

Journalism and Reporting

Introduction to Journalism, News Writing & Reporting Techniques

What is Journalism?

Journalism is the process of collecting, verifying, writing, editing, and presenting news and information to the public through newspapers, television, radio, websites, and social media. The main aim of journalism is to inform, educate, and create awareness while maintaining truth, accuracy, and fairness.

Principles of Journalism

- Accuracy
- Objectivity
- Fairness
- Credibility
- Accountability
- Public Interest

News Writing

News writing is the skill of presenting facts in a clear, concise, and unbiased manner.

Elements of News Writing

- **Headline:** A short and attractive title.
- **Lead (Intro):** The opening paragraph containing the most important information.
- **Body:** Detailed facts, quotes, and background information.
- **Conclusion:** Additional information or future developments.

The 5Ws and 1H

- Who?
- What?
- When?
- Where?
- Why?
- How?

Reporting Techniques

Reporting is the process of gathering and presenting news from reliable sources.

Effective Reporting Techniques

- Verify facts before publishing.
- Collect information from multiple sources.
- Take accurate notes.
- Record statements with permission.
- Remain unbiased.
- Meet deadlines.

Interviews, Field Reporting & Press Conferences

Interviews

An interview is a conversation conducted to gather information, opinions, or expert views.

Types of Interviews

- One-to-one interview
- Panel interview
- Phone interview
- Online interview
- Vox Pop (public opinion)

Interview Tips

- Research the topic and interviewee.
- Prepare relevant questions.
- Listen carefully.
- Ask follow-up questions.
- Thank the interviewee professionally.

Field Reporting

Field reporting involves covering events directly from the location where they occur.

Responsibilities of a Field Reporter

- Observe events carefully.
- Report facts accurately.
- Collect eyewitness accounts.
- Record photographs and videos.
- Deliver reports on time.

Safety Tips

- Carry a press ID.
- Follow safety guidelines.
- Respect local laws and privacy.
- Stay prepared for unexpected situations.

Press Conference

A press conference is an official meeting where organizations or public figures provide information to journalists.

Guidelines for Covering a Press Conference

- Arrive early.
- Prepare questions.
- Take notes.
- Record key statements.
- Verify facts before reporting.

Mobile Journalism (MoJo), Feature Writing & Investigative Basics

Mobile Journalism (MoJo)

Mobile Journalism (MoJo) is the practice of reporting, recording, editing, and publishing news using a smartphone or tablet.

Advantages of MoJo

- Fast reporting
- Low-cost production

- Easy live streaming
- Portable equipment
- Instant content sharing

Basic MoJo Equipment

- Smartphone
- External microphone
- Tripod
- Power bank
- Video editing app

Feature Writing

Feature writing focuses on storytelling rather than breaking news. It provides background, human interest, and detailed information.

Characteristics of Feature Writing

- Creative and engaging style
- Human interest
- Descriptive language
- Strong introduction and conclusion
- Well-researched content

Investigative Reporting Basics

Investigative journalism involves in-depth research to uncover hidden facts that are important to the public.

Steps in Investigative Reporting

1. Select a news topic.
2. Conduct thorough research.
3. Collect evidence from reliable sources.
4. Verify all information.
5. Write an accurate and balanced report.

Ethics in Investigative Journalism

- Maintain honesty and fairness.
- Protect confidential sources.
- Respect privacy.
- Avoid defamation.
- Publish only verified facts.