



How to Read English Newspapers and Magazines 美英报刊导读

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Ground rules for the class

1. Get the textbook ASAP.
2. Everyone signs up for an in-class oral presentation.
3. Use your real name on the QQ Group all the time.
4. Please be aware that teaching sessions are recorded and may be used at the discretion of HITSZ for educational purposes.
Do not speak of subjects inappropriate or irrelevant to the class.
5. Students must comply with all ownership, copyright and related intellectual property rights in any course materials, and must not distribute them outside of the class or use them for private financial gain.
6. No eating during the class. Drinking water is fine.

Learning Objectives

- Course introduction
- To examine 3 genres of news English
- To compare broadsheets & tabloids
- To analyze the functions of news

About Me



Course Introduction

- **WHAT** to learn?
- **WHY** to learn?
- **HOW** to learn?
- How to **assess**?

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The Guardian

Newspaper of the year

Budget plan risks forcing UK into second lost decade, Hunt warned

Exclusive
Richard Partington
Aletha Adu

Jeremy Hunt has been told the budget on Wednesday risks condemning Britain to a "lost decade" for living standards that would leave working families £1,900 a year worse off.

The chancellor enters a crunch week under pressure from his party to deliver a package of pre-election

tax cuts, but analysis by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF) finds a widening gap between these political demands and the reality facing millions of struggling people.

The poverty charity said tackling Britain's public realm and tackling NHS waiting lists ranked significantly higher in the list of voter priorities than the level of tax on earnings.

Publishing a poll by YouGov of almost 5,000 people across Britain, it found almost three-quarters were

"very worried" or "fairly worried" about funding for the NHS and other public services, compared with less than half who were concerned about tax on earnings.

Speaking yesterday, Hunt argued he wanted to move Britain towards becoming a lower-tax economy, but he would only be able to do so "as and when we can afford it".

Hosing down Tory hopes for a large package of giveaways in a round of media interviews, the chancellor said

Inside

Hunt will talk the budget long game as he scrabbles around for tax cut cash
Larry Elliott, page 30

Look around you. After 14 years of austerity, Britain can't take any more cuts
John Harris, Journal, page 1

the most "unconservative" thing he could do would be to announce tax cuts funded by higher borrowing. "This will be a prudent and responsible budget for long-term growth," he said.

Hunt is grappling with self-imposed rules requiring government debt to be falling as a share of the economy by the fifth year of forecasts made by the Office for Budget Responsibility, the tax and spending watchdog.

"Almost everything, every day, reminded us of Nadav and Yim," said Almag-Goldstein of their 51 days in captivity. "But when we'd cry, we'd quickly have to wipe our faces and snap out of it because our guards would tell us to be happy, which in itself was a sort of emotional harm. We didn't have the space to grieve."

The family were moved from tunnels to apartments, and later to a supermarket and a mosque, sometimes on foot and once on a donkey cart, as the bombardment intensified. Almag-Goldstein was more worried at times that she and her daughter, Agam, 17, and sons Gal, 11, and Tal, nine, would be killed by the Israeli offensive than by their captors, who once shielded the family with their bodies as shrapnel rained around them.

The family, who were released on 26 November as part of a week-long ceasefire deal, are trying to rebuild their lives but they still don't have a permanent home.

On 7 October, the family had barricaded themselves in Yam's bedroom, which served as the safe room of their home in the Kfar Aza kibbutz. Five hours later, five Hamas gunmen burst in and killed Nadav, 48, with a shot to the chest. The family had to step over the talented triathlete's body as the militants led them outside, where Yam fainted. Almag-Goldstein tried to wet her daughter's face in the bathroom before going to check on her other children. When she returned seconds later, she saw that Yam, a soldier just two months from the end of

'Constant terror' of woman held hostage in Gaza

Emine Sinmaz
Shefayim

Chen Almag-Goldstein refuses to forget her eldest daughter's last moments. Yam, 20, was gasping for breath, having been shot in the face by Hamas gunmen who had killed her father minutes earlier.

Almag-Goldstein, 49, did not see Yam or her husband, Nadav, again because she and her three surviving children were bundled into a car and abducted. During the seven-minute journey across the border into Gaza on 7 October, their two captors smiled and took photographs of the traumatised mother and children.

▲ The family from left: Agam, Gal, Nadav, Chen, Tal and Yim. Nadav, 48, and 20-year-old Yam were both killed on 7 October

I. What to learn?

- News (**hard news**)
- Features (**soft news**)
- Editorials/commentaries (**opinion article**)
- Non-fiction

in major US and UK **quality newspapers** and
magazines

Skim two news articles in 10 mins, focusing on the main ideas and overall structure

1. “Victims of Las Vegas massacre – the deadliest US shooting – could get up to \$800M from MGM,” *USA TODAY*, Oct 3, 2019.
2. “Guns Aren’t a Bulwark Against Tyranny. The Rule of Law Is.” *The New York Times*, Dec 1, 2017.

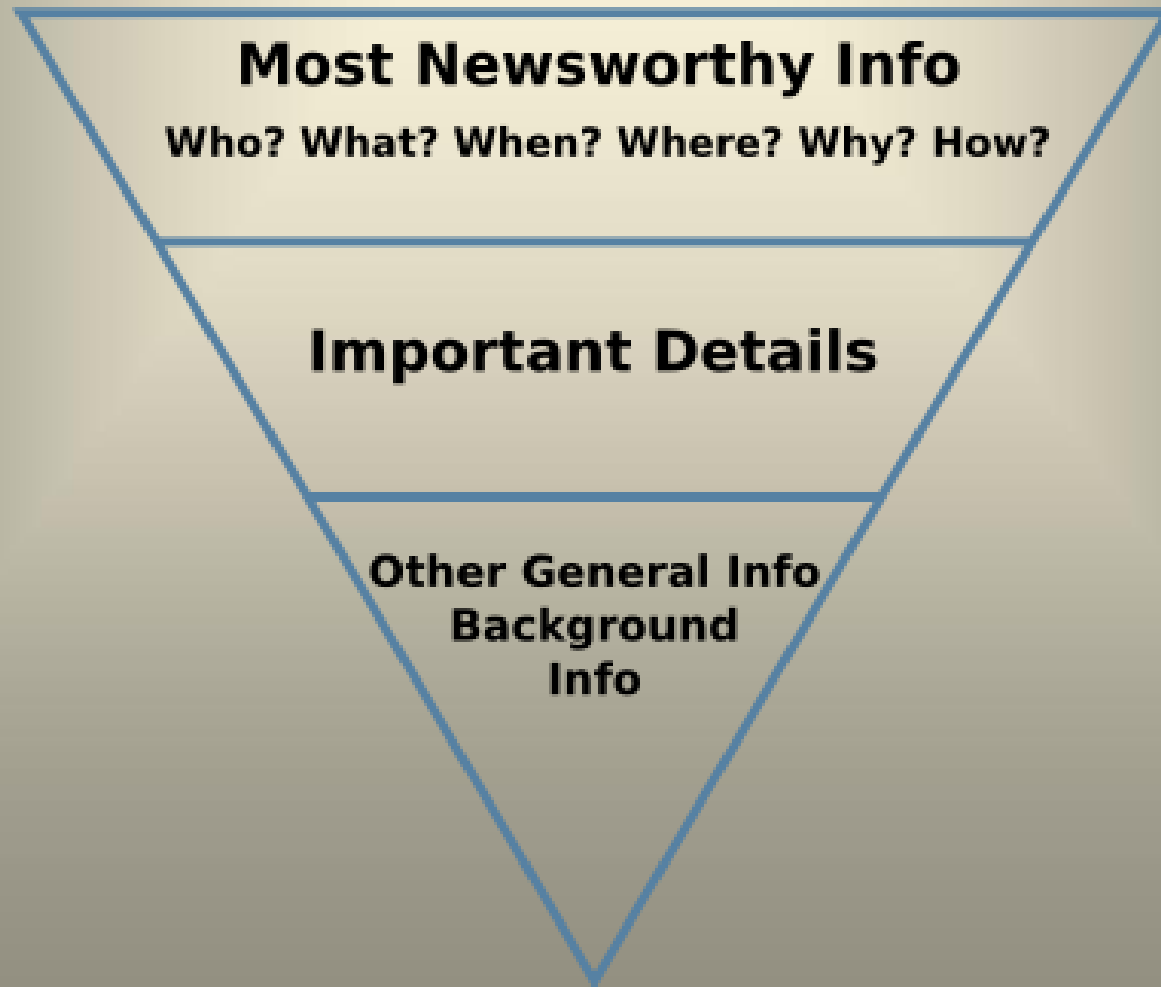
Discuss 3 questions in groups, in 5 mins

1. What do the 2 articles have in common?
2. What are their differences?
3. How do you quickly decide on what type of writings they are?

Hard news

- Hard news tells about a **current event** that **affects the audience**.
- Examples:
 - Gas prices up again
 - 14 shot, 1 killed in shooting at Las Vegas hookah lounge, police say
- Features:
 - Timely and concise
 - Include all key info (who, what, where, why, when and how) in the 1st paragraph
 - Present the more important info first and the less important details toward the end

Typical Structure of Hard News: **inverted pyramid**

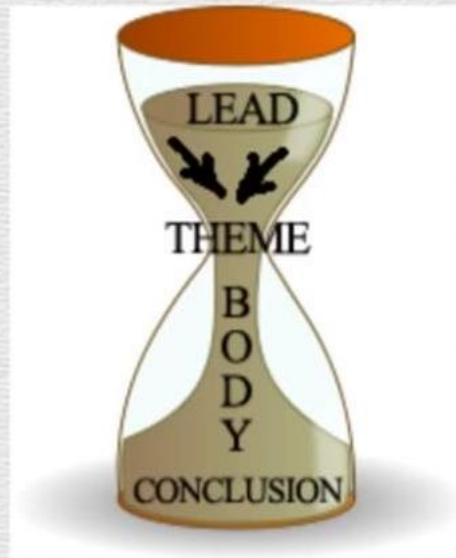


Soft news (Feature stories)

- A feature story is not about the informational news; it's about **human interest**.
- Examples:
 - A day in the life of a Russian soldier
 - A town's history
 - A new trend in Sci & Tech
- Features:
 - Not necessarily timely or concise
 - Can be written less formally than a hard news story
 - Might include an interesting, odd or heartwarming story
 - Are presented in a variety of journalistic styles
 - Becomes an umbrella term for many forms, such as personality sketches (profile), narratives, interviews, exposés, how-to's, columns.

Feature Hourglass

How it works



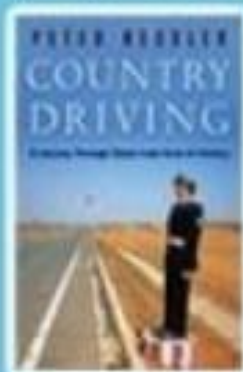
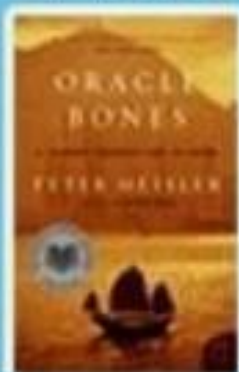
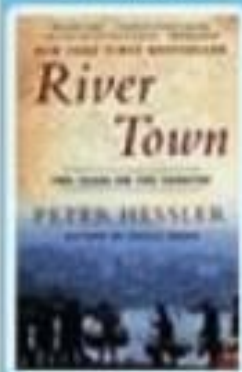
Summary of What to Learn

- News (**hard news**: informative article) 新闻
 - Feature (**soft news**: human interest, depth, background, journalist's vision) 特写
 - Editorial/commentary (**opinion article**) 社论/评论
 - Non-fiction 非虚构 (writing about facts and real events, rather than invented stories; tell a good story; could borrow literary devices)
- quality newspaper (broadsheet 大报) vs. tabloid (小报)

江城

甲骨文

寻路中国



PETER HESSLER

何伟

“中国三部曲”



Svetlana Alexievich (Belarus)

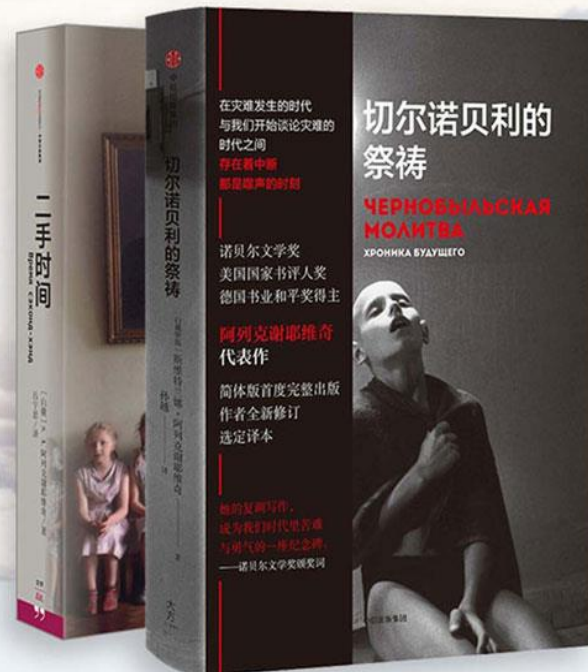
- ✓ *Voices from Chernobyl: The Oral History of a Nuclear Disaster*
- ✓ *Secondhand Time: The Last of the Soviets*

blends journalism and literature as a means to create “**a history of human feelings.**”

阿列克谢耶维奇作品系列

《切尔诺贝利的祭祷》+《二手时间》

(套装全2册)



中信出版集团

It takes a village

By Yang Yang | China Daily | 2021-03-16

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202103/16/WS604ff429a31024ad0baaf5c8_2.html

Liang's trilogy is based on her home village: *China in Liangzhuang Village*, *Out of Liangzhuang Village*, and *Liangzhuang Village in the Last Decade*.





The aftermath of an Israeli missile strike on Gaza Wednesday. The Israeli Defense Forces said it hit Hamas's headquarters in the city of Gaza.

ISRAELI MISSILE INTO GAZA KILLS A HUMAN LEADER

WIDE-SCALE KILLING

Security Forces Say 10
Other Hamas Leaders
by Peter Hain

By Peter Hain

ISRAELI MISSILE STRIKES ON GAZA WEDNESDAY KILLED A HUMAN LEADER OF THE HAMAS GROUP, THE ISRAELI DEFENSE FORCES SAID. THE STRIKE ALSO KILLED 10 OTHER HAMAS LEADERS, THE FORCES SAID. THE STRIKE WAS PART OF A WIDE-SCALE KILLING OF HAMAS LEADERS BY ISRAELI MISSILES.

Obama Details Lines of Battle In Budget Plan

by Mark Hershenson

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11 — President Bush's budget plan for 2002, unveiled Wednesday, laid out a clear picture of the administration's priorities for the coming year. The plan, which was unveiled in a speech by the president, focused on the lines of battle in the war on terrorism, the economy, and the environment.

Crisis at EBC Brought Rules, Then a Failure

by Mark Hershenson

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11 — The crisis at the Emergency Broadcast System (EBC) on Wednesday was a failure of the system's rules, not the system itself, according to a report by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

Uprooted in Storm, Students Endure Ties to Claim

by Mark Hershenson

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11 — Students at the University of California, Berkeley, who were uprooted from their homes by a storm on Wednesday, are enduring the ties to their claim of being victims of the storm.



President of Power in China

By Hain, who is the vice president of the Chinese government, and the vice president of the Chinese government.

Funny Pitch No More: Mets' Knuckleballer Wins League Honors

by Mark Hershenson

NEW YORK, Jan. 11 — The Mets' knuckleballer, Pedro Martinez, won the National League MVP award on Wednesday.

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Guarded Before in Europe

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11 — A woman who was guarded before in Europe, according to a report by the FBI, is now being guarded in the United States.



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Sun+ LOTTO

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JOIN SUN+ FOR CHANCE TO WIN TEN EXOTIC PRIZES

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1,200 KILLED BY MENTAL PATIENTS

Shock 10-year toll exposes care crisis

Tam's a man eater

He smokes when he wants

FORGERS IN THE SUN

quality Newspaper (compact) vs. tabloid



University chiefs scorn Miliband's fees policy

Reduction to £6,000 a year 'will only help rich'

Greg Hurst Education Editor

Labour's plan to cut tuition fees to £6,000 a year risks 'colossal damage' to universities and will only help better-off graduates, Britain's top academics are warning.

In a letter to *The Times*, leaders of England's universities have appealed to Ed Miliband to abandon the policy, calling it 'implausible' that he could guarantee to replace the £10 billion of lost revenue over five years.

Several have gone further, accusing the Labour leader of failing to understand that cutting fees would only benefit higher-earning graduates and could remove opportunities for poorer students, who are applying in record numbers. Under the present system, graduates start paying back their loans only once they earn more than £21,000 a year.

The pre-emptive strike by vice-chancellors reflects frustration that months of private lobbying appear to have been rebuffed by Mr Miliband. Such a public challenge to Labour policy is highly unusual from university leaders. Many are sympathetic to the party and have proved notoriously reluctant to speak out.

Their opposition comes at a tough moment for Mr Miliband, who is facing growing criticism of his leadership and election strategy from prominent figures within his party. Yesterday, he faced a further blow as the executive chairman of Alliance Boots, Stefano Pessina, warned that a Labour government would be a 'catastrophe' for Britain. This prompted a furious reaction from Labour MPs, who said that Mr Pessina did not live in Britain and that he paid tax overseas. The vice-chancellors

fear that Mr Miliband's plans to lower tuition fees by £1,000 would mean that a future Labour government would have to have find an extra £12 billion a year to fund universities, which could be squeezed in subsequent years.

"This is purely a pragmatic issue, but a policy as evolving on the hoof which is not really a practical policy going forward and the potential damage is colossal," Sir Christopher Snowden, vice-chancellor of the University of Surrey, said.

When Tony Blair raised fees to £1,000 in 2004, ministers pleaded with vice-chancellors to come out in support, but almost all refused. The legislation survived a Commons vote with a majority of five. They are now concerned that universities risk falling victim to a pledge that has been made for electoral gain.

Sir Christopher, who is also president of Universities UK, the vice-chancellors' body, said: "I really feel Labour has missed the point here. If you talk to students and to many mums and dads, the £9,000 fee is no longer the key issue."

"It was when it was first introduced, because people were very concerned about how this would map out. But the real issue is actually substance, the cost of living at university, particularly for students from lower socioeconomic backgrounds. This hasn't been addressed at all by Labour."

This view was echoed by Simon Gaskell, president of Queen Mary University London, in the capital's east, which has the highest proportion of disadvantaged students of any Russell Group university. "What our students tell us is that clearly the debts incurred through fees is important, but what

Continued on page 6, col 4

Britain isn't ready for Charles and his activism, fears Queen



Valentine Low

The Queen fears that Britain may not be ready for the radical new style of monarchy envisaged by her eldest son, according to the new biography of the Prince of Wales.

Catherine Mayer, the author, says that the prince intends to be a more campaigning kind of sovereign than his mother, but some courtiers at Buckingham Palace — as well as the Queen herself — feel that the country is not prepared for the "shock of the new".

Mayer also says that the Duke of Edinburgh is among his harshest critics and believes the prince to be guilty of "selfish behaviour" in putting his "cerebral passions" before his royal duties.

Charles: *The Heart of a King*, serialised in *The Times*, argues that the prince has ambitions which mean "he will never be content as just a figurehead". Describing the prince as a man of "extraordinary achievements and sometimes equally extraordinary mistakes", Mayer says that his passion for conducting a wide range of causes has caused disquiet at Buckingham Palace. "In the corridors and back rooms and private apartments of Buckingham Palace there is mounting anxiety as the Queen's reign enters what an insider calls 'its inevitable twilight', she writes. "In defining his role as heir apparent, the prince has signalled a redefinition of the monarchy. Some courtiers — and the sovereign herself — fear that neither the Crown nor its subjects will tolerate the shock of the new."

The prince who for all his regal ambition is said by Mayer to "flood" the death of his parents, is planning to introduce "a potential new model of kingship."

He told the author: "I only take on the most difficult challenges. Because I want to raise aspirations and re-create hope from hopelessness and health from deprivation."

His detractors believe that he should temper his campaigning tendencies. Drawing a parallel with Edward VIII, who abdicated to marry Wallis Simpson, Mayer writes: "Some of Prince Charles' harshest critics within the palace (his father tops the list, says a well-placed source) accuse the current heir to the throne of similarly selfish behaviour. It's not that they blame him for choosing Camilla over Diana. They feel he puts his more cerebral passions — his activism — before his royal job."

Charles on a quest, pages 10-11
Libby Purves, page 17



IN THE NEWS

Taxman's new target

Middle-class professionals who earn more than £50,000 a year have replaced super-rich celebrities as the focus of the government's campaign against tax dodging. **Page 4**

Ukulele sales surge

Sales of the ukulele have surged after a revival among pop bands. The instrument made famous by George Formby is also replacing the recorder in schools. **Page 17**

Egypt frees journalist

Egypt has freed Peter Greste, the Australian Al Jazeera journalist accused of spreading lies, after 400 days in prison. His conviction was widely condemned. **Page 30**

Crossrail 2 charge

Homeowners and businesses in the southeast could be forced to help fund the proposed Crossrail 2 line in London. The bill is expected to rise to £27 billion. **Page 37**

Murray misery

Andy Murray admitted that he was distracted by an apparent injury to Novak Djokovic after losing his fourth Australian Open tennis final in six years. **Page 64**

IF THIS SOMEONE'S IDEA



tabloid vs. broadsheet (in UK)

	tabloids	broadsheets
format	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•279*432 mm (11*17 in.)•“Red tops”	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•375*597 mm (14.8*23.5 in.)•Folded in half horizontally
content	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•“gossipy”: sensational or scandalous new items•Give more prominence to celebrities, sports, crime stories, and even hoaxes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•covers all national and international news, often in a serious or formal way
style	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•aims at teenagers, those on the move and working class•simple, more informal writing style: cop (police officer)•dominated by pictures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•aims at the intellect•quality, serious-minded newspapers•emphasis on texts•fewer photographs: to illustrate
examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•The Sun•The Daily Mirror•The Daily Star	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•The Daily Telegraph (The Sunday Telegraph)•The Financial Times•The Sunday Times



Obama sets pay cap for execs in bailout
A new pay cap for executives in the bailout is set to be released today.



Flood of giant water found
A new discovery of a giant water source is set to be released today.

Can New Jersey's economy survive?
A new report on the economy of New Jersey is set to be released today.

Obama's new law on health care
A new law on health care is set to be released today.

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A time of fear and pessimism — but not for all Americans
A new report on the state of the nation is set to be released today.

Feelings about economy
A new report on the economy is set to be released today.

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Traffic deaths decline in 42 states

Gas prices, economy key to plunge in USA

A new report on traffic deaths is set to be released today.

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Advice gets life in prison for murder
A new report on a murder case is set to be released today.

Such losses could
A new report on losses is set to be released today.

Thank you
A new report on a thank you is set to be released today.

Obama's new law on health care
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RUBIO IN, CALLS CLINTON 'YESTERDAY'



A new report on Rubio and Clinton is set to be released today.

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Lobbying rules leave loophole

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BEHIND EVERY PLAY, A NATION.
March 6th - 23rd. 14 games. 14 teams. One champion.

Get your tickets now at www.2015worldcup.com

100 years later
A new report on the 100th anniversary is set to be released today.

USA Today

- An internationally distributed American daily **middle-market** newspaper
- a generally **centrist audience**
- What are the most circulated newspapers in the US?

Most circulated newspapers in the US

- 1. The Wall Street Journal***
- 2. USA Today***
- 3. The New York Times***

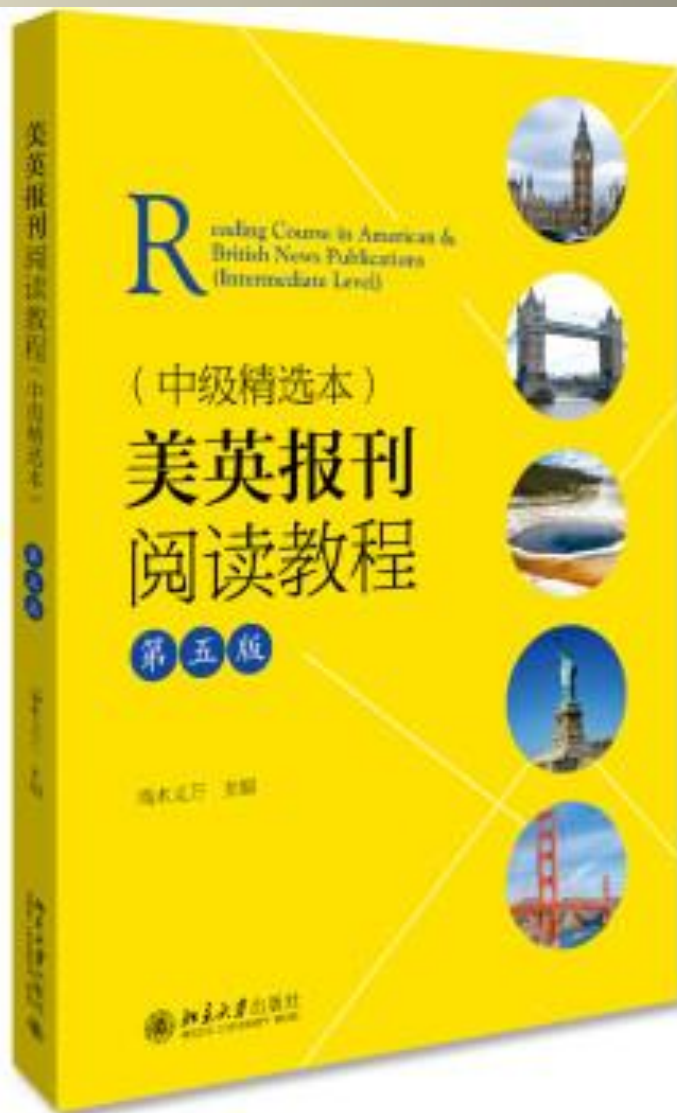
<https://www.usatoday.com/>

Major daily quality newspapers in the UK

1. *The Times***s**
2. *The Financial Times*
3. *The Guardian*
4. *The Daily Telegraph*

Textbook

端木义万主编 《美英报刊阅读教程（中级精选本）》（第五版），北京大学出版社，2019。



II Why to learn?

- expand advanced vocabulary; master idiomatic English expressions in real contexts
- timely access to information around the world
- in-depth understanding of the US and UK society and culture
- global perspectives and cross-cultural communication skills
- critical thinking and self-learning ability

III How to learn

reading skill & media literacy

- major quality newspapers and magazines in the US and the UK
- advanced vocabulary
- language features of news English
- essay organization
- genres of news English
- social-cultural backgrounds
- ideas and perspectives:

Have national consciousness:

Be aware of political bias of Western Media!!!

IV Class Assessment

- Attendance & class participation: 10%
- Presentation: 20%
- News commentary: 20%
- Open-book test: 50%

Attendance

- An absent student must provide a written notice with valid reasons
- A student absent for **1/3 (3 meetings)** of the course will be disqualified for the final and the course

Guidelines for presentation

- **Present ≠ Read**
- PPT slides are optional
- Time for the presentation: **3 min**
- Time for feedback: 1-2 min
- explain **technical terms in plain English**
- list **sources of data and quotes**
- **Meaning (What?) + significance (So what?)**

Homework for everyone

Buy the textbook ASAP

- Preview

1. [The New York Times sues OpenAI and Microsoft for copyright infringement | CNN Business](#) Wed December 27, 2023 (distributed via QQ)
2. Preview #10 “Reining in the Test of Tests? ”, pp. 189-
3. Language features: *USA Today*, pp. 123-124
4. Language features: 特写文章导语, pp. 177-178

Presentations in next class (3/11)

1. What is OpenAI, and why was it sued by NYT?
2. In your opinion, does OpenAI violate copyrights?
3. How to embrace AI with necessary limits?

Questions?

