Reader’s Journal 3

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May 05 2020

**Pluralism in reporting**

I like the factuality and shortness of Dana Kennedy's post. She observes existing points of view on the situation with the health of Kim Jong Un. However, she doesn’t advocate any of them and acts more like an objective observer. The reader becomes informed that there are rumors of the dictator's death, brain tumor, vegetative state and being just well. However, a few weeks after it turns out that the Korean leader is alive and governing. Here the author’s truthfulness plays well, in my opinion. If they explicitly argued that Kim Jong Un is dead previously, as some other publishers did, they could be in trouble. This isn’t really a column. It’s a news story, though one written with more attitude than one usually sees in a mainstream newspapers. The NY Post, a tabloid tends to give its reporters more expressive leeway than, say, the NY Times.

**Mitigating COVID-19**

Michael Powell in his article in the *New York Times* defines how the efforts of enthusiasts will allow officials to lift the lockdown measures in Rhode Island earlier. Stylistic devices and plain language make the text simple to read and understand. The use of images in the narration makes it more expressive. The author also refers to experts' conclusions. It makes the argument stronger. Contrasting the situation in Rhode Island with other states illuminates the advantages of the former. The inclusion of direct speech of interviewed persons is another expressive means used by the author. Statistics and figures make the text to seem more objective. Moreover, the theme selected by the author is topical nowadays due to the pandemic.

On the other hand, a psychologist Charity Fierreira from Stanford University, points out that in hard times it is essential to remain kind to oneself and others. In the article, from an academic point of view she tries to analyze how the pandemic will impact society. Expressive quotations are used in the text and it makes it more vivid.

Powell’s piece isn’t a column either. You need to go to the editorial/opinion/commentary/columnists/op-ed sections of news sites to make sure you’re reading opinion pieces or short personal essays rather than news stories.

**A bit of humor**

I like Dave Barry's style, as it makes me smile reading and therefore more happy than I would have been otherwise. It is said that humor prolongs human life. The author successfully incorporates sarcasm, grotesque, hyperbole and other stylistic devices to make the text more expressive. The use of humor makes the narration easy to read.

In the article by Tim Kreider *Go Ahead, Millennials, Destroy Us,* the author speculates about the topical issue of links between different generations. The scene is the US, and the author’s use of expressive language and controversy with a bit of sarcasm, mocking and humor delivers to the readers the complexity of the issue.

**Reference**

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