

## The Press

### 1 Divide the words below into the correct categories.

journalist	tabloid	editorial
columnist	daily	rag
feature	foreign correspondent	headline
broadsheet reporter	quality	supplement
article	hack	front page
review		

- 1 people who work on a newspaper
- 2 types of newspaper
- 3 what you find in a newspaper

Now answer the questions below using some of the words above.

- 1 Which two words describe a newspaper that likes lots of pictures and stories that are dramatic and scandalous? Which of the words is informal and derogatory?
- 2 Which word is an informal, derogatory word for journalist?
- 3 Which word describes an article where the editor gives the opinion of the newspaper about an issue?
- 4 Which word describes a magazine that you find inside a newspaper – particularly a Sunday newspaper?
- 5 Which word describes a long article, usually on the inside pages?
- 6 Which word means the same as quality (newspaper)?

### 2 Which of these words collocate with *news*?

Example → *newsroom*

room	stand	print	conference
agency	flash	hound	letter
worthy	paper	agent	desk

Complete these sentences with some of the words above.

- 1 The \_\_\_\_\_ is the place where journalists write their reports.
- 2 You can buy a 'paper at a news \_\_\_\_\_ or at a news \_\_\_\_\_ in the street.
- 3 If it is a good story, it is news \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 A good reporter is sometimes called a news \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 Politicians often inform journalists about their actions at news \_\_\_\_\_s.

**3 What's the difference between the following?**

- 1 a news agency and a newsagent's
- 2 a correspondent and a reporter
- 3 a journal and a magazine
- 4 an article and a report

**4 Read the article. Answer the questions.**

- 1 Is it from a tabloid or a quality newspaper?
- 2 Who wrote it? – a tabloid hack, a foreign correspondent, who?
- 3 What is it about?
- 4 Is it impartial or biased? What is the political standpoint of the newspaper?

## Middle Class tax squeeze

The prime minister's genius in making his party electable was to persuade the middle classes not to be afraid of him. His message was that he understood their fears that his left-wing party would tax them and redirect money to the party's traditional supporters. For a

time he pulled the wool over all our eyes. Now the cleverness of his deceit is revealed. This new tax hike will hurt hard-working middle class people, and we should all wake up to what it means...

**5 Match the words below to the headlines that they could be used to describe. There is more than one possible answer**

objective	exploitative	investigative
a scoop	intrusive	crass
sensationalist	impartial	biased

- 1 Exclusive! The true story of a Hollywood star's fall.
- 2 Priest has sex with seventeen-year-old
- 3 Why we must listen to what other European leaders are telling us
- 4 Government policy will lead us to ruin
- 5 Topless photos of soap star Kim Owers on holiday with new beau – see pages 4, 5, 6 and 8.
- 6 Corruption in the heart of the City revealed

**6 Think of answers for these questions, then discuss them with two or three other people.**

What is in the news in your country at the moment?

What type of newspaper do you read, and why do you read that type for?

What do you think of the press in your country? Is it sensationalist and exploitative?

Or is it serious and impartial?

What do you think the role of the press should be in society?

## Using the Macmillan English Advanced Learner's Dictionary and CD ROM

If you have access to the Macmillan English Advanced Learner's Dictionary and CD ROM, do the following quiz. You can find all the answers by finding the key word *news*, and following the various links.

### News Dictionary Quiz

1. What's a *newsdesk*?
2. How is being **in the news** different from being **on the news**?
3. If you get a *good press*, are you talked about positively or negatively?
4. What's the difference between a *news bulletin* and a *newsflash*?
5. What's a *newsreel*?
6. If a letter is *newsy*, what is it?
7. What does the expression *No news is good news* mean?
8. Do you hear the news or see the news?
9. Do we say the news **is** interesting or the news **are** interesting?
10. Which of these can we say? – *a piece of news, a bit of news, a part of news, an item of news*?
11. If you break the news, what do you do?