VOCABULARY
Traditional media

A Complete the blog post with the correct form of the words in the box.

biased broadsheet coverage editor headline source subjective tabloid

MY LOVE OF NEWSPAPERS

Martin Harris | 10th Oct 2019

I've always been into newspapers, ever since I started work as a paperboy when I was 12. Most of the papers I delivered around our village were [1] _____, you know, the ones with a red top and all the gossip in them. They were the easiest to carry as they were so thin.

Some of the houses I delivered to had really long driveways, so I used to leave my bike at the gate and have a look through the paper as I walked up the path. In general, the tabloids are quite [2] _____ towards one political position or another, although, to be honest, I wasn't really interested in all that back then. I mostly just read the [3] _____ and the sports section.

Sunday was the hardest day to deliver papers. I only had to deliver ten [4] _____ each day, but on a Sunday, they were huge! They were full of supplements and pull-out magazines – they had comprehensive [5] _____ on pretty much every topic. The trouble was, they didn't fit in most normal letter boxes so I had to leave them on the doorstep. I got a lot of complaints!

When I finished school, I got a job reporting on football for a local newspaper. The [6] _____ was really supportive and took me under his wing. He taught me a lot about the industry, but I soon realised that being a journalist probably wasn't for me.

These days, I still read a paper every day, although I avoid some of them because the reporting seems to be so [7] _____ – they're just not interested in presenting the facts. I don't read tabloid papers much anymore as they are full of pointless stories and sensationalism. Personally, I think they need to fact check more, too, as some of the [8] _____ for their stories seem unreliable. I do pick up a tabloid paper now and then when somebody leaves them on the train, but just for the sport sections!

B Choose the correct options to complete the sentences.

1 The word '*tabloid / broadsheet*' is often associated with poor-quality reporting.
2 The *source / headline* of a story is what a journalist needs to find.
3 The *manager / editor* is the person responsible for what goes in a newspaper.
4 *Tabloids / Broadsheets* are large-format newspapers with better-quality writing.
5 When a newspaper article is subjective or *biased / unbiased*, it reports only one side of a story.
6 The Sunday newspapers usually have good *supplements / coverage* of the week's events.
7 I don't read a paper every day, but I always glance at the *coverage / headlines*.

PRONUNCIATION
Avoiding interruption

A 10.1 Listen to this extract from the interview. What intonation is used on the underlined words – falling (↘) or rise-fall-rise (↝)? Why?

1 I don't think print media will be completely replaced, but it is certainly not driving the profits for most media companies.
2 Targeted marketing via social media is an interesting approach, but some consumers certainly see it as intrusive.
3 I understand why most papers are moving to a digital format, but I'm not sure some of the older readers will want to change.

B Read the sentences aloud. Try to use intonation to avoid interruption.

1 I don't think many young people read print newspapers anymore, because they get the majority of their news online.
2 There's little point in reading a newspaper that's biased because, apart from anything else, you're not getting the full story that way.
3 The only way to address the issue of fake news stories is for the government to better regulate social media.
4 Although there's been a shift in the way people find out about current events, that's not to say that print newspapers are dying.
5 The easiest way to stop the spread of stories that are inaccurate is stopping to think before we share information.

C 10.2 Listen to the sentences in Exercise B. Then practise saying them in the same way as the speakers do in the recording.

LIVEWORKSHEETS