

Newspaper DataBase Design

Newspaper System

A newspaper is setting up a website where people can write, read and comment on news stories. Your job is to design a database that can record the information needed for the website to work.

The website lists a number of stories, each classified within one of about 10 sections ('Local news', 'World news', 'Opinion', 'Sport', 'Technology' etc). Each content of each story consists of a piece of text (the manager would prefer there to be no limit on the size) as well as a headline and a short "lede" (a lede is a sentence of 10 to 20 words that summarizes the story). Each story is written by one or more of our authors, who submit the story to our database on a particular date. If a story is considered worthy, it is edited by one of our editors, assigned to a section, and then published on a particular date. Authors and editors are staff members. It is not possible to be both an author and an editor. About each staff member we store their name and when they join (and later leave) the newspaper. We want to organize the website so that readers can click on a section, or an author's name, and see a list of all the relevant stories. On the main page we list each story's title (shown as a headline) and lede. Then if the reader clicks on the headline, we display the entire story.

Our readers, if they wish, can choose to register themselves in our database, recording a username and password (they do not need to record their real name). Readers who register can then comment on stories, and on other readers' comments. They can also click "Like" on a story – and if they change their mind later, they can "Unlike" it. When we display a story we show the number of Likes the story has received and list out the comments below it. With each comment we show the username of the person who commented, and the time they commented. We aim for brevity in comments, and restrict them to 1024 characters.