

The media

VOCABULARY BANK

1 THE LANGUAGE OF HEADLINES



The language of headlines

Newspaper headlines, especially in tabloids*, often use short snappy words. These words use up less space and are more emotive, which helps to sell newspapers.

**newspapers with smaller pages that print short articles with lots of photos, often about famous people*

a Match the **highlighted** 'headline verbs' with their meaning.

- 1 ☐ Prime minister **backs** his Chancellor in latest scandal
- 2 ☐ Thousands of jobs **axed** by UK firms
- 3 ☐ Stock market **hit** by oil fears
- 4 ☐ Astronaut **bids** to be first man on Mars
- 5 ☐ MINISTERS **CLASH** OVER NEW CAR TAX PROPOSAL
- 6 ☐ Bayern Munich boss **vows** to avenge defeat
- 7 ☐ Police **quiz** witness in murder trial
- 8 ☐ Actress **rows** with co-star over unfair pay

- A have been cut
- B question, interrogate
- C is going to attempt
- D supports
- E disagree
- F has been badly affected
- G argues
- H promises

b 8.16 Listen and check.

ACTIVATION Cover A–H. Look at 1–8 and say the meanings.

2 JOURNALISTS AND PEOPLE IN THE MEDIA

a Match the words and definitions.

agony aunt /'ægəni a:nt/ commentator /'kɒmentetə/ **critic** /'kɪtɪk/
 editor /'editə/ freelance **journalist** /'frɪ:ləns 'dʒɜːnəlɪst/
 newsreader /'njuːzrɪːdə/ **paparazzi** (pl) /'pæpə'rætsi/
 presenter /pri'zentə/ **reporter** /rɪ'pɔːtə/

- 1 **critic** a person who writes (a review) about the good / bad qualities of books, concerts, theatre, films, etc.
- 2 _____ a person who describes a sports event while it's happening on TV or radio
- 3 _____ a person who collects and reports news for newspapers, radio, or TV
- 4 _____ a person who is in charge of a newspaper or magazine, or part of one, and who decides what should be in it
- 5 _____ a person who introduces the different sections of a radio or TV programme
- 6 _____ a person who writes articles for different papers and is not employed by any one paper
- 7 _____ a person who reads the news on TV or radio
- 8 _____ photographers who follow famous people around to get photos of them to sell to newspapers and magazines
- 9 _____ a person who writes in a newspaper or magazine giving advice to people in reply to their letters

b 8.17 Listen and check.

ACTIVATION Are there any people in the media in your country that you really like or really dislike?

3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE THE MEDIA

a Match the sentences.

- 1 ☐ The reporting in the paper was very **sensational**. /sen'seɪʃənəl/
- 2 ☐ The news on Channel 12 is really **biased**. /'baɪəst/
- 3 ☐ I think *The Observer* is the most **objective** of the Sunday papers. /əb'dʒektɪv/
- 4 ☐ The film review was quite **accurate**. /'ækjərət/
- 5 ☐ I think the report was **censored**. /'sensəd/

- A It said the plot was poor but the acting good, which was true.
- B It bases its stories just on facts, not on feelings or beliefs.
- C The newspaper wasn't allowed to publish all the details.
- D It made the story seem more shocking than it really was.
- E You can't believe anything you hear on it. It's obvious what political party they favour!

b 8.18 Listen and check.

ACTIVATION Name publications you know that are sensational, biased, or objective.

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