption (Bildunterschrift) / cartoon / column

bold type / semi-bold type / italics

2. text types and language

news report / news story / comment / essay / letter to the editor / advertisement

journalese / long / short / simple / complex / incomplete sentences / exclamations / quotations / rhetorical questions / clichés / statistics

use of colloquial / formal / neutral / objective / expository (erklärend, darlegend) / biased / emotive (emotional gefärbt) language / matter-of-fact (sachlich) style / objective style / slang / idioms / metaphors / images / abbreviations

choice of words: forceful / considerate / (un)balanced / derogatory (abfällig) / emotive / used to arouse emotions / ambiguous meaning

3. Some useful phrases

The article presents a mass of informative / irrelevant / unrelated details

The article presents sensational / shocking / startling / the latest news

The text is strictly factual / essentially factual in approach

The author gives an objective account of / an impartial / balanced report on

The author gives a biased / partial / unbalanced report on

The author employs / uses / makes use of a style / language / words

The writer avoids sensationalism in reporting something

The writer takes a detached view of / appeals to the feelings of the reader

The news story is rather light-hearted / serious

The writer mingles facts and comment / news and opinion

The style / manner of presentation is impersonal / unequivocal (eindeutig)

A newspaper with a strong right-wing bias

to obtain / gather / withhold information

to inform / mislead the public

factual report