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Sample

# 3 Making yourself familiar with a newspaper

Sample

## Preview

*Which sections of a newspaper interest you the most? Look at the table below. Circle your interests. Write some other ideas in the blanks. Then ask a partner if he or she has the same interests, and note that in the table.*

| Your interests | Your partner's interests | Same? | Different? |
|---|---|---|---|
| News about Japan | News about Japan | | |
| International news | International news | | |
| Sport | Sport | | |
| Politics | Politics | | |
| Business | Business | | |
| Features on health | Features on health | | |
| Movie reviews | Movie reviews | | |
| What's on TV | What's on TV | | |
| Weather information | Weather information | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

# Getting to know your newspaper

## Task A: The order of information

*In the table below are some usual sections of a newspaper. Look carefully through your newspaper and write the page number(s) where you find these sections.*

| **Newspaper name:** ……..……..……..... **Day (e.g. Monday):** ……..…. |
|---|

| Top news | Sport | National/ Domestic news | News about Asia | International/ World news | Editorial & Opinion |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Pages: | Pages: | Pages: | Pages: | Pages: | Pages: |

| Business news | Stock market information | Special features | Classified ads | TV & radio | Weather information |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Pages: | Pages: | Pages: | Pages: | Pages: | Pages: |

## Task B: Scanning for details

*Find the answers to the following questions in your paper.*

1. Write the headline of the top news story. ……
2. Write a headline that includes the name of a country. ……
3. Write a headline that includes a person's name. ……
4. What is the ¥ - $ exchange rate? ……
5. What is the weather forecast for Tokyo? ……
6. Write a headline for a business story from Japan ……
7. Write the headline of the newspaper's editorial. ……
8. What is on TV's channel 8 at 9.30pm? ……
9. What will be the high temperature in Moscow? ……
10. Find a soccer result from a European country and write it. ……
11. Write the headline of a sports story from Japan. ……
12. Find an advertisement. What is it advertising? ……
13. Look at the main photograph on page one. Who—or what—is it of? ……

Sample

## Task C: Names

*Newspapers are full of stories about people. Some names we recognize because they appear regularly, but some appear only once. Can you understand who these people are? On the left, add the names of 5 people mentioned in your paper; and write a definition of who they are on the right. Two examples have been done for you.*

| **Name** | **Who she or he is** |
|---|---|
| Bill Clinton | A former US President |
| Natsu Taguchi | A 17 year old from Saitama prefecture. She has been working as a rickshaw (*jinrikisha*) puller in Asakusa, Tokyo. |
| …… | …… |
| …… | …… |
| …… | …… |
| …… | …… |
| …… | …… |

## Reading 1

*"It is news that catches readers. Features hold them."*[1]

Newspapers include many different kinds of news and feature stories. Some, like news and sports, are reported every day. The feature pages in the middle of the paper often change according to the day. There may be interviews with people from the world of arts, artists from the world of music, theater or film. Once a week there may be a page about computers and new technology; another day there may be a page with articles about nature and the environment. Books are often reviewed on Sundays; movies are usually written about toward the end of the week when people are planning what to do at the weekend.

Think of your newspaper like a department store: there are many sections offering many different items. You are probably interested in only some, or even just a few, of them. If you read a paper regularly, you will get to know your paper so you can find things easily, and to know where to look for the sections you are interested in.

### Comprehension 1

1. When will you probably be able to read movie reviews? …….
2. Why is a newspaper like a department store? ……...

## Reading 2

Have you thought about why the top news stories and sports reports are on the outside pages of English language newspapers, the front and back pages? The benefit for readers is that these pages are easy to find quickly and a large number of people are interested in the main news and sports stories. Putting the top news and sport on the outside pages is also convenient the editors because these pages can be changed more easily than those in the middle. They are printed last and wrapped around the rest of the paper. This means that if there is a train accident, or a world leader resigns late in the evening, or a baseball or soccer game ends late, the makers of the paper can make space quickly for the new reports before the paper is printed.

Sample

### Comprehension 2

1. What is the benefit for readers that the top news stories and sports reports are on the front and back pages of a newspaper? …….....……..
2. Why is it convenient for editors? …….……
   …….....……...

1 Lord Northcliffe, a former successful newspaper owner in Britain.

## Finding information in a newspaper (pairwork review)

*1. Write the name of your paper and its date in the table below.*

*2. Look through your newspaper and try to find the information in the different sections as quickly as you can. Write the answers in the table.*

*3. Interview your partner with a different paper or paper from a different day and write his or her answers in the table.*

| A. The weather | Your paper | Partner's paper |
|---|---|---|
| 1. What was yesterday's high temperature in Naha? | | |
| 2. What time is sunrise tomorrow in Sapporo? | | |
| 3. Which of the world's cities listed was the hottest? | | |
| 4. Was it sunny or rainy in New Delhi? | | |

| B. TV Listings | You | Your partner |
|---|---|---|
| 1. What can you watch at 11pm on NHK General? | | |
| 2. How many different languages can you learn from conversation programs on NHK Educational? | | |
| 3. Write the title of a bilingual program. Which channel? What time? | | |
| 4. Which program would you most like to watch? Which channel? What time? | | |

Sample

| C. Finance | You | Your partner |
|---|---|---|
| 1. How many yen is equal to the US dollar on this day? | | |
| 2. By how many points did the Nikkei move? Up or down? | | |

| D. Sport | You | Your partner |
|---|---|---|
| 1. What does the main sports photograph show? | | |
| 2. Which sport is the main sports story about? | | |

## Vocabulary extension: Parts of a newspaper and a news story

*Match the words on the left with their definition on the right.*

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. byline | a. the words explaining a photograph |
| 2. caption | b. the main news story |
| 3. classified ads | c. an unsigned article which gives the newspaper's official opinion on an issue of the day |
| 4. copy | d. a title, designed to attract readers and sum up the main point of the story |
| 5. dateline | e. all the text for stories & articles which appears in a paper |
| 6. editorial | f. a place name under the headline, telling you where the story has come from |
| 7. headline | g. this shows the name of the writer |
| 8. intro (BrE), lead (AmE) | h. small advertisements for jobs and things for sale, or to give readers information about events |
| 9. lead story | i. an article giving a writer's opinion about a movie, book, concert etc. |
| 10. review | j. the first paragraph of a news story containing the news point and most of the important information |

Sample

## Extension task

1. Find a *byline* in your paper and write it here. …….....……
2. Find a picture *caption* in your paper and write it here. …….....……..…
   …….....……
3. Find a dateline from Japan in your paper and write it here. …….....……
4. Find a dateline from abroad in your paper and write it here. ….....……..
5. True or False? A *dateline* usually includes both a place name and the date the story was published. …….....……
6. Find a classified ad in your paper. What job, product, or information is it advertising? ……..…
   …….....……