



NEWSPAPERS

Newspapers serve as valuable sources of information.

They usually contain:

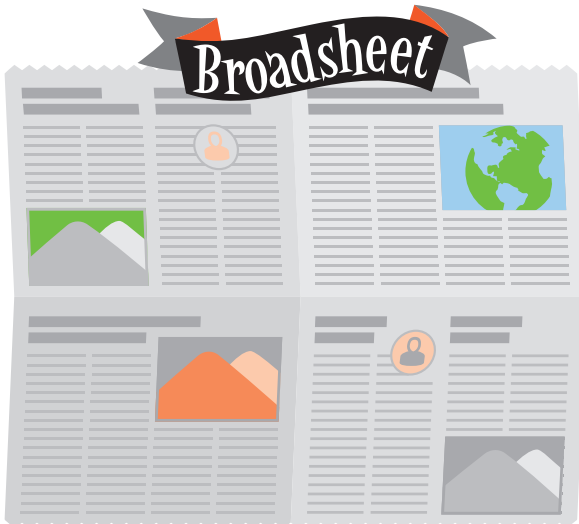
- Professional standard of accuracy and balance in views
- Wide coverage of topics from respective experts
- Provision of information, insight and instruction through different types of articles

Newspapers can be useful as a learning tool in classrooms. Use this cheatsheet to understand more about the types of newspapers and the different ways to access them in Singapore.



Types

Broadsheet



- Newspaper with a large format with a size of generally 750 by 600mm.
- Known for journalism that gives more in-depth coverage on affairs that are on a national or international scale.

Tabloid



- Newspaper in a smaller format with the size of around 430 by 280mm
- Usually covers news in a more sensational style with emphasis on images

Berliner



- Also known as "midi", this format is in-between a broadsheet and tabloid
- In the size of around 470 by 315 mm
- Used by many popular European newspapers



Forms of Access

With the advent of technology, newspapers have shifted from physical forms to digital forms. News today is available on various digital platforms.

You will be able to find both digital and physical forms of newspapers using resources provided by the National Library Board (NLB).

1. Digital



A. Current

The NLB's e-Resources (eresources.nlb.gov.sg) provides online access to daily news updates via databases such as:

- **Library PressDisplay**
Offers full-colour digital replications of an extensive range of newspapers from more than 80 countries around the world. It includes local tabloids such as 'Today' and 'My Paper'.
- **Factiva**
Factiva offers both current and archival records of business news and information on both local and international platforms.
Local sources include:
 - Berita Harian Singapore
 - Business Times Singapore
 - The New paper
 - Channel NewsAsia
 - The Straits Times

B. Archives

- **NewspaperSG**

The newspapers in Singapore and Malaya, dating all the way back to 1831, can be retrieved from this online archives database (newspapers.nl.sg).

- **Microfilms**

Microfilms are films that bear photographic records of printed material (such as newspapers). Reader machines are required to view these reels.

The newspaper microfilm collection of NLB is based at Lee Kong Chian Reference Library in the National Library Building. Newspapers from the early days, such as the Singapore Chronicle – the first newspaper published in Singapore in 1827, are available in this collection.



2. Physical



Copies of daily local newspapers are available in the **Public Library branches** for walk-in users. Back-dated copies are usually kept for up to three months.



Smart Searching

By looking out for the option tabs available on newspaper databases, you can set your search fields and get your results more quickly and efficiently.

Using **newspapers.nl.sg** database as an example, you can apply the following search techniques:

Knowing your Search Options

Advanced Search

Under 'Advanced Search', there is a selection of different categories that can help you refine your search. You can toggle options relating to

- Content Type
- Date Range
- Newspaper title

This search option is useful particularly when you are looking for a specific article. Refining your search will help you save the hassle of sieving through a long list of unrelated results.

Limiting your Search

After entering the results list page, you can choose to further adjust your search options using the column 'Limit my search' at the right hand side.

'Add' the search categories such as word count and year to get an even more focused results list to find your article.

Be sure to look out for such advanced search tabs in any of the other databases as well!

Sources:

Newspapers.co.uk (2009) 'Newspaper Types and Formats' Retrieved from <http://www.newspapers.co.uk/newspaper-types-and-formats/> on 5 June 2013
Chua, M.H (2 September, 2013) 'How an ST editor picks the news for publication' *The Straits Times*, p.A22

