

Newspapers





This special press rolls out the news on newsprint paper.

Publishing a Newspaper

There are many steps involved in publishing a newspaper. First, the stories are written. Then, the pages of the newspaper are created. This is done by making a layout of each page. A layout is a pattern that shows where each story will appear on each page.

When the layouts are finished, a printing plate is made for each page. Many newspapers are printed on a machine called a rotary press. A rotary press has cylinders. These cylinders hold curved printing plates. The cylinders transfer the images that are on the plates to a special paper called newsprint.

From the rotary press, the newspapers go to other machines. One machine cuts the paper and folds it into pages. Another puts the newspapers together. Finally, trucks deliver the papers to newsstands and to other locations where they are picked up by people who deliver the papers to homes.

Key Notes:

What are some of the main steps in publishing a newspaper?



Many schools have newspapers that students write and read.

What's in a newspaper?

Newspapers are organized into sections to help people find stories that interest them. Two popular sections are news and sports. The sports section reports on the scores, teams, and players in different sports.

Many newspapers have several news sections. The international news section reports on events around the world. The national news section reports on events around the nation. The state news section reports on events in the state. The local news sections reports on events in the city. Some newspapers call this the metropolitan news section.

One popular type of story, which is found throughout a newspaper, is the feature story. Feature stories report on topics such as art, technology, and health. They also report on people or places in the metropolitan area. Although they tell about recent trends, feature stories are not like news in that they don't have to be printed as soon as they are written.

Key Notes:

What are the sections in a newspaper?



Newspapers contain opinions about issues that students care about.

That's Your Opinion

In addition to reporting on the news, newspapers tell what people think about the news. Movie reviews are popular feature stories in newspapers. Movie reviews tell what movies are about and what reviewers liked and didn't like about them. They also give the reviewers' opinions about whether films are worth seeing. Newspapers also review books, plays, and TV shows.

The editorial page prints the newspaper's opinion on important issues. Although news sections present only the facts about an issue, editorial pages present editors' opinions about the issues. These experts' opinions may be different from the opinions of the newspaper's staff.

Many newspapers print readers' opinions on the letters page. The letters might contain people's opinions about things that they've read in the paper or about events in the news.

Key Notes:

Where do newspapers print opinions?



Newspaper circulation begins early in the day.

The Newspaper Business

To stay in business, newspapers must make enough money to pay their bills. Newspapers earn a large amount of money by selling ads. Advertising income is necessary for the finances of most newspapers. Some ads are for stores, products, services, or jobs. People who want to sell homes or cars also buy newspaper ads.

Businesses and people pay newspapers to publish their ads. How much newspapers charge for ads depends on the paper's circulation. Circulation refers to how many copies of a newspaper are sold. Like advertising, circulation is an important part of a newspaper's finances. Papers with a high circulation have many readers, so more people see their ads. These newspapers can charge more for their ads and earn more money. Papers with a low circulation have fewer readers, so they must charge less for ads. Newspapers hire people who sell advertising space, allowing newspapers to keep printing the news.

Key Notes:

Describe one way newspapers make money.

Photo Credits

Cover: Photo by Joi Ito, 2010, in Flickr. CC BY 2.0

Page 2: Photo by Newspaper Club, 2012, in Flickr.
CC BY-NC-ND 2.0

Page 4: Photo by uwgb admissions, 2010, in Flickr.
CC BY-NC-ND 2.0

Page 6: Photo by University of Central Arkansas, 2014,
in Flickr. CC BY-NC-ND 2.0

Page 8: Photo by Gerry Popplestone, 2021, in Flickr.
CC BY-NC-ND 2.0

©2022 TextProject, Inc. Some rights reserved.
ISBN: 978-1-959326-35-9



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-No Derivative Works 3.0 United States License. To view a copy of this license, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/us/> or send a letter to Creative Commons, 171 Second Street, Suite 300, San Francisco, California, 94105, USA.

"TextProject" and TextProject and TopicReads logos are trademarks of TextProject, Inc.