

Kaggle Mini-Project: BBC News Classification

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August 10, 2025

Week 4 Part 1 Peer-Graded Assignment
CSCA 5632: *Unsupervised Algorithms in Machine Learning*

[GitHub-Week 4 Kaggle News Classification](#)

[View BBC News Classification Analysis \(Live HTML\)](#)

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Section 1: Introduction

For this project, I'm jumping into the **BBC News Classification** challenge on Kaggle. I've got a dataset with about 1,500 news articles that fall into one of five categories: `business`, `entertainment`, `politics`, `sport`, or `tech`.

My main goal is to use **Non-negative Matrix Factorization (NMF)** to classify the articles. Since NMF is an unsupervised method typically used for topic modeling, it'll be interesting to see if it can "discover" these news categories on its own, without being told what they are beforehand.

To see how well NMF performs, I'll also build a standard **Supervised Learning** model as a benchmark. After comparing the two, I'll use my best model to create a final submission for the competition.

My Game Plan:

1. **Explore the Data (EDA):** First, I'll dig into the dataset to see what I'm working with.
2. **Pre-process the Text:** I'll convert the raw article text into a numerical format (TF-IDF) that my models can understand.
3. **Model with NMF:** This is the core of the project—using NMF to find topic clusters.
4. **Model with Logistic Regression:** I'll train a supervised model to see how it compares.
5. **Evaluate & Conclude:** Finally, I'll compare the results and create my submission file.

Section 2: Setup and Library Imports

Before I begin, the first step is to set up my environment by importing all the necessary Python libraries. This ensures I have all the tools for data manipulation, visualization, text processing, and modeling ready to go.

I'm including the standard libraries like `pandas` and `scikit-learn`, but also adding `WordCloud` and `NLTK` to allow for more advanced analysis and visualizations later on.

Resources & Data Source

- **Kaggle Competition:** BBC News Classification
- **Data Sets used** [Data Set Download Link](#)
 - `BBC News Train.csv` : The training set (1490 articles) used to build the models.
 - `BBC News Test.csv` : The test set (735 articles) for which predictions are made.
 - `BBC News Sample Solution.csv` : An example of the required submission file format.

This notebook was developed using the Jupyter Notebook extension within Visual Studio Code, which provided a streamlined and efficient interface for the project.

2.1 Optional Install Missing Packages

If you get a `ModuleNotFoundError` when running the main import cell, install the missing package(s) directly from inside this notebook.

This ensures the install happens in the same Python environment Jupyter is using.

Instructions:

1. Uncomment the relevant `%pip install` line(s) below.
2. Run the cell.
3. Wait until you see the "Successfully installed" message.
4. In the Jupyter menu, go to **Kernel → Restart**.
5. Re-run your imports.

Note: Restarting the kernel is required after installing a new package so the notebook can detect it.

```
In [1]: # Uncomment and run the lines you need
# %pip install jupyterlab
# %pip install notebook
# %pip install pandas
# %pip install numpy
# %pip install matplotlib
# %pip install seaborn
# %pip install wordcloud
# %pip install nltk
# %pip install jinja2
# %pip install scikit-Learn
# %pip install transformers
# %pip install torch
# %pip install umap-learn
# %pip install ipywidgets
# %pip install tqdm
# %pip install joblib
# %pip install kaggle

# Optional Instructions: Export the notebook to HTML or PDF (uncomment and delete the leading slash to run)
# Most Jupyter installations include nbconvert but if the commands below fail you can check your version and/or install if needed
#/ !jupyter nbconvert --version # Uncomment and remove Leading / to check your version if needed - as of today is it7.16.6
# %pip install nbconvert # Uncomment and install nbconvert if needed

# --- Convert Jupyter Notebook .ipynb to .html ---
!jupyter nbconvert --to html "Week4_Kaggle_BBC_News_Classification.ipynb"

# --- Convert Jupyter Notebook .ipynb to .pdf ---
# Note: I left this, but you will get a visually better pdf if you export to .html. Open in Chrome, print to .pdf.
# Complex plots or highly styled HTML (like the headers in this notebook) will not look exactly the same in .pdf export as they do in the notebook.
#/ !jupyter nbconvert --to pdf "Week4_Kaggle_BBC_News_Classification.ipynb"

[NbConvertApp] Converting notebook Week4_Kaggle_BBC_News_Classification.ipynb to html
[NbConvertApp] WARNING | Alternative text is missing on 31 image(s).
[NbConvertApp] Writing 10573542 bytes to Week4_Kaggle_BBC_News_Classification.html
```

2.2 Load Data Files and Diagnostics

This cell imports all core Python libraries required for the project, including data handling, visualization, NLP, and modeling tools.

It also checks for optional dependencies (e.g., Transformers, UMAP, WordCloud) without failing if they are missing.

Environment and library versions are printed for reproducibility and peer review.

```
In [2]: # Core imports
# If any ModuleNotFoundError appears, scroll up and run the "Optional: Install Missing Packages" cell, then Kernel → Restart.

# Data and utilities
import os, sys, warnings, time, itertools
import numpy as np
import pandas as pd
import tqdm as tq
from tqdm import tqdm
import json
import joblib

# Visualization
print("-" * 70)
print("--- Importing visualization libraries ---")
print("Matplotlib may build a font cache the first time. It's normal.")
print("--- Which Jupyter you are running? ---")
!where jupyter
!jupyter --version
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import matplotlib.patches as mpatches
import matplotlib.colors as mcolors
import matplotlib.ticker as mticker
from matplotlib.colors import ListedColormap
from matplotlib import cm
# Axes3D triggers a deprecation warning in newer Matplotlib, but still works if you really need 3D
```

```

from mpl_toolkits.mplot3d import Axes3D

# Seaborn is recommended for better aesthetics
try:
    import seaborn as sns
except Exception as e:
    print("seaborn not available:", repr(e))

# Dimensionality reduction (UMAP)
try:
    import umap
    _ = umap.UMAP
except Exception as e:
    print("UMAP not available. Install with: %pip install umap-learn")
    print("Details:", repr(e))

# Text + modeling
import nltk
from sklearn.feature_extraction import text
from sklearn.feature_extraction.text import CountVectorizer, TfidfVectorizer
from sklearn.decomposition import NMF
from sklearn.linear_model import LogisticRegression
from sklearn.metrics import accuracy_score, confusion_matrix, classification_report
from sklearn.exceptions import ConvergenceWarning
from sklearn.model_selection import StratifiedKFold, cross_val_score
from sklearn.utils._testing import ignore_warnings
from sklearn.metrics import make_scorer, f1_score
from sklearn.preprocessing import LabelEncoder
from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split

# Jupyter display helpers
from IPython.display import display, HTML

# Transformers stack is optional for Section 7. Wrap to avoid hard failures on Windows setups.
try:
    from transformers import BertTokenizer, BertModel
    import torch
except Exception as e:
    print("Transformers/Torch not available. You can install later if needed.")
    print("Details:", repr(e))

# umap is optional for Section 8. Wrap to avoid hard failures on Windows setups.
import umap as umap_
umap_model = umap_.UMAP(n_neighbors=15, min_dist=0.1, random_state=42)

# Set random seed for reproducibility across NumPy and Python's built-in random
import random
SEED = 42
random.seed(SEED)
np.random.seed(SEED)

# Display environment and library versions for reproducibility and peer review
import sys, platform, sklearn, matplotlib, seaborn

# Print environment information
print("-" * 70)
print("--- Environment and library versions ---")
print("Python:", sys.version.split()[0])
print("OS:", platform.system(), platform.release())
print("NumPy:", np.__version__)
print("Pandas:", pd.__version__)
print("scikit-learn:", sklearn.__version__)
print("Matplotlib:", matplotlib.__version__)
print("Seaborn:", seaborn.__version__)
print("tqdm:", tq.__version__)
print("NLTK:", nltk.__version__)
print("joblib:", joblib.__version__)

# Optional Libraries are wrapped in try/except so the cell does not fail if they are not yet installed.
# These packages are only required for later sections (e.g., BERT or UMAP visualizations).

# WordCloud for text visualization
try:
    import wordcloud
    from wordcloud import WordCloud
    print("WordCloud:", wordcloud.__version__)
except ImportError:
    print("WordCloud not available")

# Transformers and PyTorch for advanced NLP tasks
try:
    import torch, transformers, umap
    print("PyTorch:", torch.__version__)
    print("Transformers:", transformers.__version__)
    print("UMAP:", umap.__version__)
except ImportError:
    pass

# Jupyter widgets for interactive visualizations

```

```

try:
    import ipywidgets
    print("ipywidgets:", ipywidgets.__version__)
except ImportError:
    print("ipywidgets not available")

# Jinja2 for templating (optional, used in some visualizations)
try:
    import jinja2
    print("Jinja2:", jinja2.__version__)
except ImportError:
    print("Jinja2 not available")

# Ignore convergence warnings from scikit-Learn
warnings.filterwarnings("ignore", category=ConvergenceWarning)

print("--- Libraries imported successfully ---")
print("-" * 70)

```

```

--- Importing visualization libraries ---
Matplotlib may build a font cache the first time. It's normal.
--- Which Jupyter you are running? ---
c:\Users\travi\AppData\Roaming\Python\Python313\Scripts\jupyter.exe
Selected Jupyter core packages...
IPython      : 9.4.0
ipykernel    : 6.30.1
ipywidgets   : 8.1.7
jupyter_client : 8.6.3
jupyter_core  : 5.8.1
jupyter_server: 2.16.0
jupyterlab    : 4.4.5
nbclient     : 0.10.2
nbconvert    : 7.16.6
nbformat     : 5.10.4
notebook     : 7.4.5
qtconsole    : 5.6.1
traitlets    : 5.14.3
-----
--- Environment and library versions ---
Python: 3.13.6
OS: Windows 11
NumPy: 2.2.6
Pandas: 2.3.1
scikit-learn: 1.7.1
Matplotlib: 3.10.5
Seaborn: 0.13.2
tqdm: 4.67.1
NLTK: 3.9.1
joblib: 1.5.1
WordCloud: 1.9.4
PyTorch: 2.8.0+cpu
Transformers: 4.55.0
UMAP: 0.5.9.post2
ipywidgets: 8.1.7
Jinja2: 3.1.6
--- Libraries imported successfully ---
-----
```

Observations - Environment and Library Versions

At the time this notebook was last run (8/10/2025), the environment was configured as follows:

- **Python:** 3.13.6
- **OS:** Windows 11
- **NumPy:** 2.2.6
- **Pandas:** 2.3.1
- **scikit-learn:** 1.7.1
- **Matplotlib:** 3.10.5
- **Seaborn:** 0.13.2
- **tqdm:** 4.67.1
- **NLTK:** 3.9.1
- **joblib:** 1.5.1
- **WordCloud:** 1.9.4
- **PyTorch:** 2.8.0+cpu
- **Transformers:** 4.55.0
- **UMAP:** 0.5.9.post2
- **ipywidgets:** 8.1.7
- **Jinja2:** 3.1.6

These versions reflect the state of the libraries during notebook development and testing.

Future updates to these packages may result in changes to preprocessing, model behavior, or output formatting.

Reproducing results may require matching these versions.

Section 3: Data Loading & Audit

With the environment set up, my first step is to load the data files. Immediately after loading, I'll run a comprehensive audit to ensure the data is clean and to get a complete overview before analysis. This audit will include checking the data's dimensions, looking for duplicate rows, generating summary statistics for any numerical columns, and displaying a sample of the data to verify it loaded correctly.

3.1 Load Data Files

The first step is to load the three provided CSV files into individual DataFrames. This will bring the training data, test data, and sample submission template into memory so they are ready for inspection and analysis. Confirming successful loading here prevents chasing downstream errors caused by missing or misread files.

```
In [3]: # Load the three provided CSV files into separate DataFrames.  
# The files are expected to be in the same directory as this script.  
df_train = pd.read_csv('BBC News Train.csv')  
df_test = pd.read_csv('BBC News Test.csv')  
df_solution = pd.read_csv('BBC News Sample Solution.csv')  
  
print("\n" + "-"*70)  
print("--- Data loaded successfully! ---")  
print("-"*70)  
  
# Show the absolute path and confirm file sizes  
for fname in ['BBC News Train.csv', 'BBC News Test.csv', 'BBC News Sample Solution.csv']:  
    # Check if the file exists and print its absolute path and size  
    print(f"Checking file: {fname}")  
    if not os.path.isfile(fname):  
        print(f"{fname} not found in the current directory.")  
        continue  
    if os.path.exists(fname):  
        abs_path = os.path.abspath(fname)  
        size_kb = os.path.getsize(fname) / 1024  
        print(f"{fname} | {abs_path} | {size_kb:.1f} KB")  
    else:  
        print(f"{fname} not found.")  
  
print("-"*70 + "\n")  
  
-----  
--- Data loaded successfully! ---  
  
-----  
Checking file: BBC News Train.csv  
BBC News Train.csv | c:\Users\travi\Documents\Training\Colorado\MS-AI\Machine Learning Theory and Hands-on Practice with Python Specialization\Un  
supervised Algorithms in Machine Learning\Module 4\Week 4 Kaggle BBC News Project Final\BBC News Train.csv | 3272.7 KB  
Checking file: BBC News Test.csv  
BBC News Test.csv | c:\Users\travi\Documents\Training\Colorado\MS-AI\Machine Learning Theory and Hands-on Practice with Python Specialization\Un  
supervised Algorithms in Machine Learning\Module 4\Week 4 Kaggle BBC News Project Final\BBC News Test.csv | 1672.3 KB  
Checking file: BBC News Sample Solution.csv  
BBC News Sample Solution.csv | c:\Users\travi\Documents\Training\Colorado\MS-AI\Machine Learning Theory and Hands-on Practice with Python Special  
ization\Unsupervised Algorithms in Machine Learning\Module 4\Week 4 Kaggle BBC News Project Final\BBC News Sample Solution.csv | 10.1 KB  
-----
```

3.2 Initial Data Audit

With the data loaded, the next step is a high-level audit to verify structure and integrity. This includes:

- Checking DataFrame dimensions for row and column counts.
- Displaying sample rows to confirm that columns and values match expectations.
- Reviewing `.info()` output to assess data types and identify any missing values.
- Checking for duplicate rows in the training set.
- Checking for duplicate `ArticleId` values in the test set.
- Generating summary statistics for any numeric columns.
- Reviewing text length statistics to identify unusually short or long articles.
- Examining the distribution of the target variable (`Category`) with both counts and percentages to assess class balance.

```
In [4]: # Check the dimensions of each DataFrame.
# This is a quick sanity check to understand the number of articles and columns in each set.
print("---- DataFrame Shapes ---")
print(f"Training DataFrame: {df_train.shape}")
print(f"Test DataFrame: {df_test.shape}")
print(f"Solution DataFrame: {df_solution.shape}")
print("-"*70 + "\n")

# Display the first few rows of the main DataFrames to visually verify structure and content.
print("---- Training Data Sample ---")
display(df_train.head())
print("-"*70 + "\n")

# Display the first few rows of the test DataFrame.
print("\n---- Test Data Sample ---")
display(df_test.head())
print("-"*70 + "\n")

# Technical summary for each DataFrame to check dtypes and missing values.
print("---- Training DataFrame Info ---")
df_train.info()
print("-"*70 + "\n")

# Technical summary for the test DataFrame.
print("\n---- Test DataFrame Info ---")
df_test.info()
print("-"*70 + "\n")

# Duplicate row check for training data.
duplicate_rows_train = df_train.duplicated().sum()
print(f"--- Duplicate Row Check (Train) ---")
print(f"Number of duplicate rows in training data: {duplicate_rows_train}")
print("-"*70 + "\n")

# Duplicate ArticleId check for test data.
duplicate_ids_test = df_test['ArticleId'].duplicated().sum()
print(f"--- Duplicate ID Check (Test) ---")
print(f"Number of duplicate ArticleId values in test data: {duplicate_ids_test}")
print("-"*70 + "\n")

# Summary statistics for numeric columns in the training data.
print("---- Numerical Column Statistics ---")
display(df_train.describe())
print("-"*70 + "\n")

# Text Length statistics in the training set.
print("---- Training Text Length Statistics (characters) ---")
train_text_len = df_train['Text'].astype(str).str.len()
print(f"Min: {train_text_len.min()}, Max: {train_text_len.max()}, Mean: {train_text_len.mean():.2f}")
print("-"*70 + "\n")

# Target variable distribution with counts and percentages.
print("---- Target Variable Distribution ---")
target_distribution = df_train['Category'].value_counts()
target_percentage = df_train['Category'].value_counts(normalize=True) * 100
target_df = pd.DataFrame({
    'Count': target_distribution,
    'Percentage': target_percentage.round(2)
})
print("-"*70 + "\n")

# Display the target variable distribution
print("---- Target Variable Distribution DataFrame ---")
display(target_df)
print("\n" + "-"*70 + "\n")

--- DataFrame Shapes ---
Training DataFrame: (1490, 3)
Test DataFrame: (735, 2)
Solution DataFrame: (735, 2)
-----
```

ArticleId			Text	Category
0	1833	worldcom ex-boss launches defence lawyers defe...	business	
1	154	german business confidence slides german busin...	business	
2	1101	bbc poll indicates economic gloom citizens in ...	business	
3	1976	lifestyle governs mobile choice faster bett...	tech	
4	917	enron bosses in \$168m payout eighteen former e...	business	

--- Test Data Sample ---

ArticleId	Text
0	1018 qpr keeper day heads for preston queens park r...
1	1319 software watching while you work software that...
2	1138 d arcy injury adds to ireland woe gordon d arc...
3	459 india s reliance family feud heats up the ongo...
4	1020 boro suffer morrison injury blow middlesbrough...

--- Training DataFrame Info ---

```
<class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>
RangeIndex: 1490 entries, 0 to 1489
Data columns (total 3 columns):
 #   Column      Non-Null Count  Dtype  
--- 
 0   ArticleId   1490 non-null    int64  
 1   Text         1490 non-null    object  
 2   Category     1490 non-null    object  
dtypes: int64(1), object(2)
memory usage: 35.1+ KB
```

--- Test DataFrame Info ---

```
<class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>
RangeIndex: 735 entries, 0 to 734
Data columns (total 2 columns):
 #   Column      Non-Null Count  Dtype  
--- 
 0   ArticleId   735 non-null    int64  
 1   Text         735 non-null    object  
dtypes: int64(1), object(1)
memory usage: 11.6+ KB
```

--- Duplicate Row Check (Train) ---

Number of duplicate rows in training data: 0

--- Duplicate ID Check (Test) ---

Number of duplicate ArticleId values in test data: 0

--- Numerical Column Statistics ---

ArticleId
count
mean
std
min
25%
50%
75%
max

--- Training Text Length Statistics (characters) ---

Min: 501, Max: 18387, Mean: 2233.46

--- Target Variable Distribution ---

--- Target Variable Distribution DataFrame ---

Category	Count	Percentage
sport	346	23.22
business	336	22.55
politics	274	18.39
entertainment	273	18.32
tech	261	17.52

Observations – Data Audit:

- All datasets loaded without error and match the expected structure:
 - Training: 1,490 rows × 3 columns (ArticleId , Text , Category)
 - Test: 735 rows × 2 columns (ArticleId , Text)
 - Sample Submission: 735 rows × 2 columns (ArticleId , Category)
- No missing values detected in any dataset.
- No duplicate rows in the training data; ArticleId values are unique in both train and test sets.
- ArticleId spans a wide, non-sequential range; IDs do not appear to be ordered by category.
- Text length in the training set ranges from very short to several thousand characters, with a mean length just over 1,100 characters.
- Target variable distribution is reasonably balanced across the five categories, with counts and percentages showing “sport” and “business” slightly more frequent than “tech.”
- Text content appears clean and properly structured for downstream preprocessing.

Section 4: Visual Exploratory Data Analysis

With the data loaded and audited, I'll now move on to the visual analysis. My first step is to examine the distribution of the target variable, Category . This plot will show me how many articles belong to each of the five categories and help me understand if the dataset is balanced.

4.1 Category Distribution

I start with a simple check of class balance. The bar chart below shows the number of articles in each category. This helps set expectations for baseline performance and informs how much I should worry about imbalance.

```
In [5]: # Get the count of articles in each category first.
category_counts = df_train['Category'].value_counts()
capitalized_labels = category_counts.index.str.capitalize()

# Create a figure and axis object. This is the foundation for detailed customization.
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(16, 9), facecolor='black')
fig.patch.set_facecolor('black')

# Define a high-contrast color palette to use for the bars and legend.
colors = sns.color_palette('winter', n_colors=len(category_counts))

# Create the bar plot using Matplotlib's ax.bar.
bars = ax.bar(
    capitalized_labels,
    category_counts.values,
    color=colors,
    edgecolor='ghostwhite',
    linewidth=2
)

# Set the title with custom font properties.
ax.set_title("Distribution of News Categories", fontsize=36, color='dodgerblue', fontweight='bold', pad=10)

# Set the X and Y axis labels with custom properties.
ax.set_xlabel("Category", fontsize=28, color='aliceblue', fontweight='bold', labelpad=8)
ax.set_ylabel("Number of Articles", fontsize=28, color='aliceblue', fontweight='bold', labelpad=8)

# Customize the tick marks.
ax.tick_params(axis='x', labelsize=22, colors='white', rotation=0)
ax.tick_params(axis='y', labelsize=14, colors='white')

# Style the plot's border (spines).
for spine in ax.spines.values():
    spine.set_edgecolor('dodgerblue')
    spine.set_linewidth(3)

# Set the background color of the plotting area.
ax.set_facecolor('black')

ax.set_ylim(0, 400) # keeps labels clear of the top spine

total = len(df_train)
# Annotate each bar with its count and percentage.
# This adds text labels above each bar to show the exact count and percentage.
# The percentage is calculated as (count / total) * 100.
# The text is formatted to show both the count and percentage with one decimal place.
```

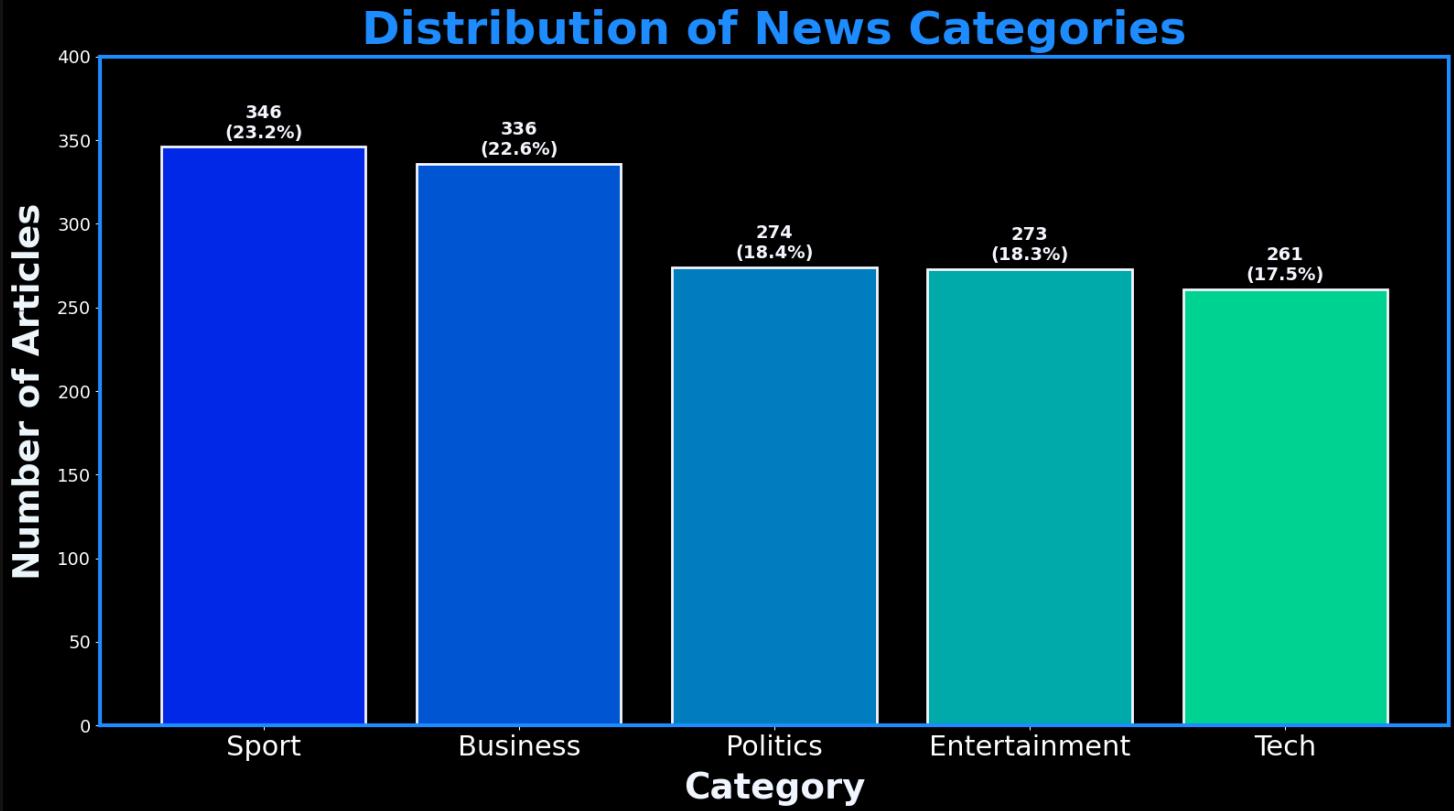
```

for bar in bars:
    h = bar.get_height()
    pct = 100*h/total
    ax.annotate(f"\n{int(h)}\n({pct:.1f}%)",
                (bar.get_x() + bar.get_width()/2, h),
                xytext=(0, 4), textcoords="offset points",
                ha="center", va="bottom", fontsize=14, color="ghostwhite", fontweight="bold")

# Concatenate all training text for global word stats and word cloud
all_text = " ".join(df_train["Text"].astype(str))

# Ensure the layout is tight and clean.
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()

```



Observation – Category Distribution:

The dataset is reasonably balanced: sport and business are slightly larger; tech is the smallest. Differences are modest, so I will proceed without resampling.

4.2a High-Level Text Analysis with a Word Cloud (Non-Filtered)

This first word cloud is generated using the raw text from all training articles without applying any custom stopword filtering. It provides a baseline view of the most frequent words, which will naturally include common journalistic filler terms such as "said," "mr," "year," and "people."

```

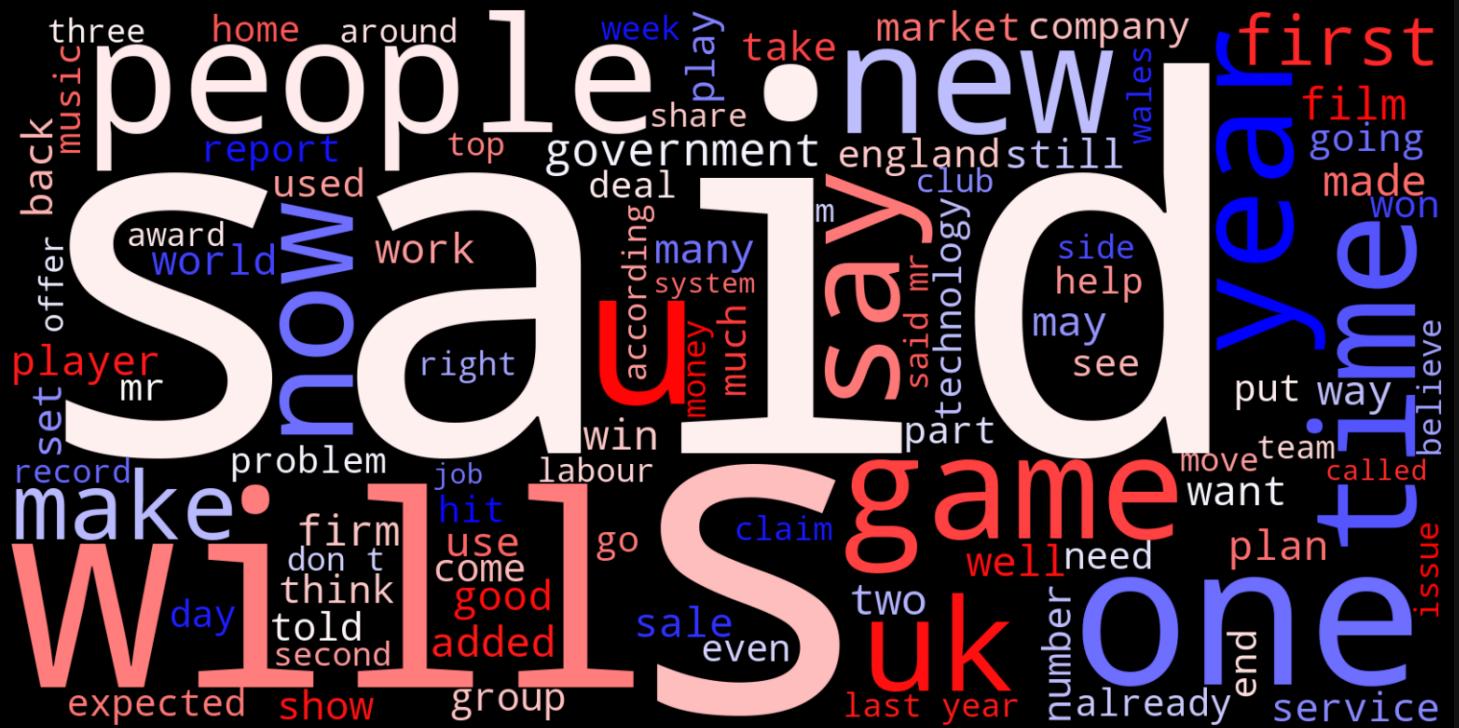
In [6]: # Combine all article text into one string (do this once for both 4.2a and 4.2b)
all_text = ' '.join(df_train['Text'].astype(str))

# Create and generate the Word Cloud object (no custom stopwords)
wordcloud_raw = WordCloud(
    background_color='black',
    max_words=100,
    width=1600,
    height=800,
    colormap='bwr'
).generate(all_text)

# Display the generated Word Cloud image.
# This will show the most frequent words in the training set, with a black background and blue-red color scheme.
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(20, 10), facecolor='black')
ax.imshow(wordcloud_raw, interpolation='bilinear')

# Hide the axes for a cleaner look.
ax.set_axis_off()
plt.show()

```



4.2b High-Level Text Analysis with a Word Cloud (Filtered with `custom_stop`)

This second word cloud is generated using the same text but with an expanded custom stopword list applied. The filter removes common and dataset-specific filler terms (e.g., "said," "mr," "year," "people," "uk," "bbc"), shifting the emphasis toward more topical and domain-relevant words.

```
In [7]: # Define custom stopwords for the Word Cloud.
# These are common words that do not add significant meaning to the text.
# They are often removed to focus on more meaningful words in the visualization.
news_stop = [
    "said", "say", "says", "mr", "mrs", "ms", "one", "two", "new", "year", "years", "people", "told",
    "also", "could", "would", "well", "like", "get", "back", "u", "uk", "bbc", "000"
]
custom_stop = text.ENGLISH_STOP_WORDS.union(news_stop)

# Create and generate the Word Cloud object (with custom stopwords)
wordcloud_filtered = WordCloud(
    background_color="black",
    max_words=250,
    width=1600,
    height=800,
    colormap="seismic",
    stopwords=custom_stop,
    random_state=SEED
).generate(all_text)

# Display the generated Word Cloud image.
# This will show the most frequent words in the training set, with a black background and seismic color scheme.
# The custom stopwords help filter out common words that do not contribute much to the meaning of the text.
# The Word Cloud will highlight the most relevant terms in the dataset.
# The colormap 'seismic' provides a visually appealing contrast between the most and least frequent words.
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(20, 10), facecolor="black")
ax.imshow(wordcloud_filtered, interpolation="bilinear")

# Hide the axes for a cleaner look.
ax.set_axis_off()
plt.show()
```



Observations – High-Level Text Analysis with a Word Cloud (4.2a Non-Filtered and 4.2b Filtered)

The non-filtered Word Cloud (4.2a) is dominated by high-frequency but low-information words such as "said," "one," "people," "year," and "uk." These terms reflect common journalistic structure rather than topical content. While useful for identifying general language style, they obscure more subject-specific vocabulary.

In contrast, the filtered Word Cloud (4.2b) removes these filler terms using the custom stopword list, which shifts the focus toward more meaningful and context-rich words like "government," "market," "service," "game," and "company." This adjustment surfaces terms that better reflect thematic content and category-specific narratives. The trade-off is a loss of visibility into baseline linguistic patterns, but it improves interpretability for topic modeling and category differentiation.

4.3 Top Words Frequency Bar Chart

To complement the Word Cloud, I'll create a bar chart showing the exact frequencies of the top 20 most common words across all articles (after removing common English stop words). This provides a more precise, quantitative view of the terms that dominate the corpus.

```
In [8]: # Use CountVectorizer to get the frequencies of the most common words from the 'all_text' variable.
vec = CountVectorizer(stop_words='english', ngram_range=(1,1)).fit([all_text])

# Transform the text into a bag-of-words representation.
# This creates a sparse matrix where each row corresponds to the text and each column corresponds to a word.
# The values in the matrix are the counts of each word in the text.
bag_of_words = vec.transform([all_text])
sum_words = bag_of_words.sum(axis=0)

# Create a list of tuples containing each word and its frequency.
words_freq = [(word, sum_words[0, idx]) for word, idx in vec.vocabulary_.items()]

# Sort the words by frequency in descending order.
# This will help us identify the most common words in the dataset.
words_freq = sorted(words_freq, key = lambda x: x[1], reverse=True)

# Create a DataFrame from the top 20 most frequent words.
# This DataFrame will be used to create a horizontal bar chart.
top_words_df = pd.DataFrame(words_freq[:20], columns=['Word', 'Count'])

# Capitalize the first letter in each word on the y-axis
top_words_df['Word'] = top_words_df['Word'].str.capitalize()

# Create a horizontal bar chart to display these top words.
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(14, 10), facecolor='black')
fig.patch.set_facecolor('black')

# Use seaborn to create a bar plot of the top words.
sns.barplot(
    x='Count',
    y='Word',
    data=top_words_df,
    palette='plasma',
    hue='Word',
    ax=ax
)
```

```

# Set the title and labels with custom font properties.
ax.set_title("Top 20 Most Frequent Words - All Articles", fontsize=36, color='deepskyblue', fontweight='bold', pad=10)
ax.set_xlabel("Frequency", fontsize=28, color='magenta', fontweight='bold', labelpad=12)
ax.set_ylabel("Word", fontsize=28, color='magenta', fontweight='bold', labelpad=12)
ax.tick_params(axis='x', labelsize=22, colors='white')
ax.tick_params(axis='y', labelsize=16, colors='white')
ax.grid(alpha=0.2, color='white', linewidth=0)

# Style the plot's border (spines).
for spine in ax.spines.values():
    spine.set_edgecolor('magenta')
    spine.set_linewidth(2)

ax.set_xlim(0, 5600) # keeps labels clear of the top spine

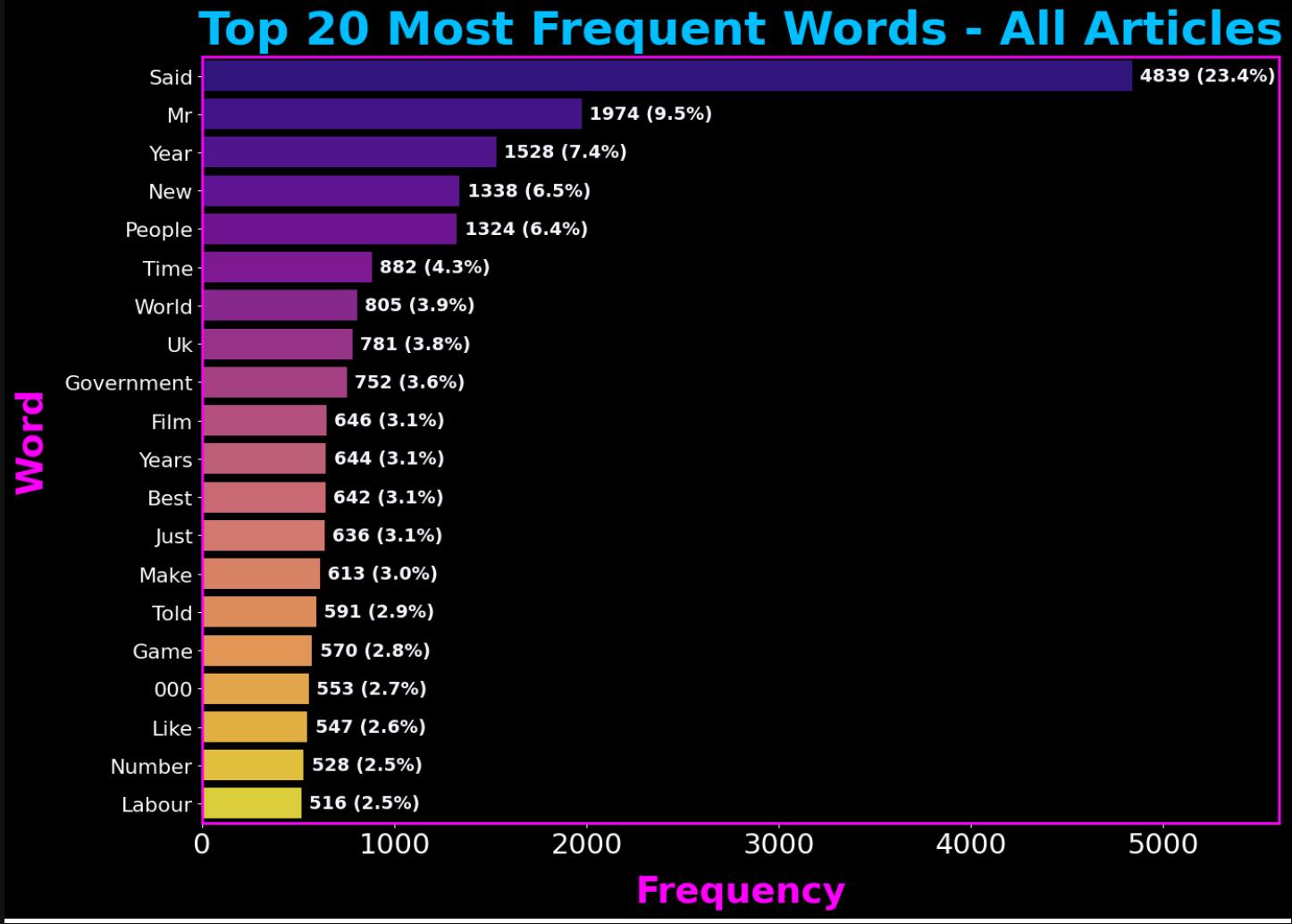
bars = ax.patches # rectangles drawn by seaborn
total = top_words_df["Count"].sum() # percent of the shown top-20 words

# Annotate each bar with its count and percentage.
# This adds text labels to the right of each bar to show the exact count and percentage.
# The percentage is calculated as (count / total) * 100.
# The text is formatted to show both the count and percentage with one decimal place.
for bar in bars:
    w = bar.get_width()
    y = bar.get_y() + bar.get_height() / 2
    ax.annotate(f'{int(w)} ({(w/total)*100:.1f}%)',
                (w, y),
                xytext=(6, 0), textcoords="offset points",
                va="center", ha="left",
                fontsize=14, color="ghostwhite", fontweight="bold")

# Set the background color of the plotting area.
ax.set_facecolor('black')

# Ensure the Layout is tight and clean.
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()

```



Observation - Top 20 Most Frequent Words - All Articles:

This bar chart confirms what the Word Cloud suggested. General journalistic words like "said," "mr," "year," and "people" are the most frequent. The word "uk" also appears high on the list, suggesting a focus on UK-based news. This quantitative view is a great validation of our initial visual analysis.

4.4 Analysis of Text Length by Category

My next step in the EDA is to analyze the length of the articles. I want to see if there's a significant difference in text length between the categories. If there is, article length could be a useful feature for my classification models. I'll start by calculating the descriptive statistics and then visualize them with a box plot.

```
In [9]: # Create a new column to store the Length of each article's text.
df_train['text_length'] = df_train['Text'].apply(len)
df_train['word_count'] = df_train["Text"].str.split().str.len()

# Calculate and display the descriptive statistics for text length, grouped by category.
category_length_stats = df_train.groupby('Category')['text_length'].describe()
print("--- Descriptive Statistics for Text Length by Category ---")
display(category_length_stats)
print("\n" + "-"*85 + "\n")

# A box plot is perfect for visualizing the distribution of text lengths across the different categories.
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(16, 9), facecolor='black')
fig.patch.set_facecolor('black')

# Defining a dictionary to style the outlier points ('fliers') so they are visible.
flier_props = dict(marker='o', markerfacecolor='crimson', markersize=10,
                   linestyle='none', markeredgecolor='white', alpha=1.0)

# Create the box plot using seaborn.
sns.boxplot(
    data=df_train,
    x='Category',
    y='text_length',
    hue='Category',
    legend=False,
    palette='Reds',
    ax=ax,
    order=category_counts.index,
    flierprops=flier_props
)

# Set the title and labels with custom font properties.
ax.set_title('Article Text Length by Category', fontsize=36, color='gold', fontweight='bold', pad=10)
ax.set_xlabel("Category", fontsize=28, color='gold', fontweight='bold', labelpad=10)
ax.set_ylabel("Text Length (Number of Characters)", fontsize=28, color='gold', fontweight='bold', labelpad=10)
ax.tick_params(axis='y', labelsize=14, colors='white')
ax.grid(alpha=0.2, color='white', linewidth=1)

# Style the plot's border (spines).
for spine in ax.spines.values():
    spine.set_edgecolor('darkorange')
    spine.set_linewidth(2)

# Set the background color of the plotting area.
ax.set_facecolor('black')

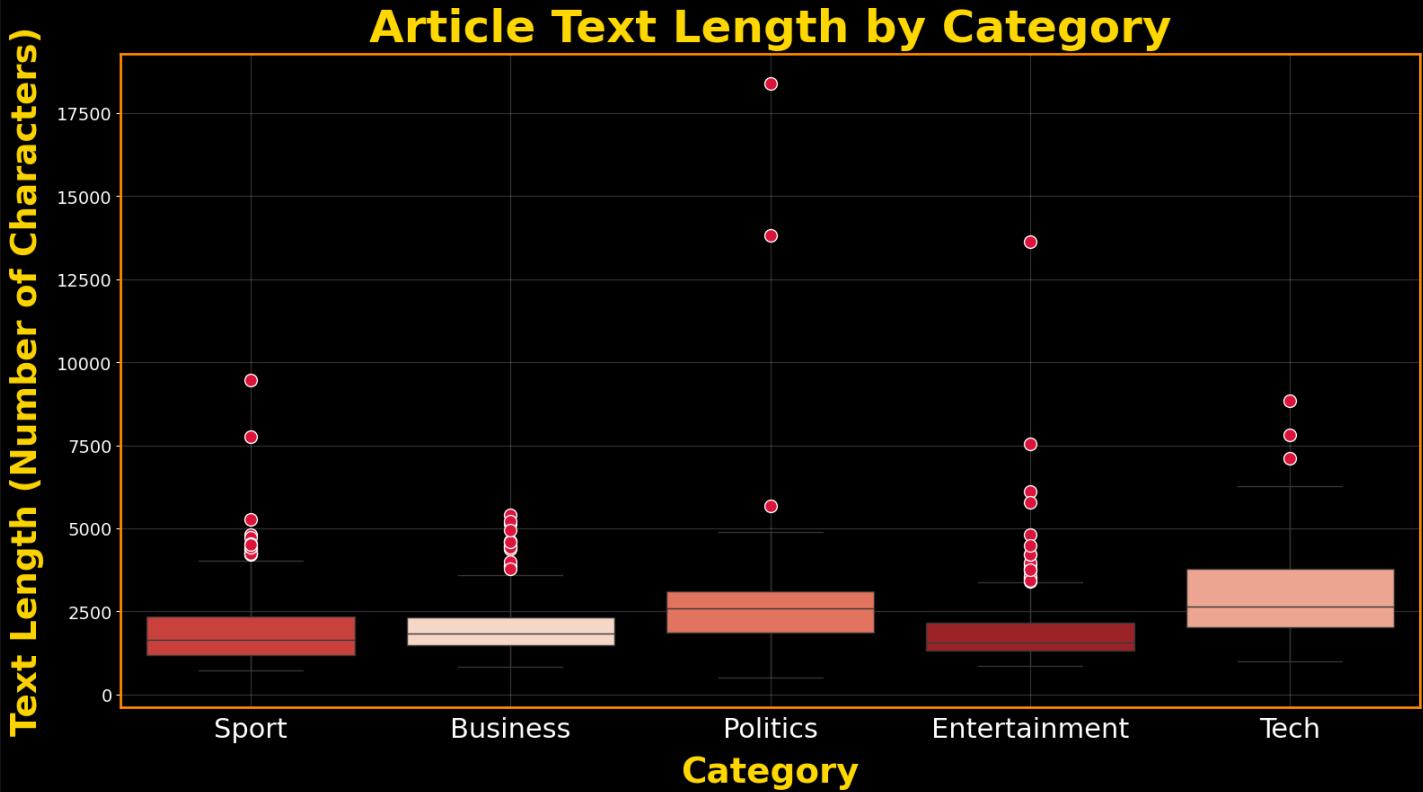
# Set the x-tick labels to be capitalized.
# This capitalizes the first letter of each category label on the x-axis.
tick_locations = ax.get_xticks()
tick_labels = [label.get_text().capitalize() for label in ax.get_xticklabels()]

# Set both the locations and the new capitalized labels together.
ax.set_xticks(tick_locations)
ax.set_xticklabels(tick_labels, fontsize=22, color='white')

# Ensure the layout is tight and clean.
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()
```

--- Descriptive Statistics for Text Length by Category ---

	count	mean	std	min	25%	50%	75%	max
Category								
business	336.0	1983.104167	790.180447	846.0	1486.25	1830.5	2331.00	5406.0
entertainment	273.0	1910.380952	1142.478958	866.0	1312.00	1571.0	2147.00	13619.0
politics	274.0	2617.905109	1448.447009	501.0	1867.00	2599.5	3099.00	18387.0
sport	346.0	1894.624277	1051.814635	719.0	1199.00	1641.0	2352.75	9471.0
tech	261.0	2939.291188	1215.569461	1003.0	2031.00	2657.0	3775.00	8826.0



Observation - Article Text Length by Category:

The descriptive statistics table and the box plot both tell a similar story.

- **Politics** articles have the highest mean length and the largest standard deviation, meaning they are not only longer on average but also have the widest variety in length.
- **Entertainment** articles appear to be the most consistent in length, with a tighter distribution.

This confirms that there are noticeable differences in the text length characteristics between categories, which could be a useful signal for a machine learning model.

4.5 Business Category - Top Words

In this section, we focus on the **Business** category.

The plot below displays the top 20 most frequently used words in business-related news articles.

This visualization helps us identify key topics and language patterns unique to this category.

```
In [10]: # Now, let's analyze the most common words in a specific category.
category = 'business'
category_texts = df_train[df_train['Category'] == category]['Text']

# Define a function to create a CountVectorizer with specific parameters.
# This function will be used to create a bag-of-words representation of the text data.
def make_count_vec():
    return CountVectorizer(
        stop_words='english',
        max_df=0.95,
        min_df=2
    )

# Create a CountVectorizer instance with the defined parameters.
bag_of_words = vec.fit_transform(category_texts)
sum_words = bag_of_words.sum(axis=0)
words_freq = [(word, sum_words[0, idx]) for word, idx in vec.vocabulary_.items()]
words_freq = sorted(words_freq, key=lambda x: x[1], reverse=True)[:20]

# Create a DataFrame from the top 20 most frequent words.
# This DataFrame will be used to create a horizontal bar chart.
top_words_df = pd.DataFrame(words_freq, columns=['Word', 'Count'])
top_words_df['Word'] = top_words_df['Word'].str.capitalize()

# Create a horizontal bar chart to display these top words.
# This chart will show the most frequent words in the 'business' category.
# The words are sorted by frequency, and the chart will help visualize which terms are most common in business-related articles.
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(14, 10), facecolor='black')
```

```

sns.barplot(
    x='Count',
    y='Word',
    data=top_words_df,
    hue='Word',
    palette='Reds',
    legend=False,
    edgecolor='ghostwhite',
    linewidth=1.5,
    ax=ax
)

# Set the title and labels with custom font properties.
ax.set_title("Business - Top 20 Words", fontsize=36, color='orangered', fontweight='bold', pad=10)
ax.set_xlabel("Frequency", fontsize=28, color='white', fontweight='bold')
ax.set_ylabel("Word", fontsize=28, color='white', fontweight='bold')
ax.tick_params(axis='x', labelsize=22, colors='white')
ax.tick_params(axis='y', labelsize=16, colors='white')

# Set the background color of the plotting area.
ax.set_facecolor('black')
ax.grid(alpha=0.2, color='white', linewidth=0)

# Style the plot's border (spines).
for spine in ax.spines.values():
    spine.set_edgecolor('white')
    spine.set_linewidth(2)

ax.set_xlim(0, 1275) # keeps labels clear of the top spine

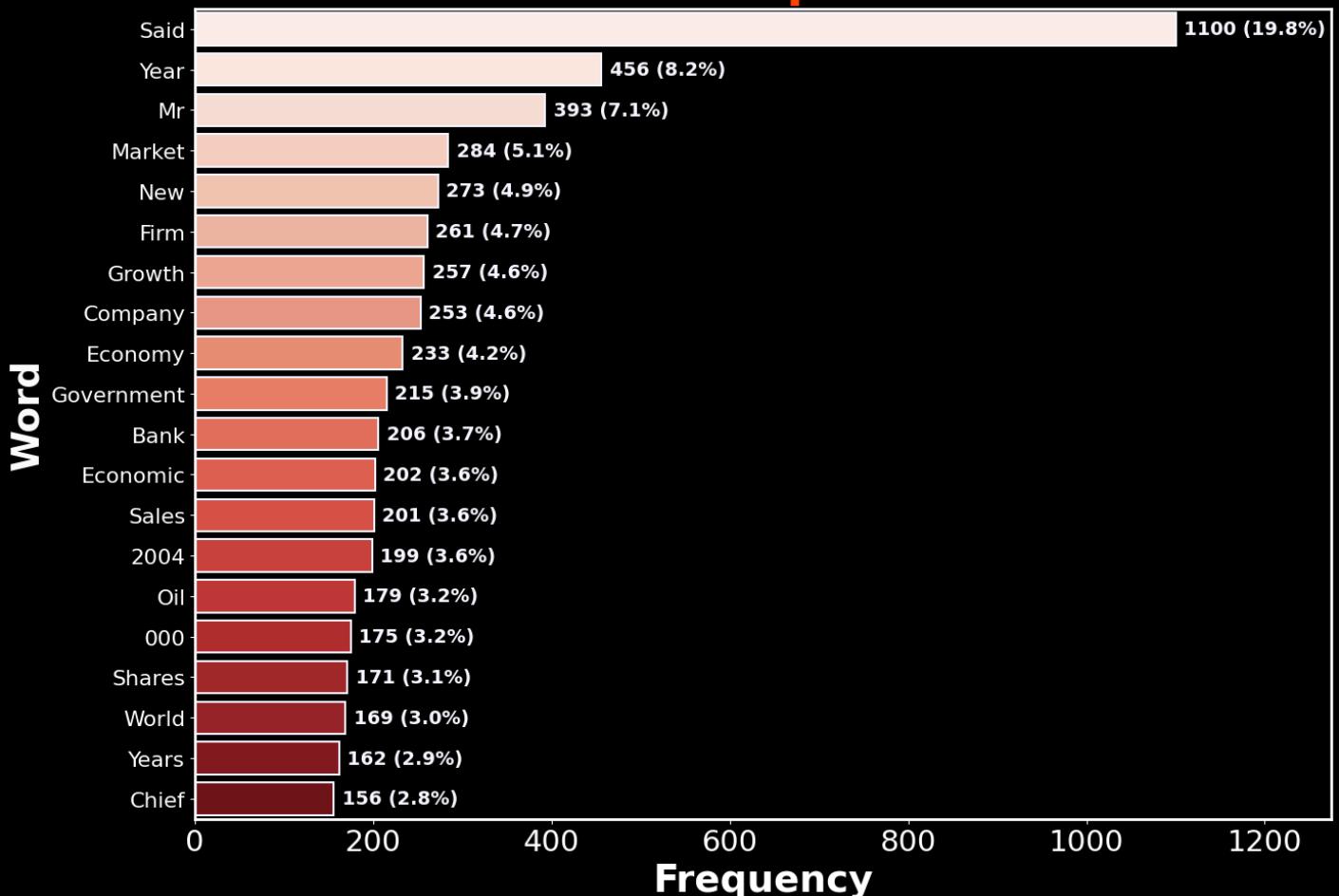
bars = ax.patches # rectangles drawn by seaborn
total = top_words_df["Count"].sum() # percent of the shown top-20 words

# Annotate each bar with its count and percentage.
# This adds text labels to the right of each bar to show the exact count and percentage.
# The percentage is calculated as (count / total) * 100.
# The text is formatted to show both the count and percentage with one decimal place.
for bar in bars:
    w = bar.get_width()
    y = bar.get_y() + bar.get_height() / 2
    ax.annotate(f'{int(w)} ({(w/total)*100:.1f}%)',
                (w, y),
                xytext=(6, 0), textcoords="offset points",
                va="center", ha="left",
                fontsize=14, color="ghostwhite", fontweight="bold")

# Ensure the layout is tight and clean.
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()

```

Business - Top 20 Words



Observation - Top 20 Most Frequent Words - Business:

The top terms in the Business category reflect common themes in financial and economic reporting.

We see frequent mentions of monetary figures, corporate terminology, and market-related language.

This reinforces that the Business articles focus heavily on companies, industry sectors, and the broader economy.

4.6 Tech Category - Top Words

Here we explore the **Tech** category.

By plotting the top 20 most common words, we can see the vocabulary that dominates technology news coverage and identify recurring themes in the dataset.

```
In [11]: # Now, let's analyze the most common words in another specific category.  
# This time, we will focus on the 'tech' category.  
category = 'tech'  
category_texts = df_train[df_train['Category'] == category]['Text']  
  
# Create a CountVectorizer instance with the defined parameters.  
# This will be used to create a bag-of-words representation of the text data.  
vec = CountVectorizer(stop_words='english', ngram_range=(1,1))  
bag_of_words = vec.fit_transform(category_texts)  
sum_words = bag_of_words.sum(axis=0)  
words_freq = [(word, sum_words[0, idx]) for word, idx in vec.vocabulary_.items()]  
words_freq = sorted(words_freq, key=lambda x: x[1], reverse=True)[:20]  
  
# Create a DataFrame from the top 20 most frequent words.  
# This DataFrame will be used to create a horizontal bar chart.  
# The words are sorted by frequency, and the chart will help visualize which terms are most common  
top_words_df = pd.DataFrame(words_freq, columns=['Word', 'Count'])  
top_words_df['Word'] = top_words_df['Word'].str.capitalize()  
  
# Create a horizontal bar chart to display these top words.  
# This chart will show the most frequent words in the 'tech' category.  
# The words are sorted by frequency, and the chart will help visualize which terms are most common in tech-related articles.  
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(14, 10), facecolor='black') # Larger format  
  
# Use seaborn to create a bar plot of the top words.  
sns.barplot(  
    x='Count',
```

```

y='Word',
data=top_words_df,
hue='Word',
palette='cool',
legend=False,
edgecolor='ghostwhite',
linewidth=1.5,
ax=ax
)

# Set the title and Labels with custom font properties.
ax.set_title("Tech - Top 20 Words", fontsize=36, color='cyan', fontweight='bold', pad=10)
ax.set_xlabel("Frequency", fontsize=28, color='white', fontweight='bold', labelpad=12)
ax.set_ylabel("Word", fontsize=28, color='white', fontweight='bold', labelpad=12)
ax.tick_params(axis='x', labelsize=22, colors='white')
ax.tick_params(axis='y', labelsize=16, colors='white')

# Set the background color of the plotting area.
ax.set_facecolor('black')
ax.grid(alpha=0.2, color='white', linewidth=0)

# Style the plot's border (spines).
for spine in ax.spines.values():
    spine.set_edgecolor('white')
    spine.set_linewidth(2)

ax.set_xlim(0, 1230) # keeps labels clear of the top spine

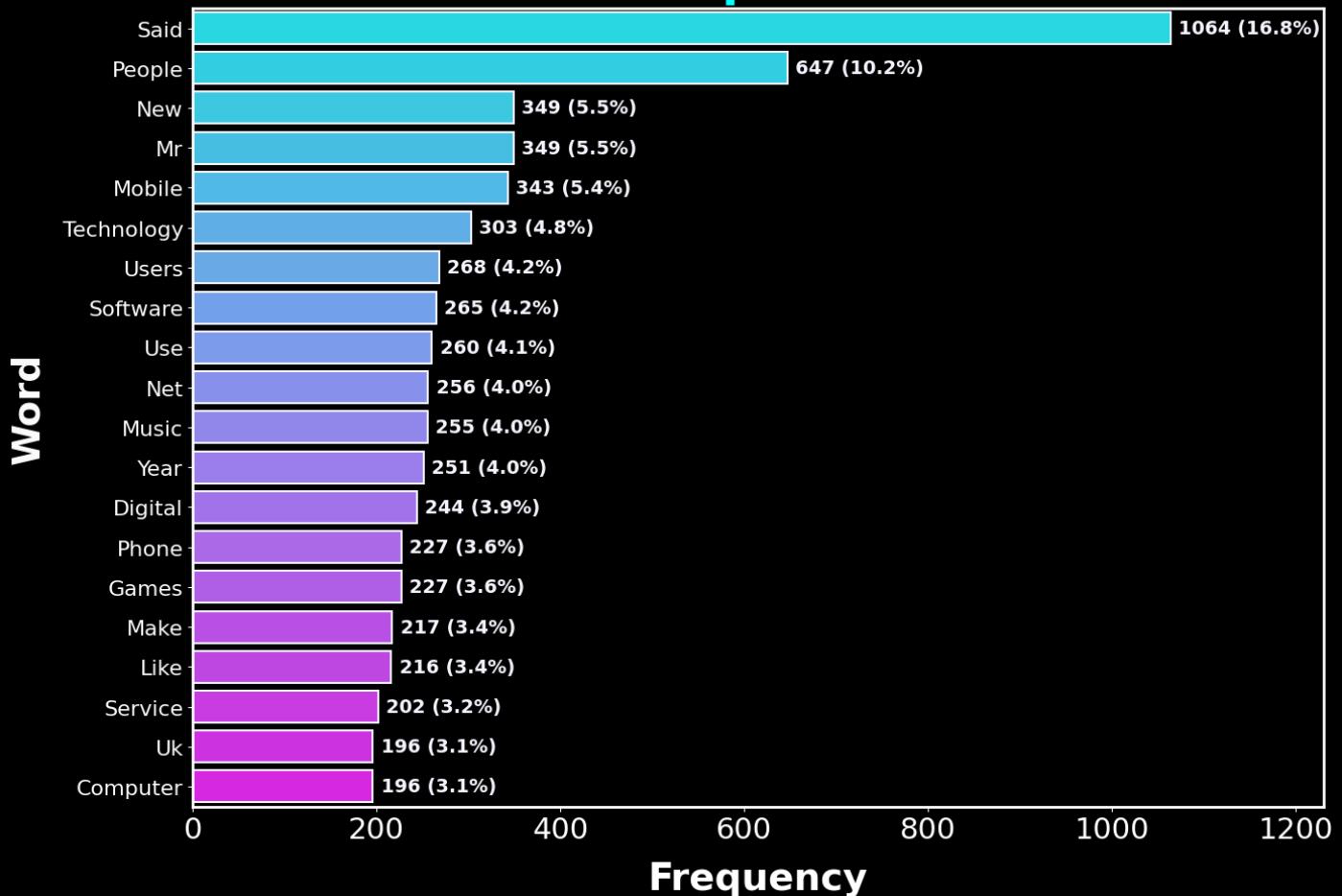
bars = ax.patches # rectangles drawn by seaborn
total = top_words_df["Count"].sum() # percent of the shown top-20 words

# Annotate each bar with its count and percentage.
# This adds text labels to the right of each bar to show the exact count and percentage.
# The percentage is calculated as (count / total) * 100.
# The text is formatted to show both the count and percentage with one decimal place.
for bar in bars:
    w = bar.get_width()
    y = bar.get_y() + bar.get_height() / 2
    ax.annotate(f"{int(w)} ({(w/total)*100:.1f}%)",
               (w, y),
               xytext=(6, 0), textcoords="offset points",
               va="center", ha="left",
               fontsize=14, color="ghostwhite", fontweight="bold")

# Ensure the layout is tight and clean.
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()

```

Tech - Top 20 Words



Observation - Top 20 Most Frequent Words - Tech:

In the Tech category, many high-frequency words relate to products, innovation, and technology companies.

Terms associated with the internet, devices, and software appear prominently, suggesting a focus on product launches, digital trends, and corporate activity in the tech sector.

4.7 Politics Category - Top Words

This section examines the **Politics** category.

The top words highlight the most frequently discussed topics, names, and political terms within the dataset's political news articles.

```
In [12]: # Now, let's analyze the most common words in another specific category.
# This time, we will focus on the 'politics' category.
# We will use the same approach as before, but with the 'politics' category.
category = 'politics'
category_texts = df_train[df_train['Category'] == category]['Text']

# Create a CountVectorizer instance with the defined parameters.
# This will be used to create a bag-of-words representation of the text data.
vec = CountVectorizer(stop_words='english', ngram_range=(1,1))
bag_of_words = vec.fit_transform(category_texts)
sum_words = bag_of_words.sum(axis=0)
words_freq = [(word, sum_words[0, idx]) for word, idx in vec.vocabulary_.items()]
words_freq = sorted(words_freq, key=lambda x: x[1], reverse=True)[:20]

# Create a DataFrame from the top 20 most frequent words.
# This DataFrame will be used to create a horizontal bar chart.
# The words are sorted by frequency, and the chart will help visualize which terms are most common in politics-related articles.
top_words_df = pd.DataFrame(words_freq, columns=['Word', 'Count'])
top_words_df['Word'] = top_words_df['Word'].str.capitalize()

# Create a horizontal bar chart to display these top words.
# This chart will show the most frequent words in the 'politics' category.
# The words are sorted by frequency, and the chart will help visualize which terms are most common
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(14, 10), facecolor='black') # Larger format

# Use seaborn to create a bar plot of the top words.
sns.barplot(
    x='Count',
    y='Word',
```

```

        data=top_words_df,
        hue='Word',
        palette='viridis',
        legend=False,
        edgecolor='ghostwhite',
        linewidth=1.5,
        ax=ax
    )

# Set the title and labels with custom font properties.
ax.set_title("Politics - Top 20 Words", fontsize=36, color='mediumspringgreen', fontweight='bold', pad=10)
ax.set_xlabel("Frequency", fontsize=28, color='greenyellow', fontweight='bold', labelpad=12)
ax.set_ylabel("Word", fontsize=28, color='greenyellow', fontweight='bold', labelpad=12)
ax.tick_params(axis='x', labelsize=22, colors='white')
ax.tick_params(axis='y', labelsize=16, colors='white')

# Set the background color of the plotting area.
ax.set_facecolor('black')
ax.grid(alpha=0.2, color='white', linewidth=0)

# Style the plot's border (spines).
for spine in ax.spines.values():
    spine.set_edgecolor('greenyellow')
    spine.set_linewidth(2)

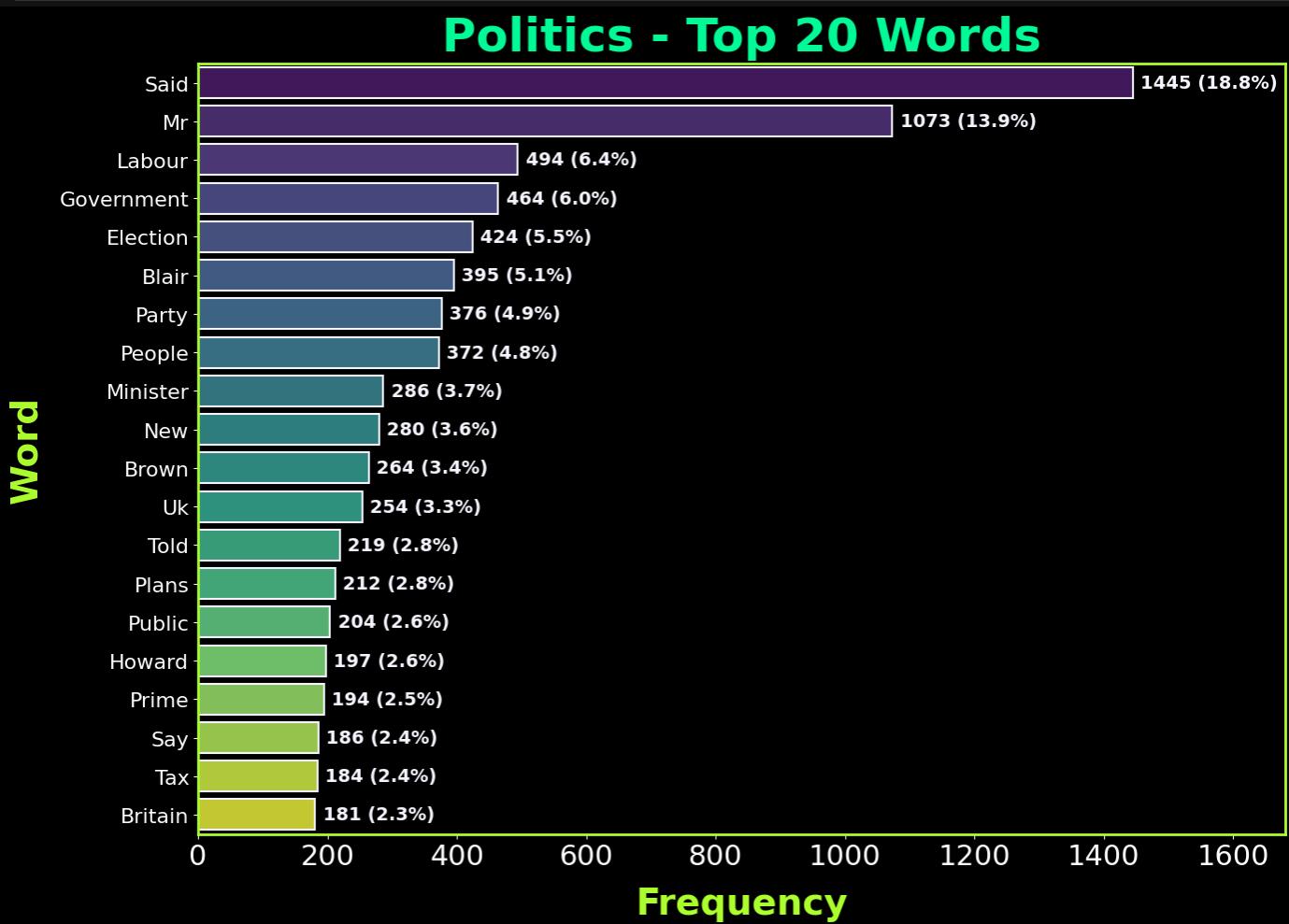
ax.set_xlim(0, 1680) # keeps labels clear of the top spine

bars = ax.patches # rectangles drawn by seaborn
total = top_words_df["Count"].sum() # percent of the shown top-20 words

# Annotate each bar with its count and percentage.
# This adds text labels to the right of each bar to show the exact count and percentage.
# The percentage is calculated as (count / total) * 100.
# The text is formatted to show both the count and percentage with one decimal place.
for bar in bars:
    w = bar.get_width()
    y = bar.get_y() + bar.get_height() / 2
    ax.annotate(f'{int(w)} ({(w/total)*100:.1f}%)',
                (w, y),
                xytext=(6, 0), textcoords="offset points",
                va="center", ha="left",
                fontsize=14, color="ghostwhite", fontweight="bold")

# Ensure the layout is tight and clean.
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()

```



Observation - Top 20 Most Frequent Words - Politics:

The Politics category is dominated by names of political figures, government institutions, and policy-related terms.

This points to coverage focused on government decisions, party politics, and legislative developments.

Geographic and country references also suggest that much of the reporting centers around political events in specific regions.

4.8 Sport Category - Top Words

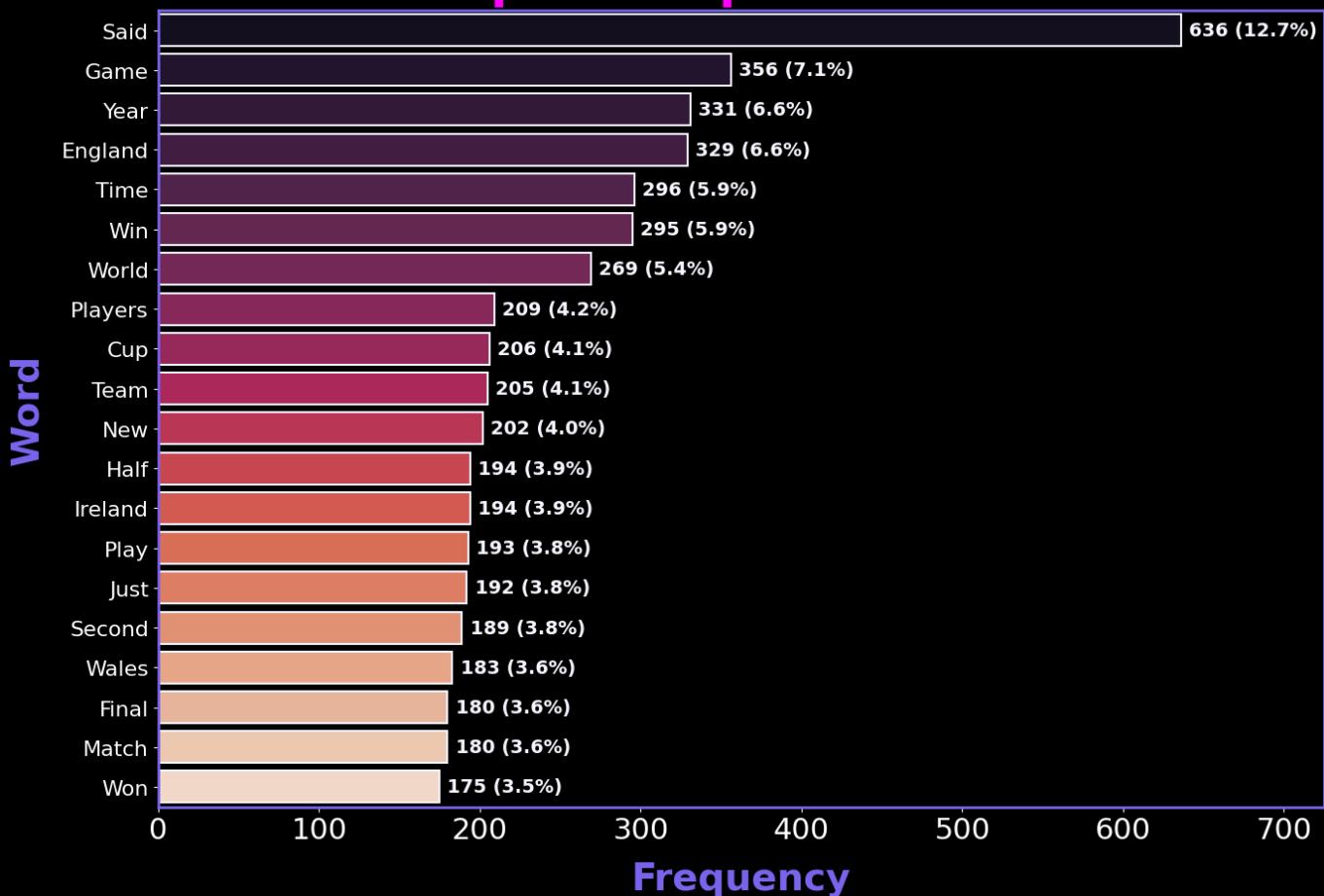
In the **Sport** category, frequent terms often reflect competitions, teams, players, and events.

The bar chart below shows the top 20 most common words, giving us insight into the language of sports reporting.

```
In [13]: # Now, let's analyze the most common words in another specific category.  
# This time, we will focus on the 'sport' category.  
# We will use the same approach as before, but with the 'sport' category.  
category = 'sport'  
category_texts = df_train[df_train['Category'] == category]['Text']  
  
# Create a CountVectorizer instance with the defined parameters.  
# This will be used to create a bag-of-words representation of the text data.  
vec = CountVectorizer(stop_words='english', ngram_range=(1,1))  
bag_of_words = vec.fit_transform(category_texts)  
sum_words = bag_of_words.sum(axis=0)  
words_freq = [(word, sum_words[0, idx]) for word, idx in vec.vocabulary_.items()]  
words_freq = sorted(words_freq, key=lambda x: x[1], reverse=True)[:20]  
  
# Create a DataFrame from the top 20 most frequent words.  
# This DataFrame will be used to create a horizontal bar chart.  
# The words are sorted by frequency, and the chart will help visualize which terms are most common in sport-related articles.  
top_words_df = pd.DataFrame(words_freq, columns=['Word', 'Count'])  
top_words_df['Word'] = top_words_df['Word'].str.capitalize()  
  
# Create a horizontal bar chart to display these top words.  
# This chart will show the most frequent words in the 'sport' category.  
# The words are sorted by frequency, and the chart will help visualize which terms are most common in sport-related articles.  
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(14, 10), facecolor='black') # larger format  
  
# Use seaborn to create a bar plot of the top words.  
sns.barplot(  
    x='Count',  
    y='Word',  
    data=top_words_df,  
    hue='Word',  
    palette='rocket',  
    legend=False,  
    edgecolor='ghostwhite',  
    linewidth=1.5,  
    ax=ax  
)  
  
# Set the title and labels with custom font properties.  
ax.set_title("Sport - Top 20 Words", fontsize=36, color='magenta', fontweight='bold', pad=10)  
ax.set_xlabel("Frequency", fontsize=28, color='mediumslateblue', fontweight='bold', labelpad=12)  
ax.set_ylabel("Word", fontsize=28, color='mediumslateblue', fontweight='bold', labelpad=12)  
ax.tick_params(axis='x', labelsize=22, colors='white')  
ax.tick_params(axis='y', labelsize=16, colors='white')  
  
# Set the background color of the plotting area.  
ax.set_facecolor('black')  
ax.grid(alpha=0.2, color='white', linewidth=0)  
  
# Style the plot's border (spines).  
for spine in ax.spines.values():  
    spine.set_edgecolor('mediumslateblue')  
    spine.set_linewidth(2)  
  
ax.set_xlim(0, 725) # keeps labels clear of the top spine  
  
bars = ax.patches # rectangles drawn by seaborn  
total = top_words_df["Count"].sum() # percent of the shown top-20 words  
  
# Annotate each bar with its count and percentage.  
# This adds text labels to the right of each bar to show the exact count and percentage.  
# The percentage is calculated as (count / total) * 100.  
# The text is formatted to show both the count and percentage with one decimal place.  
for bar in bars:  
    w = bar.get_width()  
    y = bar.get_y() + bar.get_height() / 2  
    ax.annotate(f'{int(w)} ({(w/total)*100:.1f}%)',  
               (w, y),  
               xytext=(6, 0), textcoords="offset points",  
               va="center", ha="left",  
               fontsize=14, color="ghostwhite", fontweight="bold")
```

```
# Ensure the layout is tight and clean.
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()
```

Sport - Top 20 Words



Observation - Top 20 Most Frequent Words - Sport:

Sports coverage shows frequent use of team names, player names, and competition-related terms.

The vocabulary reflects ongoing tournaments, matches, and league events.

The prevalence of score-related or result-oriented words also indicates the real-time nature of sports reporting.

4.9 Entertainment Category - Top Words

Here we look at the **Entertainment** category.

From celebrity names to film, music, and cultural terms, the top words chart reveals what dominates the entertainment news landscape in this dataset.

```
In [14]: # Now, let's analyze the most common words in another specific category.
# This time, we will focus on the 'entertainment' category.
# We will use the same approach as before, but with the 'entertainment' category
category = 'entertainment'
category_texts = df_train[df_train['Category'] == category]['Text']

# Create a CountVectorizer instance with the defined parameters.
# This will be used to create a bag-of-words representation of the text data.
vec = CountVectorizer(stop_words='english', ngram_range=(1,1))
bag_of_words = vec.fit_transform(category_texts)
sum_words = bag_of_words.sum(axis=0)
words_freq = [(word, sum_words[0, idx]) for word, idx in vec.vocabulary_.items()]
words_freq = sorted(words_freq, key=lambda x: x[1], reverse=True)[:20]

# Create a DataFrame from the top 20 most frequent words.
# This DataFrame will be used to create a horizontal bar chart.
# The words are sorted by frequency, and the chart will help visualize which terms are most common in entertainment-related articles.
top_words_df = pd.DataFrame(words_freq, columns=['Word', 'Count'])
top_words_df['Word'] = top_words_df['Word'].str.capitalize()

# Create a horizontal bar chart to display these top words.
# This chart will show the most frequent words in the 'entertainment' category.
# The words are sorted by frequency, and the chart will help visualize which terms are most common in entertainment-related articles.
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(14, 10), facecolor='black') # Larger format
```

```

# Use seaborn to create a bar plot of the top words.
sns.barplot(
    x='Count',
    y='Word',
    data=top_words_df,
    hue='Word',
    palette='seismic',
    legend=False,
    edgecolor='ghostwhite',
    linewidth=1.5,
    ax=ax
)

# Set the title and labels with custom font properties.
ax.set_title("Entertainment - Top 20 Words", fontsize=36, color='red', fontweight='bold', pad=10)
ax.set_xlabel("Frequency", fontsize=28, color='dodgerblue', fontweight='bold', labelpad=12)
ax.set_ylabel("Word", fontsize=28, color='dodgerblue', fontweight='bold', labelpad=12)
ax.tick_params(axis='x', labelsize=22, colors='white')
ax.tick_params(axis='y', labelsize=16, colors='white')

# Set the background color of the plotting area.
ax.set_facecolor('black')
ax.grid(alpha=0.2, color='white', linewidth=0)

# Style the plot's border (spines).
for spine in ax.spines.values():
    spine.set_edgecolor('dodgerblue')
    spine.set_linewidth(2)

ax.set_xlim(0, 675) # keeps labels clear of the top spine

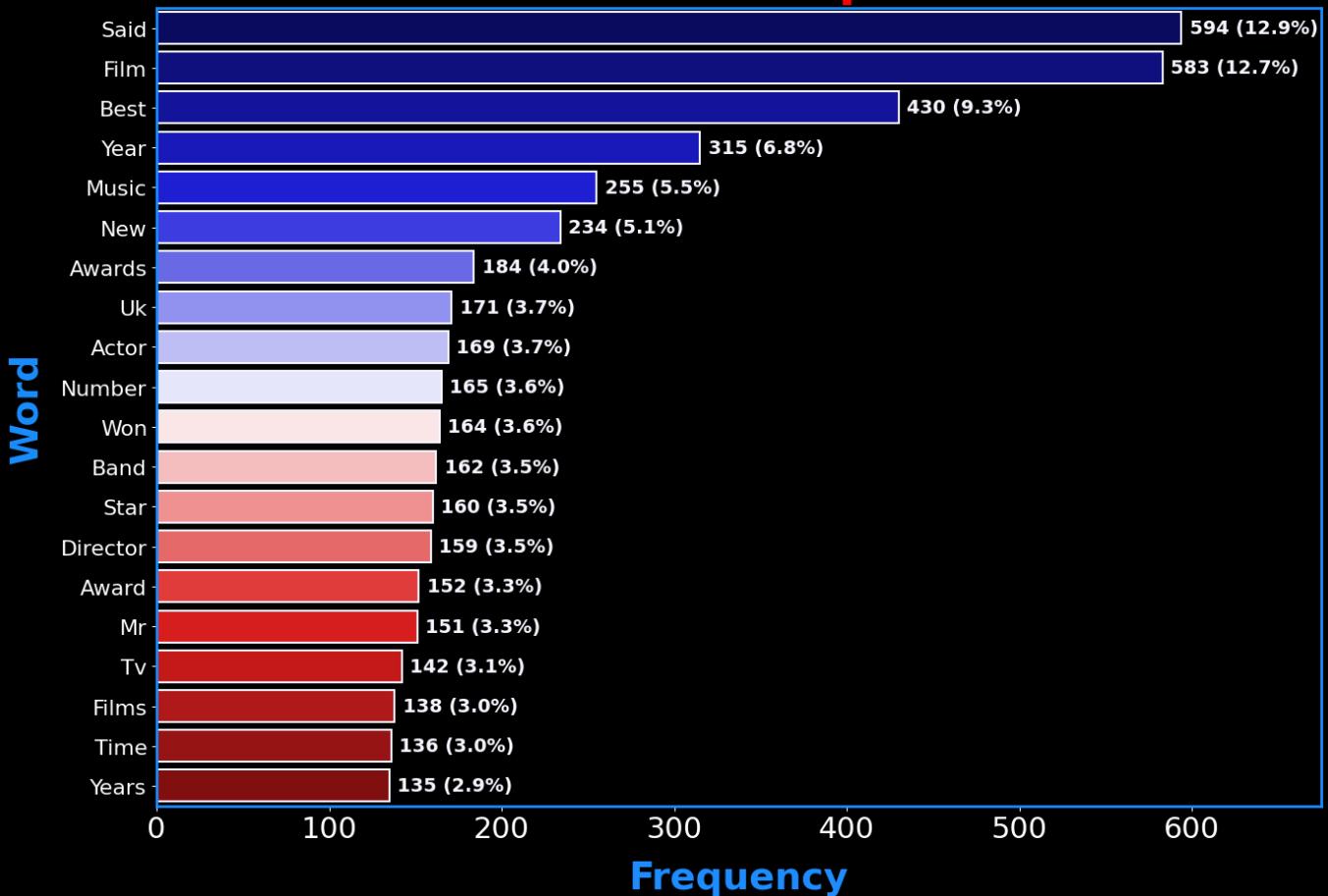
bars = ax.patches # rectangles drawn by seaborn
total = top_words_df["Count"].sum() # percent of the shown top-20 words

# Annotate each bar with its count and percentage.
# This adds text labels to the right of each bar to show the exact count and percentage.
# The percentage is calculated as (count / total) * 100.
# The text is formatted to show both the count and percentage with one decimal place.
for bar in bars:
    w = bar.get_width()
    y = bar.get_y() + bar.get_height() / 2
    ax.annotate(f'{int(w)} ({(w/total)*100:.1f}%)',
               (w, y),
               xytext=(6, 0), textcoords="offset points",
               va="center", ha="left",
               fontsize=14, color="ghostwhite", fontweight="bold")

# Ensure the layout is tight and clean.
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()

```

Entertainment - Top 20 Words



Observation - Top 20 Most Frequent Words - Entertainment:

The Entertainment category contains frequent references to celebrities, media titles, and cultural events.

The vocabulary suggests a strong focus on film, television, and music, along with award shows and public appearances.

This aligns with the expectation that Entertainment reporting blends industry updates with personality-driven stories.

4.10a Combined Word Clouds by Category (Non-Filtered)

I generate a word cloud for each category using raw text. This shows the dominant tokens before any custom filtering.

```
In [15]: # Define a dictionary to hold the color maps and title colors for each category.  
# This will be used to generate word clouds for each category with specific color schemes.  
category_colors = {  
    'business': ('Reds', 'orangered'),  
    'tech': ('cool', 'springgreen'),  
    'politics': ('viridis', 'lime'),  
    'sport': ('rocket', 'cyan'),  
    'entertainment': ('magma', 'violet')  
}  
  
# Import necessary libraries for word cloud generation and visualization.  
fig, axes = plt.subplots(3, 2, figsize=(24, 18), facecolor='black')  
fig.patch.set_facecolor('black')  
ax_flat = axes.flatten()  
  
# Loop through categories and generate word clouds (no custom stopwords)  
for i, (category, (cmap, title_color)) in enumerate(category_colors.items()):  
    ax = ax_flat[i]  
    category_text = ' '.join(df_train.loc[df_train['Category'] == category, 'Text'].astype(str))  
  
    # Generate the word cloud for the current category.  
    # The WordCloud object is created with a black background and a specific colormap.  
    wc_raw = WordCloud(  
        background_color='black',  
        max_words=100,  
        width=800,  
        height=400,  
        colormap=cmap  
    ).generate(category_text)  
  
    # Display the generated word cloud image.
```

```
# The word cloud will show the most frequent words in the specified category, with a black background and the defined color map.
ax.imshow(wc_raw, interpolation='bilinear')
ax.set_title(f'{category.capitalize()}', fontsize=28, color=title_color, fontweight='bold', pad=12)
ax.axis('off')

# Hide the unused 6th subplot
ax_flat[-1].axis('off')

# Ensure the layout is tight and clean.
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()
```



4.10b Word Clouds by News Category (Filtered Stopwords)

In this version, common and filler terms are removed using the `custom_stop` list (e.g., "said," "mr," "year," "people," "uk," "bbc"). This focuses the visualizations on more topical and category-specific words, which can make trends easier to spot compared to the unfiltered version in 4.10a.

```
In [16]: # Define custom stopwords for the Word Cloud.
# These are common words that do not add significant meaning to the text.
# They are often removed to focus on more meaningful words in the visualization.
news_stop = {"said", "say", "says", "mr", "mrs", "ms", "one", "two", "new", "year", "years", "people", "told", "also", "could", "would", "well", "like", "custom_stop = text.ENGLISH_STOP_WORDS.union(news_stop)}
SEED = 42

# Define a dictionary to hold the color maps and title colors for each category.
# This will be used to generate word clouds for each category with specific color schemes.
category_colors = {
    'business': ('Reds', 'orangered'),
    'tech': ('cool', 'springgreen'),
    'politics': ('viridis', 'lime'),
    'sport': ('rocket', 'cyan'),
    'entertainment': ('magma', 'violet')
}

# Import necessary libraries for word cloud generation and visualization.
fig, axes = plt.subplots(3, 2, figsize=(24, 18), facecolor='black')
fig.patch.set_facecolor('black')
ax_flat = axes.flatten()
```

```

# Loop through categories and generate word clouds (with custom stopwords)
# This will create a word cloud for each category, filtering out common words using the custom stopwords.
# Each word cloud will be displayed in a subplot with a specific color map and title color.
# The word clouds will help visualize the most frequent and relevant words in each category.
# The custom stopwords help filter out common words that do not contribute much to the meaning of the text.
# The Word Cloud will highlight the most relevant terms in the dataset.
for i, (category, (cmap, title_color)) in enumerate(category_colors.items()):
    ax = ax_flat[i]
    category_text = ' '.join(df_train.loc[df_train['Category'] == category, 'Text'].astype(str))

    # Note: stopwords=custom_stop removes common/filler terms, shifting emphasis to topical words.
    wc_filtered = WordCloud(
        background_color='black',
        max_words=100,
        width=800,
        height=400,
        colormap=cmap,
        stopwords=custom_stop,
        random_state=SEED
    ).generate(category_text)

    # Display the generated word cloud image.
    # The word cloud will show the most frequent words in the specified category, with a black background and the defined color map.
    # The custom stopwords help filter out common words that do not contribute much to the meaning of the text.
    # The Word Cloud will highlight the most relevant terms in the dataset.
    # The colormap provides a visually appealing contrast between the most and Least frequent words.
    ax.imshow(wc_filtered, interpolation='bilinear')
    ax.set_title(f"{category.capitalize()}", fontsize=28, color=title_color, fontweight='bold', pad=12)
    ax.axis('off')

# Hide the unused 6th subplot
ax_flat[-1].axis('off')

# Ensure the layout is tight and clean.
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()

```



Observations – Category-Specific Word Clouds (4.10a Unfiltered vs 4.10b Filtered)

The unfiltered category word clouds (4.10a) are dominated by common journalistic filler terms such as *said*, *will*, *year*, and *people*. While these high-frequency terms reflect the linguistic style of news reporting, they dilute category-specific vocabulary, making it harder to distinguish unique thematic elements.

- **Business** emphasizes *market, firm, sale*, and *bank*.
- **Tech** highlights *software, mobile, user*, and *technology*.
- **Politics** centers on *government, election, plan*, and *blair*.
- **Sport** brings forward *win, team, game*, and *england*.
- **Entertainment** emphasizes *film, music, album*, and *star*.

This filtering makes each category's vocabulary more distinct and interpretable, at the cost of removing some context words that may still hold narrative value.

4.11 Category-Specific Top Bigrams

Single words are useful, but short phrases often carry more signal (e.g., *prime minister, mobile phone, world cup*). I extract the most frequent bigrams within a category to surface these patterns before modeling.

```
In [17]: # Function to get top n-grams for a given category
# This function takes a DataFrame, a category, and parameters for n-grams and topn results.
# It returns a DataFrame containing the top n-grams and their counts for the specified category.
# If the category is "overall", it considers all texts in the DataFrame.
# The n-grams are generated using CountVectorizer, which tokenizes the text and counts the occurrences of each n-gram.
# The results are sorted by count, and the top n-grams are returned in a DataFrame.
# The phrases are capitalized for better readability.
def top_ngrams(df, category, n=2, topn=15):
    """Return top n-grams for a given category."""
    if category.lower() != "overall":
        texts = df.loc[df["Category"] == category, "Text"].astype(str)
    else:
        texts = df["Text"].astype(str)

    # Create a CountVectorizer to extract n-grams
    vec = CountVectorizer(
        stop_words="english",
        ngram_range=(n, n),
        token_pattern=r"(?u)\b\w\w+\b"
    )

    # Fit and transform the texts to get the n-grams
    X = vec.fit_transform(texts)
    sums = np.asarray(X.sum(axis=0)).ravel()
    vocab = np.array(vec.get_feature_names_out())
    idx = sums.argsort()[-1:-topn:-1]

    # Create a DataFrame with the top n-grams and their counts
    tbl = pd.DataFrame({"Phrase": vocab[idx], "Count": sums[idx]})
    tbl["Phrase"] = tbl["Phrase"].str.title() # Capitalize each word in the phrase

    # Sort the DataFrame by count in descending order
    return tbl

# Uncomment the following lines to display top n-grams for each category in the training set.
# display(top_ngrams(df_train, "overall", n=2, topn=15))
# display(top_ngrams(df_train, "politics", n=2, topn=15))
# display(top_ngrams(df_train, "tech", n=2, topn=15))
# display(top_ngrams(df_train, "sport", n=2, topn=15))
# display(top_ngrams(df_train, "business", n=2, topn=15))
# display(top_ngrams(df_train, "entertainment", n=2, topn=15))

# Function to plot top n-grams with counts and percentages
# This function takes a DataFrame, a category, and parameters for n-grams and topn results.
# It generates a bar plot showing the top n-grams along with their counts and percentages.
# The plot includes annotations for each bar, displaying the count and percentage of each n-gram.
# The x-axis represents the frequency of the n-grams, while the y-axis shows the n-grams themselves.
def plot_top_ngrams(df, category, n=2, topn=15, palette="viridis", title_color="deepskyblue", xlim=500):
    """Plot top n-grams with counts and percentages."""
    tbl = top_ngrams(df, category, n=n, topn=topn)
    total_count = tbl["Count"].sum()

    # Set up the plot
    fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(14, 10), facecolor="black")
    sns.barplot(
        x="Count", y="Phrase", data=tbl,
        hue="Phrase", palette=palette, legend=False, ax=ax
    )

    # Annotate each bar with its count and percentage
    # This adds text labels to the right of each bar to show the exact count and percentage
    # The percentage is calculated as (count / total_count) * 100.
    # The text is formatted to show both the count and percentage with one decimal place.
    # The annotations are positioned slightly to the right of the bar for clarity.
    for i, (count) in enumerate(tbl["Count"]):
```

```

pct = 100 * count / total_count
ax.text(
    count + (xlim * 0.01), i, f"{count} ({pct:.1f}%)",
    va='center', fontsize=14, color="white", fontweight="bold"
)

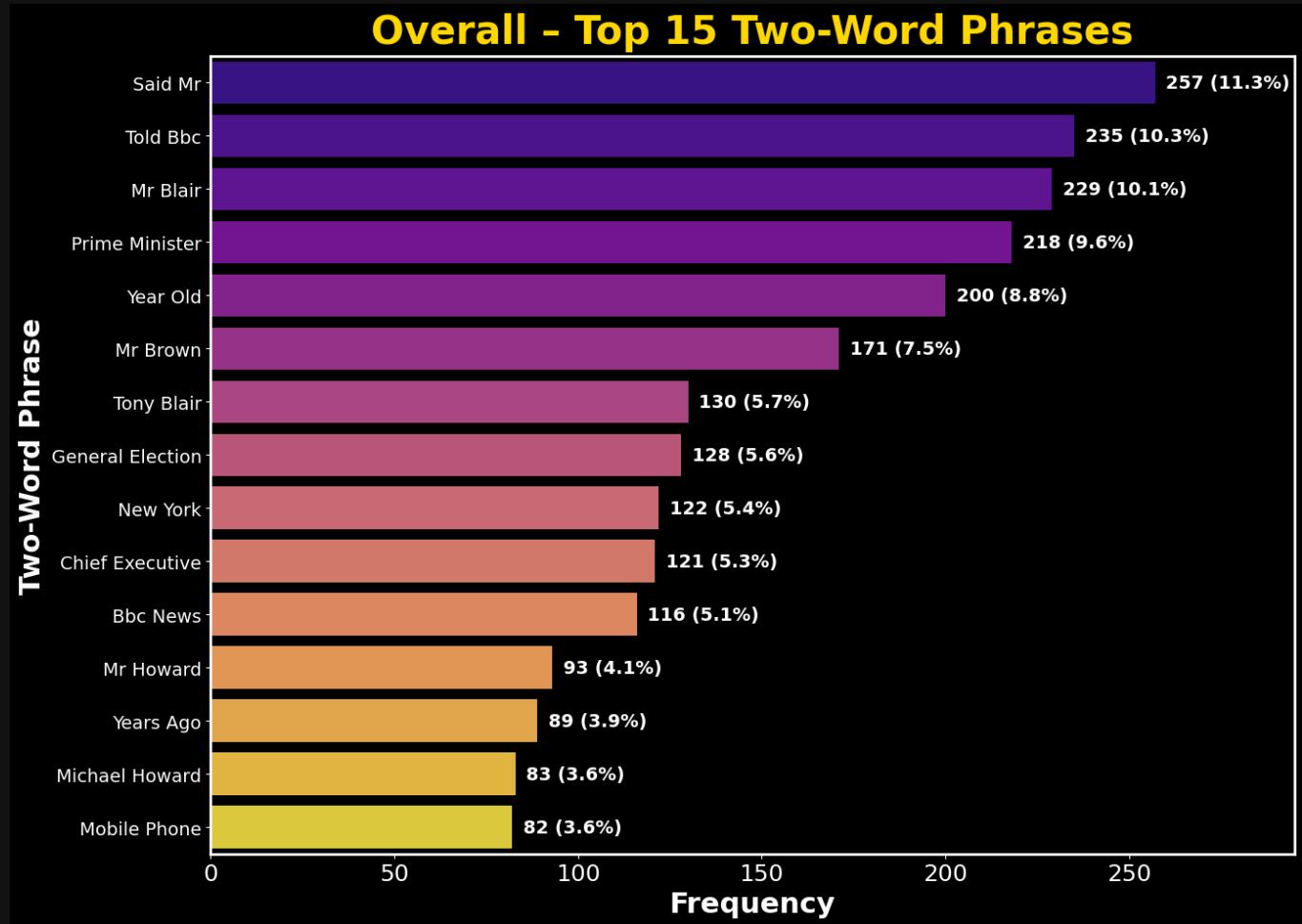
# Set the title and labels with custom font properties.
ax.set_title(
    f"{category.capitalize()} if category != 'overall' else 'Overall' - Top {topn} Two-Word Phrases",
    fontsize=30, color=title_color, fontweight="bold", pad=10
)
ax.set_xlabel("Frequency", fontsize=22, color="white", fontweight="bold")
ax.set_ylabel("Two-Word Phrase", fontsize=22, color="white", fontweight="bold")
ax.tick_params(axis="x", labelsize=18, colors="white")
ax.tick_params(axis="y", labelsize=14, colors="white")
ax.set_facecolor("black")
ax.set_xlim(0, xlim)

# Style the plot's border (spines).
for s in ax.spines.values():
    s.set_edgecolor("white")
    s.set_linewidth(2)

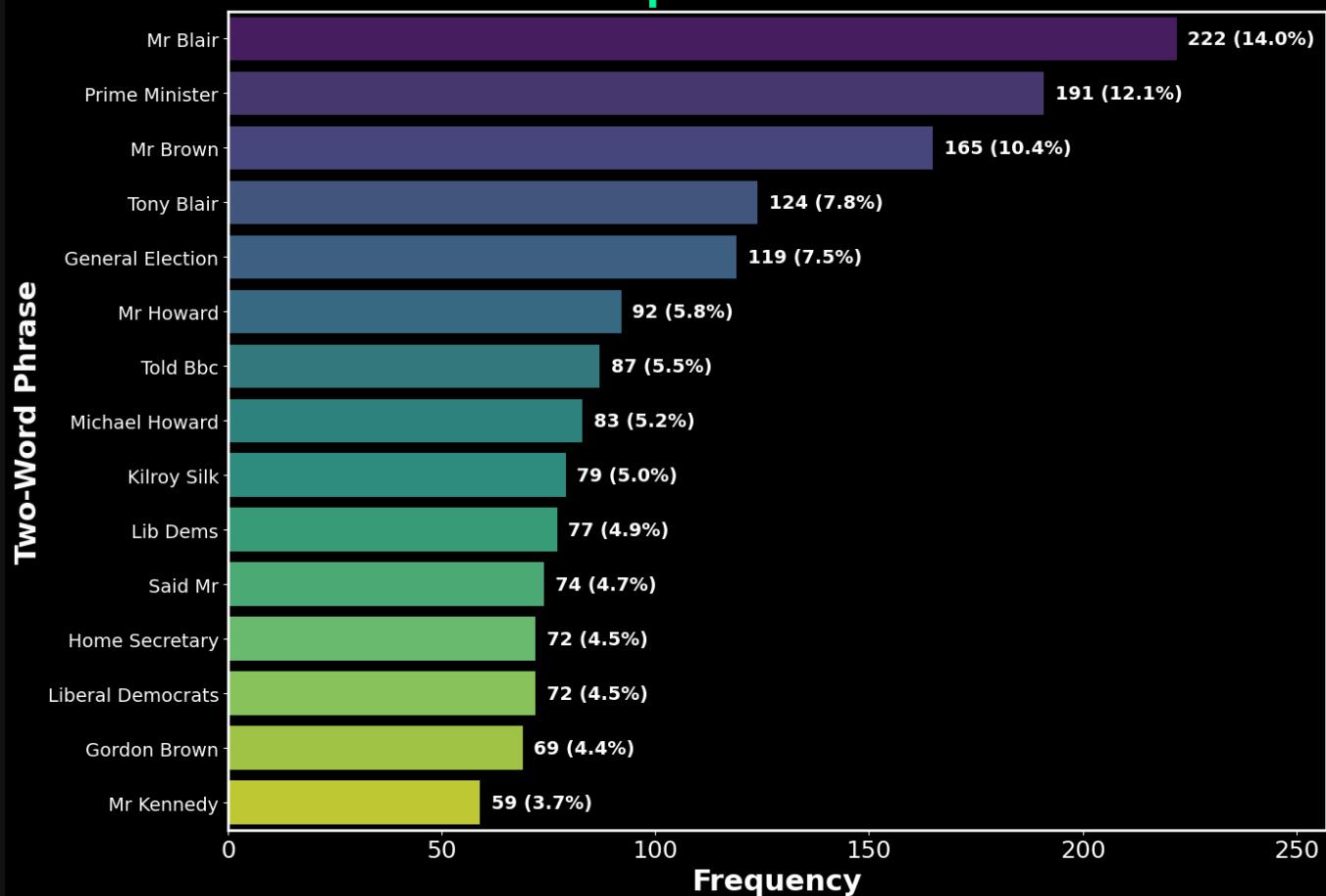
# Ensure the layout is tight and clean.
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()

# Plot top n-grams for each category in the training set.
# Each plot will show the top 15 two-word phrases for the specified category, along with their counts and percentages.
# Xlim is set to control the x-axis limit for better visibility of the bars.
plot_top_ngrams(df_train, "overall", n=2, topn=15, palette="plasma", title_color="gold", xlim=295) # Overall
plot_top_ngrams(df_train, "politics", n=2, topn=15, palette="viridis", title_color="mediumspringgreen", xlim=257) # Politics
plot_top_ngrams(df_train, "tech", n=2, topn=15, palette="cool", title_color="springgreen", xlim=157) # Tech
plot_top_ngrams(df_train, "sport", n=2, topn=15, palette="rocket", title_color="cyan", xlim=145) # Sport
plot_top_ngrams(df_train, "business", n=2, topn=15, palette="Reds", title_color="orangered", xlim=93) # Business
plot_top_ngrams(df_train, "entertainment", n=2, topn=15, palette="magma", title_color="violet", xlim=77) # Entertainment

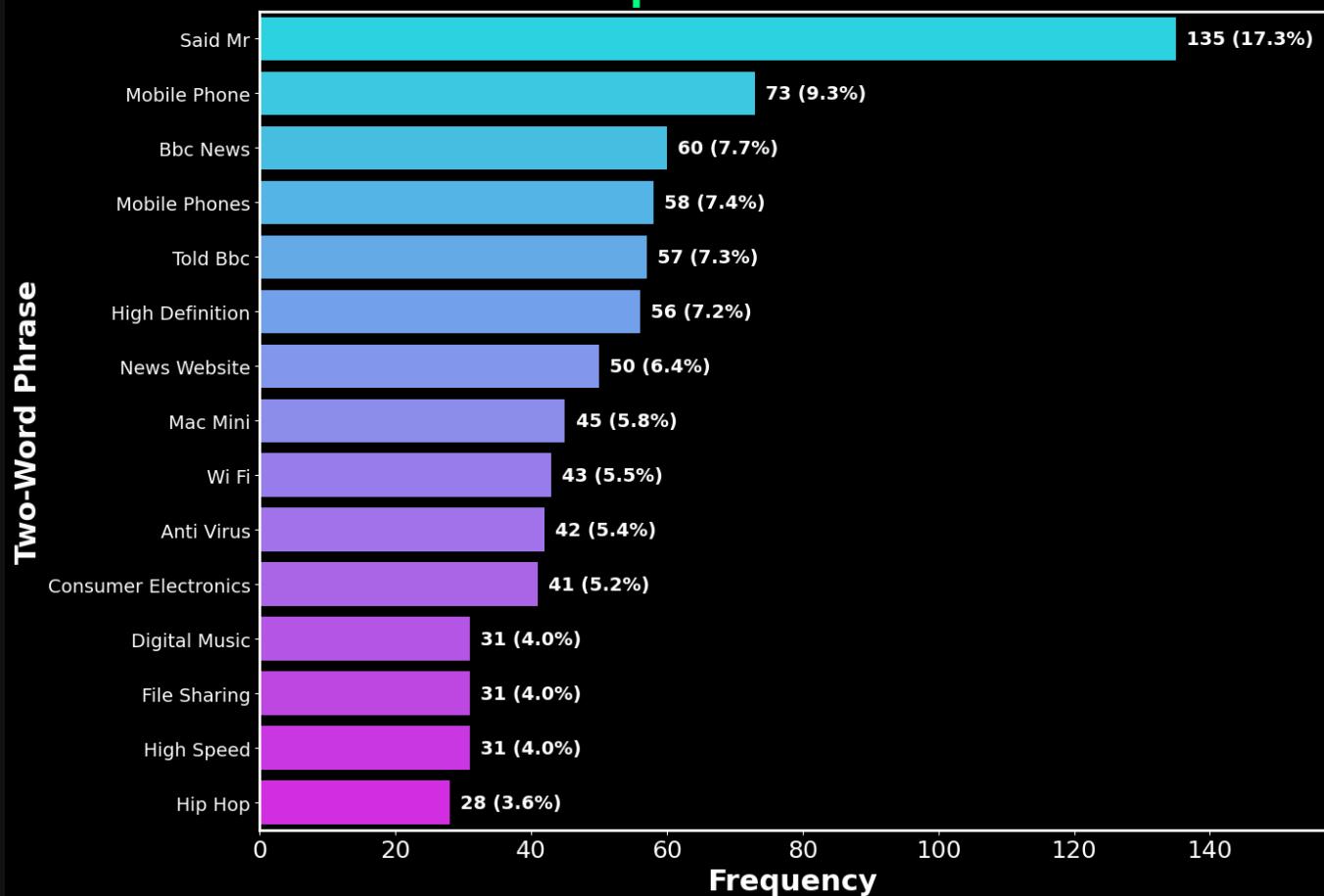
```



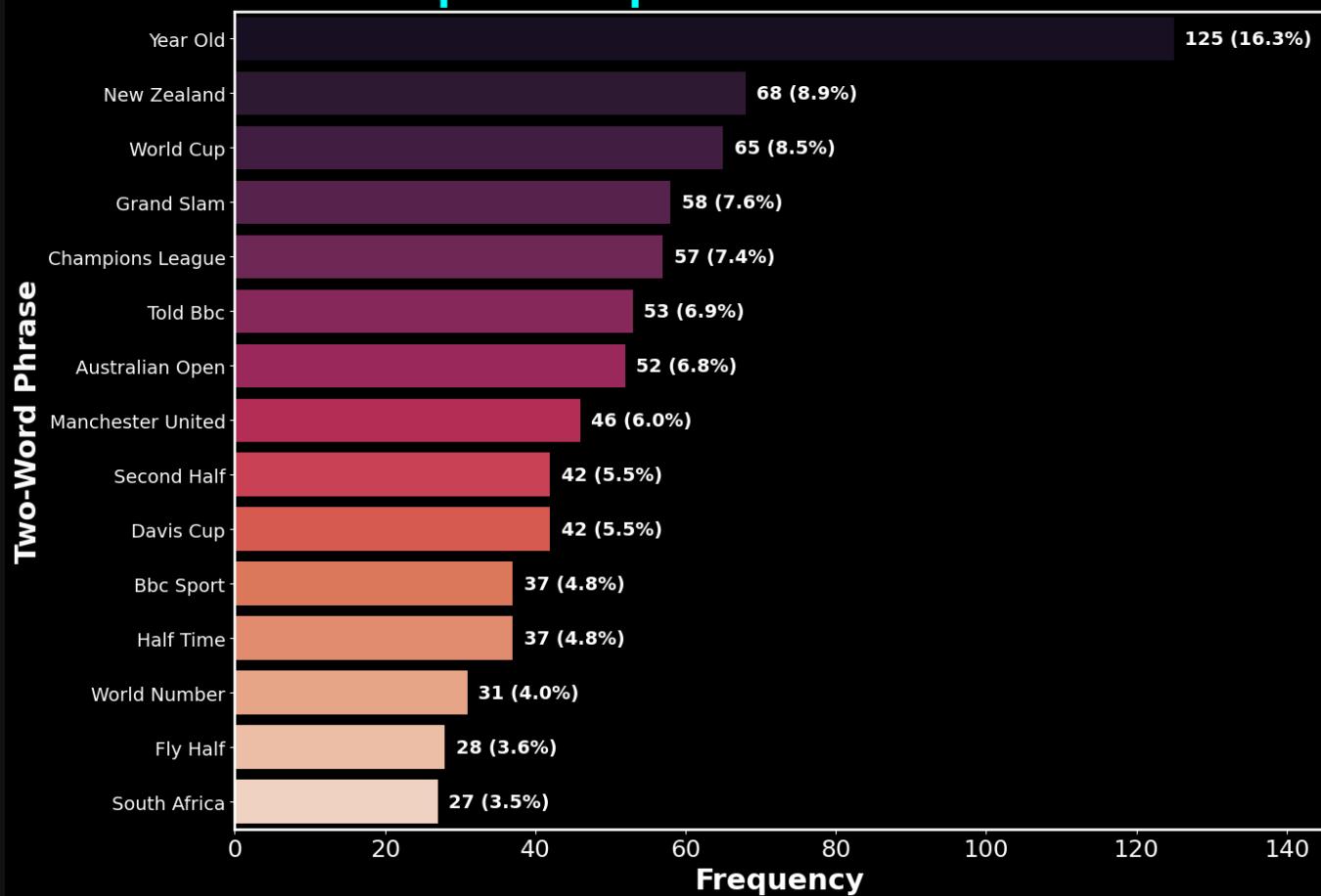
Politics - Top 15 Two-Word Phrases



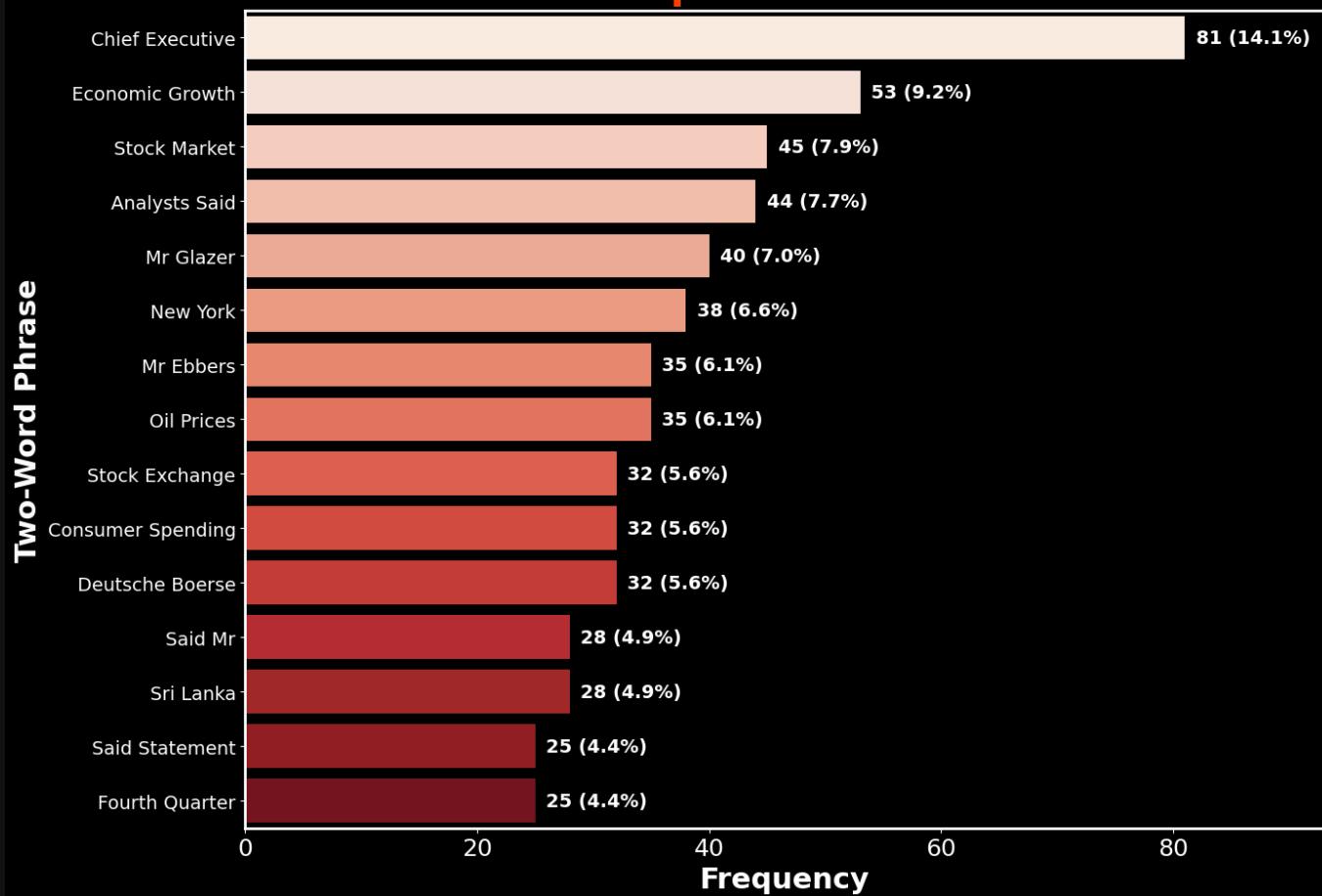
Tech - Top 15 Two-Word Phrases



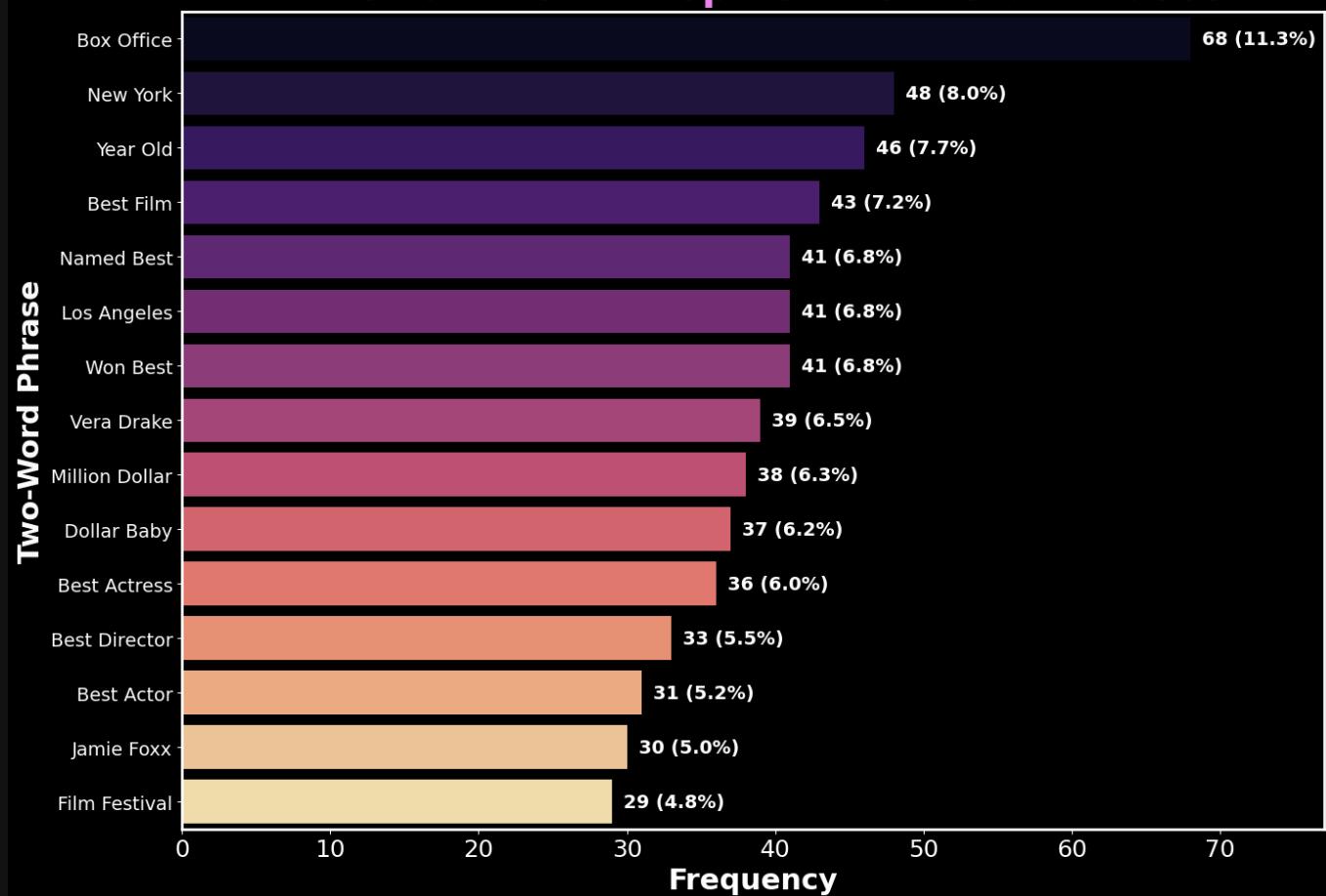
Sport - Top 15 Two-Word Phrases



Business - Top 15 Two-Word Phrases



Entertainment - Top 15 Two-Word Phrases



Observations: Top 15 Two-Word Phrases by Category

The analysis highlights both common language patterns across the dataset and topic-specific phrase usage.

- **Overall**, recurring names and titles dominate, with *"Said Mr"*, *"Told Bbc"*, and political figures such as *"Mr Blair"* and *"Prime Minister"* holding the highest frequencies.
- **Politics** is driven by government titles, party identifiers, and election terms, suggesting heavy coverage of political leadership and events.
- **Tech** emphasizes product terms (*"Mobile Phone"*, *"Mac Mini"*), technology concepts (*"High Definition"*, *"File Sharing"*), and corporate references (*"Bbc News"*).
- **Sport** focuses on event names (*"World Cup"*, *"Grand Slam"*, *"Champions League"*), international teams, and competition stages (*"Second Half"*, *"Davis Cup"*).
- **Business** contains economic and market terminology (*"Economic Growth"*, *"Stock Market"*, *"Oil Prices"*) alongside leadership references (*"Chief Executive"*).
- **Entertainment** phrases are award- and film-centric (*"Best Film"*, *"Box Office"*, *"Film Festival"*), reflecting coverage of the film industry and events.

The overlap of certain entities across categories (*"New York"*, *"Year Old"*, *"Bbc News"*) indicates cross-domain reporting, while other phrases remain highly domain-specific.

4.12 Document Similarity Map (TF-IDF → UMAP)

To close the EDA, I project articles into a 2D space using TF-IDF features reduced with UMAP. Each point is one article; points that sit closer together use similar vocabulary. The axes are abstract UMAP components (not physical units), but distances are meaningful for comparing documents.

In [18]:

```

import warnings

# UMAP visualization of TF-IDF features
# This section uses UMAP to reduce the dimensionality of TF-IDF features for visualization.
# It creates a scatter plot of the reduced features, colored by category labels
if 'custom_stop' in globals():
    _stopwords = custom_stop
else:
    from sklearn.feature_extraction import text

    # Define custom stopwords for the Word Cloud.
    # These are common words that do not add significant meaning to the text.
    # They are often removed to focus on more meaningful words in the visualization.
    news_stop = {
        
```

```

"said", "say", "says", "mr", "mrs", "ms", "one", "two", "new", "year", "years", "people", "told",
"also", "could", "would", "well", "like", "get", "back", "u", "uk", "bbc", "000"
}

_stopwords = text.ENGLISH_STOP_WORDS.union(news_stop)
_stopwords = list(_stopwords)
tfidf_preview = TfidfVectorizer(
    stop_words=_stopwords,
    max_features=20000,
    token_pattern=r"(?u)\b[a-z][a-z]+\b",
    max_df=0.95,
    min_df=2
)

# Fit the TF-IDF vectorizer to the training data
# This will transform the text data into a TF-IDF feature matrix.
X_prev = tfidf_preview.fit_transform(df_train[ "Text" ].astype(str))

# The UMAP warning is informational. This block will suppress it for a clean output.
with warnings.catch_warnings():
    warnings.filterwarnings("ignore", category=UserWarning, module="umap")

    # Attempt to import UMAP and fit the model
    try:
        emb = umap_model.fit_transform(X_prev)
    except NameError:
        import umap as umap_
        umap_model = umap_.UMAP(n_neighbors=15, min_dist=0.1, random_state=SEED)
        emb = umap_model.fit_transform(X_prev)

# Convert categories to numerical labels for coloring the scatter plot
# This will create a unique numerical label for each category in the training set.
cats = df_train[ "Category" ].astype(str).values
_, labels = np.unique(cats, return_inverse=True)

# Set the style for the plot
from matplotlib.colors import ListedColormap
palette = ListedColormap([ "#1f77b4", "#2ca02c", "#9467bd", "#ff7f0e", "#7f7f7f" ])

# Create a scatter plot of the UMAP-reduced features
# This will visualize the TF-IDF feature space reduced to two dimensions using UMAP.
# The points will be colored according to their category labels, providing a visual representation of the data
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(14, 10), facecolor="black")
ax.set_facecolor("black")

# Scatter plot of the UMAP embeddings
# This will plot the UMAP-reduced features in a 2D space, with points colored by their category labels.
# The scatter plot will help visualize the distribution of different categories in the TF-IDF feature space.
sc = ax.scatter(emb[:, 0], emb[:, 1],
                c=labels, s=14, cmap=palette, alpha=0.95, linewidths=0)

# Set the title and labels with custom font properties.
ax.set_title("Preview: TF-IDF Feature Space Reduced with UMAP",
            fontsize=28, color="white", fontweight="bold", pad=12)
ax.set_xlabel("UMAP Dimension 1", fontsize=20, color="white", fontweight="bold", labelpad=6)
ax.set_ylabel("UMAP Dimension 2", fontsize=20, color="white", fontweight="bold", labelpad=6)
ax.tick_params(colors="white", labelsize=12)

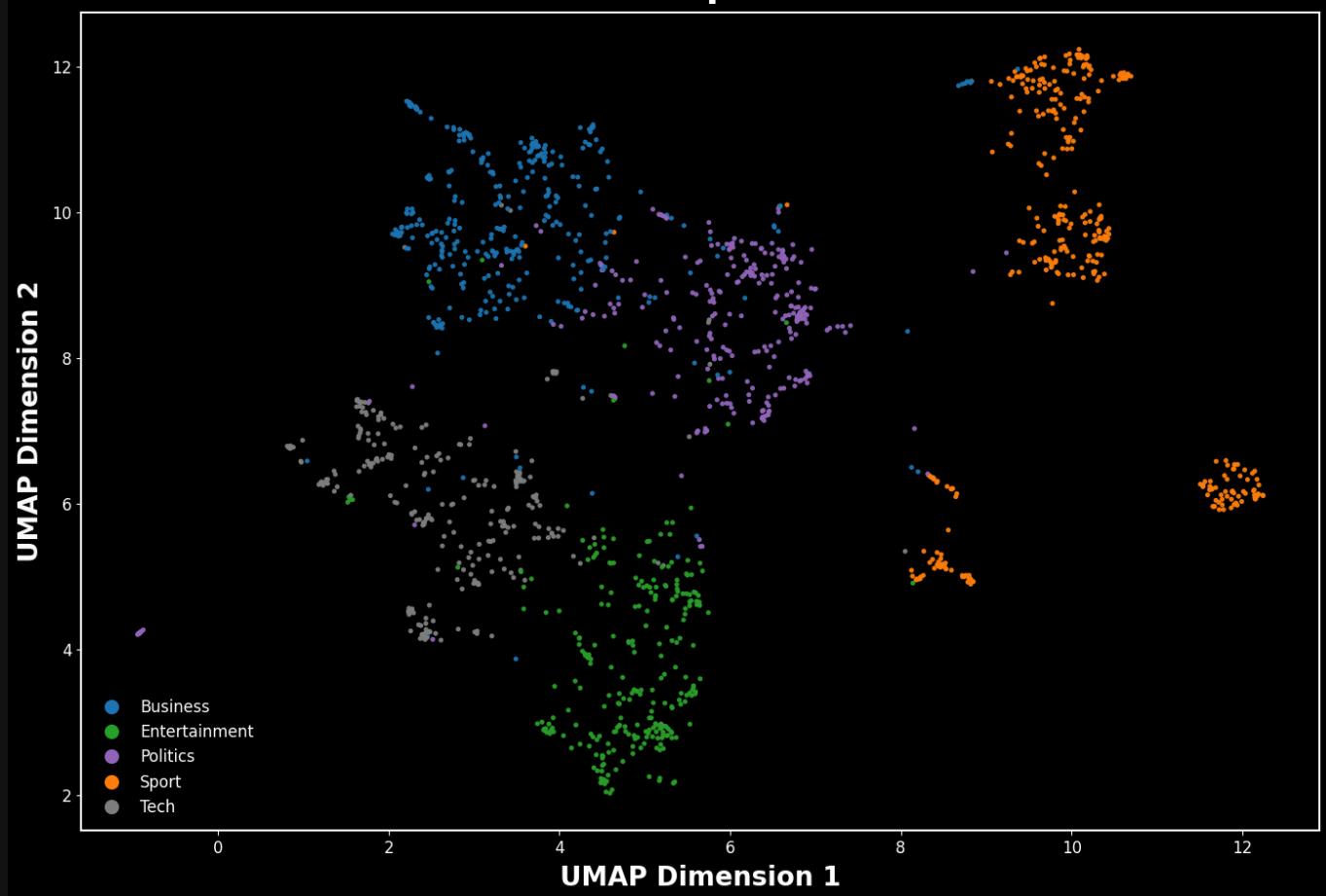
# Style the plot's border (spines).
for spine in ax.spines.values():
    spine.set_color("white")
    spine.set_linewidth(1.5)

# Add a legend to the plot
handles = []
names = np.unique(cats)
for i, name in enumerate(names):
    handles.append(plt.Line2D([], [], marker='o', linestyle='', color=palette(i), markersize=10, label=name.capitalize()))
leg = ax.legend(handles=handles, frameon=False, fontsize=12, loc="lower left", labelcolor="white")
for text in leg.get_texts():
    text.set_color("white")

# Ensure the layout is tight and clean.
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()

```

Preview: TF-IDF Feature Space Reduced with UMAP



Observations – TF-IDF → UMAP and Section 4 wrap-up

The UMAP projection provides a final high-level view of the relationships between documents in the dataset.

Each point represents a single BBC News article, positioned in a 2D space according to the similarity of its vocabulary (measured using TF-IDF). Articles that are closer together tend to share more similar word usage. Colors correspond to their assigned categories.

This plot does not preserve physical meaning in the X and Y axes — they are abstract coordinates from the UMAP algorithm — but it does preserve relative proximity, revealing clustering patterns across categories.

Taken together, the EDA in Section 4 has:

- Identified the most common and distinctive words, phrases, and topics within each category.
- Shown vocabulary overlap and separation between categories.
- Illustrated category-level clusters when projecting the text into a reduced-dimensional space.

These insights guide the design of our feature extraction pipeline in Section 5, where TF-IDF will be used in a structured, model-ready form for text classification.

Section 5: Text Pre-processing with TF-IDF

Now that the EDA is complete and I understand the vocabulary used across categories, it's time to prepare the text for modeling.

Machine learning models can't directly interpret raw text. They require numerical feature vectors.

To achieve this, I'll use **TF-IDF (Term Frequency–Inverse Document Frequency)**.

TF-IDF highlights words that are important to a specific document but less common across all documents, which helps identify terms that are most characteristic of each category.

I'll configure the vectorizer to:

- Remove common English stop words.
- Ignore extremely frequent terms (appear in >95% of documents).
- Ignore very rare terms (appear in fewer than 2 documents).

This ensures the resulting feature matrix is both informative and compact.

5.1 Converting Text to Numerical Features with TF-IDF

In this step, we transform the raw BBC news articles into a numerical format that can be used by machine learning models.

We use **Term Frequency–Inverse Document Frequency (TF-IDF)** to assign a weight to each term based on how frequently it appears in a document relative to the entire corpus.

The vectorizer is configured to:

- Remove common English stop words
- Keep only letter-based tokens with at least two characters
- Ignore terms that appear in more than 95% of documents or in fewer than two documents
- Limit the vocabulary to 20,000 terms for efficiency and reproducibility

The resulting TF-IDF matrix is **sparse**, meaning most entries are zero, as each document contains only a small fraction of the total vocabulary.

We also preview the vocabulary and show the top weighted terms for the first training document.

```
In [19]: # This section uses TF-IDF vectorization to convert text data into numerical feature vectors.  
# The TF-IDF (Term Frequency-Inverse Document Frequency) vectorizer transforms the text data into a matrix of TF-IDF features.  
  
# Vectorization and data manipulation.  
tfidf_vectorizer = TfidfVectorizer(  
    stop_words="english",           # drop common English stopwords  
    token_pattern=r"(?u)\b[a-z][a-z]+\b", # keep words (letters only, len>=2)  
    max_df=0.95,                  # ignore terms in >95% of docs  
    min_df=2,                     # ignore terms appearing in <2 docs  
    max_features=20000            # (optional) cap vocabulary for reproducibility/runtime  
)  
  
# Load the training and test datasets  
X_train_tfidf = tfidf_vectorizer.fit_transform(df_train["Text"].astype(str))  
X_test_tfidf = tfidf_vectorizer.transform(df_test["Text"].astype(str))  
  
# Display the shapes of the training and test TF-IDF matrices  
# This will show the number of documents and the number of features (terms) in each matrix  
print("-"*70 + "\n")  
print(f"Shape of the training TF-IDF matrix: {X_train_tfidf.shape}")  
print("-"*70 + "\n")  
print(f"Shape of the test TF-IDF matrix: {X_test_tfidf.shape}")  
print("-"*70 + "\n")  
  
# Sparsity of the training TF-IDF matrix  
# This section calculates the sparsity of the training TF-IDF matrix.  
# Sparsity is defined as the ratio of non-zero elements to the total number of elements in the matrix.  
nnz = X_train_tfidf.nnz  
total = X_train_tfidf.shape[0] * X_train_tfidf.shape[1]  
print(f"Sparsity: {nnz/total:.4%}")  
print("-"*70 + "\n")  
  
# Vocabulary size and sample terms  
# This retrieves the vocabulary from the TF-IDF vectorizer and prints its size and a sample of terms.  
# The vocabulary is a mapping of terms to their indices in the TF-IDF feature matrix.  
vocab = tfidf_vectorizer.get_feature_names_out()  
print(f"\nVocabulary size: {len(vocab):,} terms")  
print("\nSample vocabulary terms:")  
print(list(vocab[:15]))  
print("-"*70 + "\n")  
  
# Top weighted terms for the first training doc  
# This retrieves the first document's TF-IDF vector and identifies the top 10 weighted terms.  
# The terms are sorted by their TF-IDF weights, and the top 10 terms are printed along with their weights.  
# This provides insight into the most significant terms in the first document of the training set.  
first_doc_vector = X_train_tfidf[0].toarray().ravel()  
top_idx = first_doc_vector.argsort()[:-1][:-10]  
print("Top 10 weighted terms in the first training document:")  
for i in top_idx:  
    print(f"\n{vocab[i]}: {first_doc_vector[i]:.4f}")  
print("\n" + "-"*70 + "\n")
```

```

Shape of the training TF-IDF matrix: (1490, 13480)
-----
Shape of the test TF-IDF matrix: (735, 13480)
-----
Sparsity: 0.9730%
-----
Vocabulary size: 13,480 terms

Sample vocabulary terms:
['aaa', 'aaas', 'aaron', 'abacus', 'abandon', 'abandoned', 'abandoning', 'abba', 'abbas', 'abbasi', 'abbott', 'abc', 'abdellatif', 'abdication', 'abdullah']

-----
Top 10 weighted terms in the first training document:
worldcom: 0.5034
accounting: 0.3557
ebbers: 0.3510
cooper: 0.2269
fraud: 0.1754
lawyers: 0.1499
andersen: 0.1444
mr: 0.1385
charges: 0.1236
auditors: 0.1190

```

Observation – TF-IDF Matrix & Vocabulary Preview

The TF-IDF transformation produced a training matrix with 1,490 documents and 13,480 unique terms, and a test matrix with 735 documents and the same vocabulary size.

Sparsity is extremely high (97.3%), which is expected for natural language data since each document contains only a subset of all possible terms.

The sample vocabulary shows a mix of named entities, proper nouns, and general terms, confirming the vectorizer is capturing diverse information. The top weighted terms for the first document—such as *worldcom*, *accounting*, and *fraud*—align closely with its subject matter, indicating that the TF-IDF weighting successfully highlights the most relevant words for classification.

5.2 Non-negative Matrix Factorization (NMF) Modeling

With the text transformed into a TF-IDF feature matrix, I can now apply **Non-negative Matrix Factorization (NMF)**.

NMF decomposes the document-term matrix into two smaller non-negative matrices:

- **W** (documents-to-topics)
- **H** (topics-to-terms)

This approach is useful for **topic discovery**, since each topic is represented by a set of words with high weights, and each document is expressed as a mix of topics.

For the BBC News dataset, I'll set the number of topics equal to the number of categories (5).

Once the model is fitted, I'll:

1. Inspect the top terms in each topic.
2. Transform both training and test sets into topic space for later classification.

```

In [20]: # This section uses Non-negative Matrix Factorization (NMF) to discover topics in the text data.
# NMF is a dimensionality reduction technique that factorizes the TF-IDF matrix into two lower-dimensional matrices: W (document-to-
# The number of topics is set to the number of unique categories in the training set.
n_topics = len(df_train['Category'].unique())

nmf_model = NMF(
    n_components=n_topics,
    random_state=42,
    init='nndsvda', # smart initialization
    max_iter=400
)

# Ensure TF-IDF exists and fit NMF to get H
try:
    X_tfidf
    tfidf_vectorizer
except NameError:
    tfidf_vectorizer = TfidfVectorizer(
        max_df=0.95, min_df=2, stop_words="english", ngram_range=(1, 2)
    )
    X_tfidf = tfidf_vectorizer.fit_transform(df_train["Text"])

```

```

# If H (topic-term matrix) isn't defined yet, fit NMF now
try:
    H
except NameError:
    W = nmf_model.fit_transform(X_tfidf)
    H = nmf_model.components_

# Display top words for each topic
# This function displays the top words for each topic based on the topic-term matrix H.
def display_top_words(H, feature_names, n_top_words=10):
    for topic_idx, topic in enumerate(H):
        top_feature_indices = topic.argsort()[:-1][:n_top_words]
        top_features = [feature_names[i] for i in top_feature_indices]
        print(f"Topic #{topic_idx+1}: {', '.join(top_features)}")

# Display the top words for each topic discovered by the NMF model
# This will print the top words for each topic discovered by the NMF model.
feature_names = tfidf_vectorizer.get_feature_names_out()
print("-"*70 + "\n")
print("--- Top words for each topic ---")
display_top_words(H, feature_names)
print("-"*70 + "\n")

# Display top words in a DataFrame
n_top_words = 10
print(f"Displaying top {n_top_words} words per topic in a DataFrame:")
print("-"*70 + "\n")

# Create a DataFrame to hold the top words for each topic
# This DataFrame will contain the top words for each topic, making it easier to visualize and interpret the topics.
# Each topic will be represented as a column, and the top words will be listed in rows.
topic_words = {}
for topic_idx, topic in enumerate(H):
    top_indices = topic.argsort()[:-1][:n_top_words]
    topic_words[f"Topic {topic_idx+1}"] = [feature_names[i] for i in top_indices]

# Convert the topic words dictionary into a DataFrame
df_topics = pd.DataFrame(topic_words)

# Display the DataFrame with top words for each topic
# This will show the top words for each topic in a tabular format, making it easier to read and analyze.
# Each row corresponds to a topic, and each column contains the top words for that topic.
topic_names = []
for t in range(H.shape[0]):
    words = set(df_topics[f"Topic {t+1}"][:10])
    if {"game", "win", "team", "players", "cup"} & words:
        topic_names.append("Sport")
    elif {"minister", "election", "party", "government", "blair", "labour"} & words:
        topic_names.append("Politics")
    elif {"mobile", "technology", "phones", "digital", "microsoft"} & words:
        topic_names.append("Tech")
    elif {"film", "actor", "actress", "awards", "oscar"} & words:
        topic_names.append("Entertainment")
    elif {"growth", "economy", "sales", "market", "bank", "economic"} & words:
        topic_names.append("Business")
    else:
        topic_names.append(f"Topic {t+1}")
print("Guessed topic names:", topic_names)
print("\n" + "-"*70 + "\n")

# Style the DataFrame for better visualization
styled = (
    df_topics.style
    .set_table_styles([
        {
            'selector': 'thead th',
            'props': [
                ('background-color', '#DA291C'),
                ('color', 'white'),
                ('font-weight', 'bold'),
                ('font-size', '20px')
            ]
        },
        {
            'selector': 'tbody td',
            'props': [
                ('background-color', '#0033A0'), # <- removed stray semicolon
                ('color', 'white'),
                ('font-size', '18px')
            ]
        }
    ])
    .set_properties(**{'text-align': 'center'})
)

```

```

display(styled) # <- this actually renders the styled table
print("\n" + "-"*70 + "\n")
-----  

--- Top words for each topic ---  

Topic #1: england, game, win, wales, cup, ireland, said, team, play, chelsea  

Topic #2: mr, labour, election, blair, brown, party, said, mr blair, mr brown, government  

Topic #3: mobile, people, music, said, phone, technology, users, digital, phones, software  

Topic #4: film, best, awards, award, actor, actress, oscar, films, director, won  

Topic #5: growth, said, economy, sales, year, economic, bank, oil, market, china
-----
```

Displaying top 10 words per topic in a DataFrame:

```
Guessed topic names: ['Sport', 'Politics', 'Tech', 'Entertainment', 'Business']
```

	Topic 1	Topic 2	Topic 3	Topic 4	Topic 5
0	england	mr	mobile	film	growth
1	game	labour	people	best	said
2	win	election	music	awards	economy
3	wales	blair	said	award	sales
4	cup	brown	phone	actor	year
5	ireland	party	technology	actress	economic
6	said	said	users	oscar	bank
7	team	mr blair	digital	films	oil
8	play	mr brown	phones	director	market
9	chelsea	government	software	won	china

5.3 Visualizing NMF Topics

While the table of top words per topic gives a clear overview, visualizing these words by their NMF weights helps highlight the relative importance of each term within its topic.

In these plots, each topic is represented by its top 10 words ranked by weight.

The higher the bar, the more strongly that word contributes to defining the topic.

```

In [21]: # Plotting top words for each topic
# This section creates bar plots to visualize the top words for each topic discovered by the NMF model.
# Each plot will show the top words for a specific topic, along with their weights (importance) in that topic.
# The plots will use different color palettes for better visual distinction.
n_top_words = 10
feature_names = tfidf_vectorizer.get_feature_names_out()

# Define color palettes for each topic
palettes = ["Blues_r", "Greens_r", "Purples_r", "Oranges_r", "Reds_r"]

# Loop through each topic and create a bar plot for the top words
# Each plot will display the top words for the topic, their weights, and a percentage share
# The words will be capitalized for better readability.
for topic_idx, topic in enumerate(H):
    top_idx = topic.argsort()[:-1][-n_top_words:]
    top_features = [feature_names[i].capitalize() for i in top_idx]
    top_weights = topic[top_idx]
    share = top_weights / top_weights.sum()

    # Create a bar plot for the top words in the current topic
    fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(14, 7), facecolor="black")
    fig.patch.set_facecolor("black")

    # Create a horizontal bar plot using seaborn
    # This will visualize the top words for the topic, with their weights represented as bar lengths
    sns.barplot(
```

```

        x=top_weights, y=top_features,
        hue=top_features, palette=palettes[topic_idx % len(palettes)],
        legend=False, edgecolor="ghostwhite", linewidth=1.2, ax=ax
    )

    # Annotate each bar with its weight and percentage share
    # This adds text labels to the right of each bar to show the weight and percentage share
    # The percentage share is calculated as (weight / total weight) * 100.
    for i, (w, p) in enumerate(zip(top_weights, share)):
        ax.text(w*1.01, i, f"{p*100:.1f}%", va="center", fontsize=12, color="white", fontweight="bold")

    # Set the title and labels with custom font properties.
    # The title includes the topic name and the number of top words displayed.
    nice_title = topic_names[topic_idx] if 'topic_names' in globals() else f"Topic {topic_idx+1}"
    ax.set_title(f"{nice_title} - Top {n_top_words} Words (by NMF weight)",
                fontsize=28, color="firebrick", fontweight="bold", pad=10)

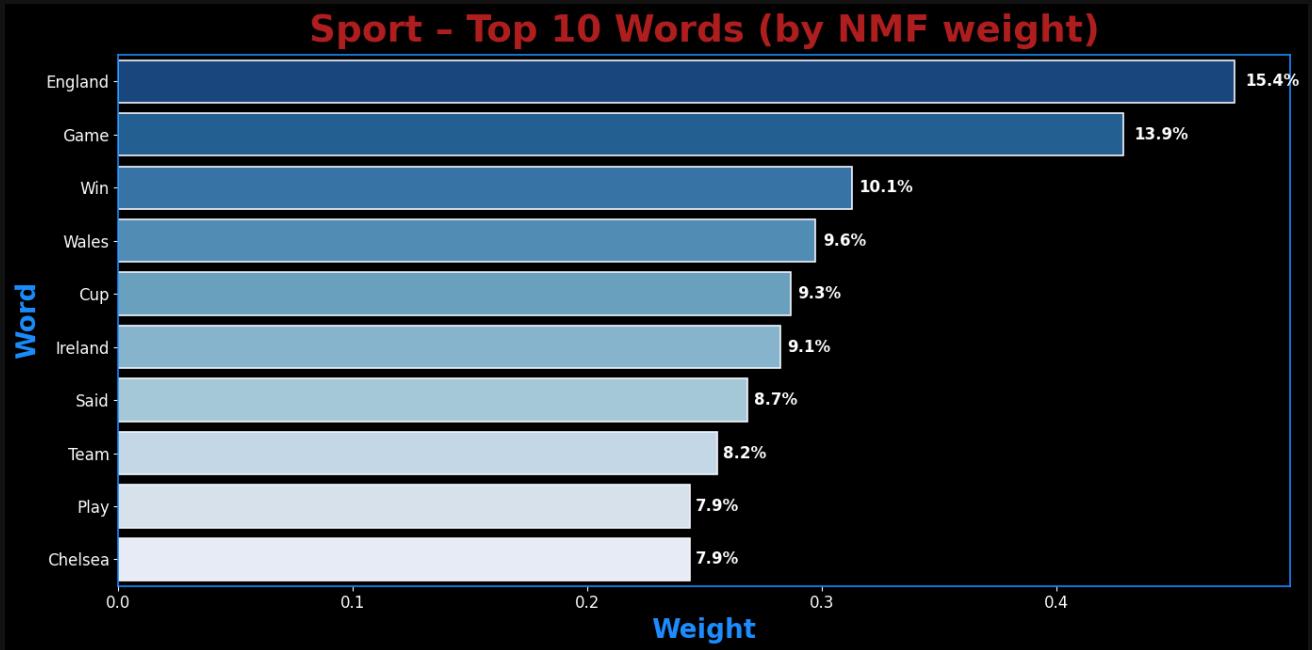
    # Set the x and y labels with custom font properties.
    # The x-axis represents the weight of the words, while the y-axis shows the words
    ax.set_xlabel("Weight", fontsize=20, color="dodgerblue", fontweight="bold")
    ax.set_ylabel("Word", fontsize=20, color="dodgerblue", fontweight="bold")
    ax.tick_params(axis="x", colors="white", labelsize=12)
    ax.tick_params(axis="y", colors="white", labelsize=12)

    # Set the background color of the plotting area.
    ax.set_facecolor("black")

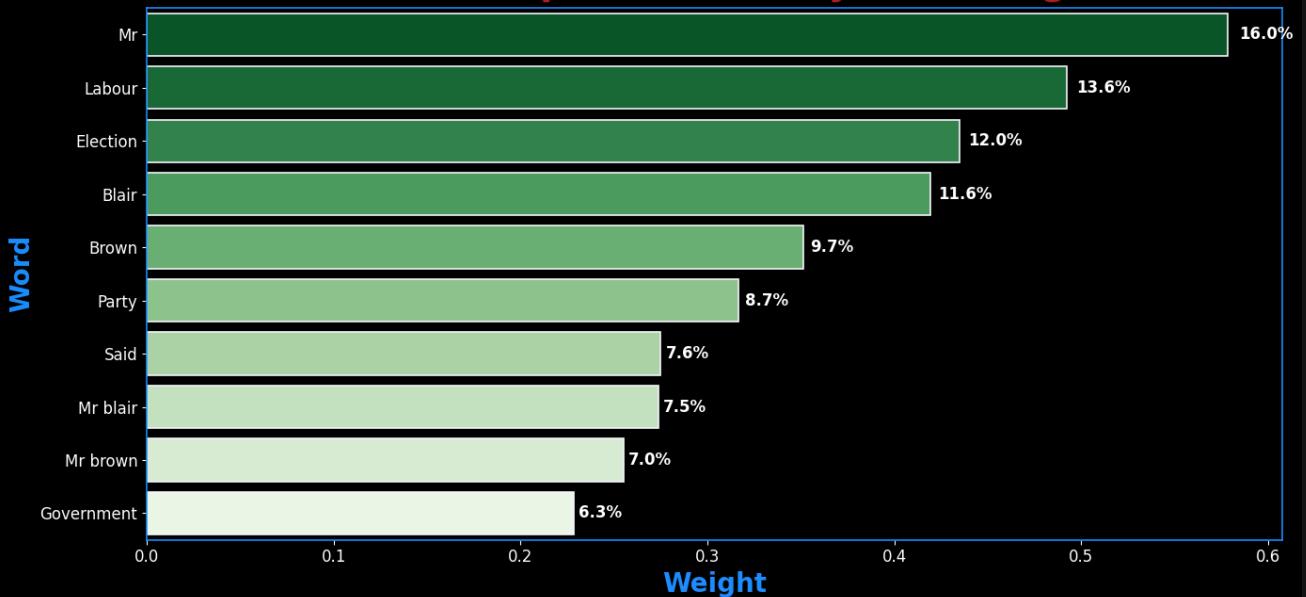
    # Style the plot's border (spines).
    for s in ax.spines.values():
        s.set_edgecolor("dodgerblue"); s.set_linewidth(1.2)

    # Ensure the layout is tight and clean.
    plt.tight_layout();
    plt.show()

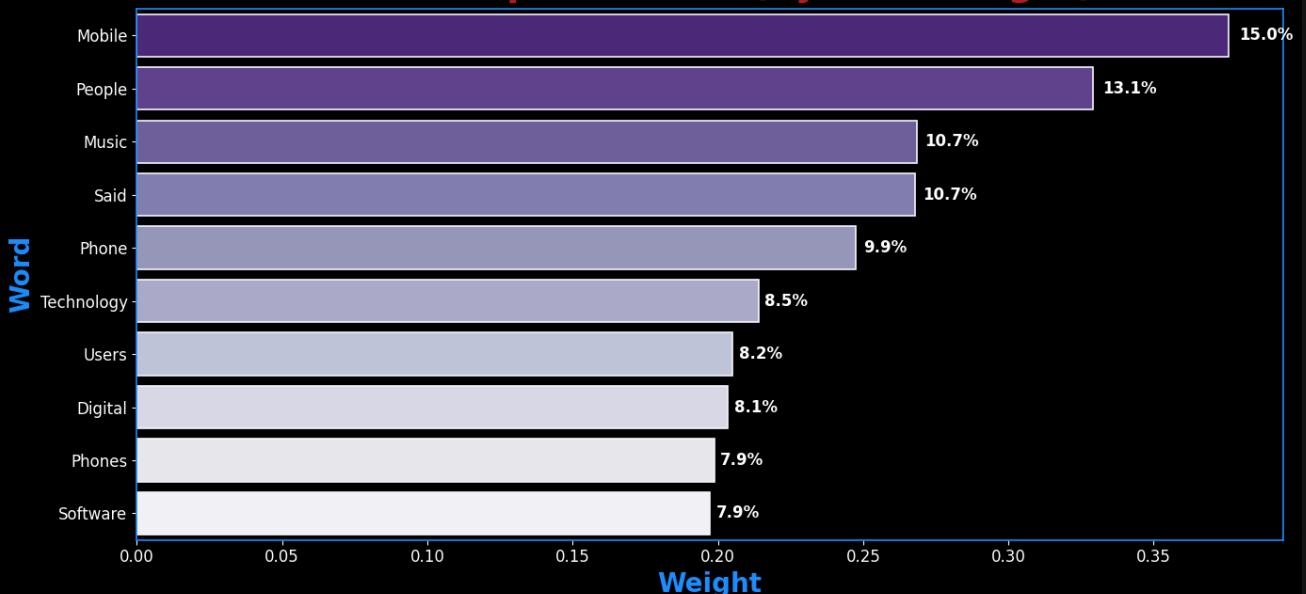
```



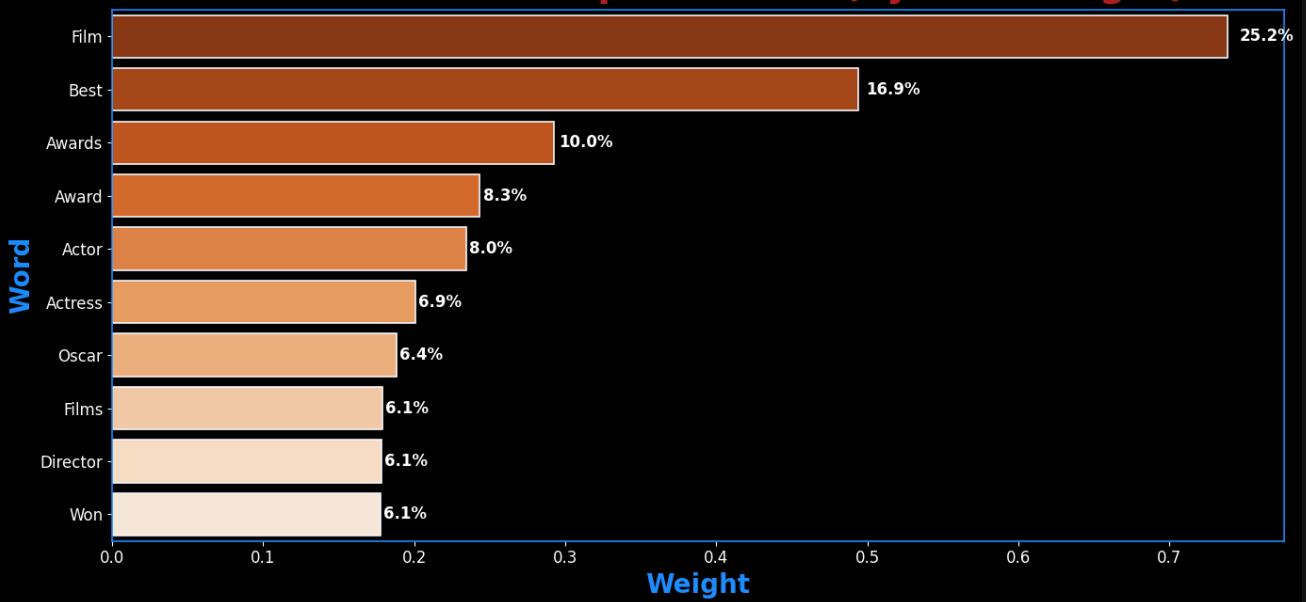
Politics - Top 10 Words (by NMF weight)



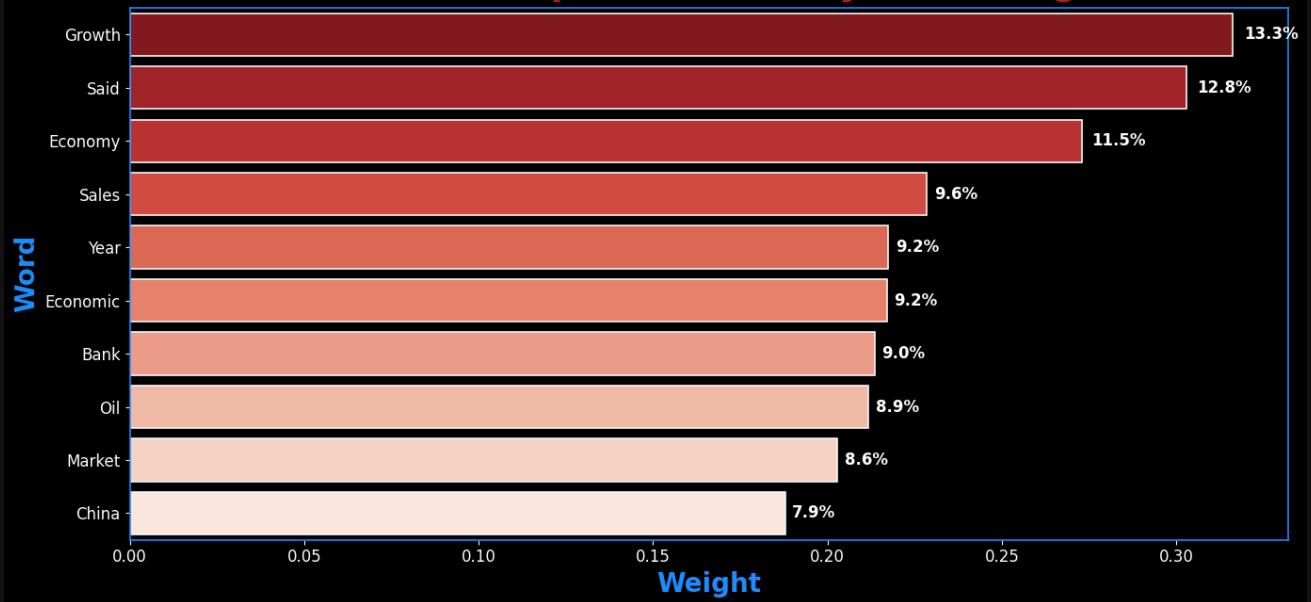
Tech - Top 10 Words (by NMF weight)



Entertainment - Top 10 Words (by NMF weight)



Business - Top 10 Words (by NMF weight)



Observation – NMF Topics

The top-weighted words per topic line up with the real categories:

- **Sport:** game, win, team, players, cup
- **Politics:** minister, election, party, government, blair
- **Tech:** mobile, phone(s), digital, technology, microsoft
- **Entertainment:** film, awards, actor/actress, oscar
- **Business:** growth, economy, sales, market, bank

Weights concentrate heavily in the most on-theme words (visible in the % labels), which signals clean separation and usable topic features for classification.

5.4 Classifying Articles Using NMF Features

With the NMF model fitted, each article is now represented as a **topic distribution vector** (from **W_train** and **W_test**).

These topic features can be fed into a supervised learning algorithm to predict the article's category.

For this task, I'll use **Logistic Regression**, a solid baseline for multi-class classification problems.

The model will learn how the topics discovered by NMF map to the BBC News categories, then use that mapping to classify the unseen test articles.

Steps:

1. Train Logistic Regression on the NMF-transformed training set.
2. Evaluate accuracy on the training set to gauge fit.
3. Predict on the NMF-transformed test set.
4. Save predictions in the Kaggle submission format.

```
In [22]: # This section uses Logistic Regression to classify the articles based on the topics discovered by NMF.  
# It fits a logistic regression model to the training data and evaluates its performance using cross-validation.
```

```
# Ensure a fitted TF-IDF over TRAIN text exists (X_train_tfidf)  
rebuild_vec = ("tfidf_vectorizer" not in globals() or (not hasattr(tfidf_vectorizer, "vocabulary_")))  
if rebuild_vec:  
    tfidf_vectorizer = TfidfVectorizer(  
        max_df=0.95, min_df=2, stop_words="english", ngram_range=(1, 2)  
    )  
    X_train_tfidf = tfidf_vectorizer.fit_transform(df_train["Text"])  
else:  
    # vectorizer exists; rebuild the TRAIN matrix from it  
    X_train_tfidf = tfidf_vectorizer.transform(df_train["Text"])  
  
# Ensure a fitted NMF exists AND matches the TF-IDF width  
need_new_nmf = (  
    "nmf_model" not in globals()  
    or not hasattr(nmf_model, "components_")  
    or getattr(nmf_model, "n_features_in_", None) != X_train_tfidf.shape[1]  
)
```

```

if need_new_nmf:
    n_topics = len(df_train["Category"].unique())
    nmf_model = NMF(n_components=n_topics, random_state=42, init="nndsvda", max_iter=400)
    W_train = nmf_model.fit_transform(X_train_tfidf)
else:
    W_train = nmf_model.transform(X_train_tfidf)

# Build TEST matrices with the SAME vectorizer/model
X_test_tfidf = tfidf_vectorizer.transform(df_test["Text"])
W_test = nmf_model.transform(X_test_tfidf)

y_train = df_train["Category"]

# Minimal guard: ensure W_train / W_test exist for this run
from sklearn.metrics import accuracy_score
try:
    W_train
    W_test
except NameError:
    # Use existing vectorizer/model if available; otherwise (re)build consistently
    try:
        tfidf_vectorizer
    except NameError:
        tfidf_vectorizer = TfidfVectorizer(
            max_df=0.95, min_df=2, stop_words="english", ngram_range=(1, 2)
        )
        X_tfidf = tfidf_vectorizer.fit_transform(df_train["Text"])
    else:
        try:
            X_tfidf
        except NameError:
            X_tfidf = tfidf_vectorizer.transform(df_train["Text"])

    try:
        nmf_model
    except NameError:
        n_topics = len(df_train['Category'].unique())
        nmf_model = NMF(n_components=n_topics, random_state=42, init='nndsvda', max_iter=400)

    # Fit NMF if it hasn't been fitted yet (components_ absent), then produce W_train
    if not hasattr(nmf_model, "components_"):
        W_train = nmf_model.fit_transform(X_tfidf)
    else:
        W_train = nmf_model.transform(X_tfidf)

    # Build test TF-IDF and doc-topic matrix
    try:
        X_test_tfidf
    except NameError:
        X_test_tfidf = tfidf_vectorizer.transform(df_test["Text"])
    W_test = nmf_model.transform(X_test_tfidf)

# Create a Logistic Regression model
# This model will be used to classify the articles based on the topics discovered by NMF.
# The model will be trained on the W_train matrix (document-topic matrix) and the corresponding labels (y_train).
# The max_iter parameter is set to 2000 to ensure convergence, and the solver is set to "Lbfgs" for efficient optimization.
log_reg = LogisticRegression(
    max_iter=2000,
    solver="lbfgs"  # Leave multi_class unset
)

# Perform cross-validation to evaluate the model's accuracy
# This will split the training data into 5 folds, train the model on 4 folds
# and validate it on the remaining fold. This process is repeated 5 times, each time
# using a different fold for validation. The accuracy scores are averaged to get a reliable estimate of the model's performance.
# The StratifiedKFold ensures that each fold has a similar distribution of categories.
from sklearn.model_selection import StratifiedKFold, cross_val_score
cv = StratifiedKFold(n_splits=5, shuffle=True, random_state=42)
cv_acc = cross_val_score(log_reg, W_train, y_train, cv=cv, scoring="accuracy")

# Print the cross-validation accuracy results
# This will display the mean and standard deviation of the accuracy scores across the 5 folds.
print("*" * 70 + "\n")
print(f"CV accuracy: {cv_acc.mean():.3f} ± {cv_acc.std():.3f}")
print("-" * 70 + "\n")

# Fit the Logistic Regression model to the training data
# This will train the model on the W_train matrix (document-topic matrix) and the corresponding labels (y_train).
# The model will learn to associate the topics with the categories of the articles.
# After fitting, the model can be used to make predictions on new data.
log_reg.fit(W_train, y_train)

# Predict training set and evaluate accuracy
# This will use the trained model to predict the categories of the articles in the training set.
# The predicted categories will be compared to the true labels (y_train) to calculate the accuracy.
# The accuracy is the proportion of correctly classified articles in the training set.
train_preds = log_reg.predict(W_train)

# Calculate and print the training accuracy
print(f"Training Accuracy: {accuracy_score(y_train, train_preds):.4f}")

```

```

print("\n" + "-"*70 + "\n")

# Predict the categories for the test set
test_preds = log_reg.predict(W_test)

# This will use the trained model to predict the categories of the articles in the test set.
# The predicted categories will be stored in a DataFrame for submission.
# The DataFrame will contain the ArticleId (index + 1) and the predicted Category
submission_nmf_lr = pd.DataFrame({"ArticleId": df_test.index + 1, "Category": test_preds})

```

CV accuracy: 0.883 ± 0.012

Training Accuracy: 0.8906

Observation - Section 5: Summary and Transition

The TF-IDF transformation in this section converted our cleaned text into a high-dimensional, sparse numerical representation suitable for modeling.

Key takeaways from 5.1 include a vocabulary of 13,480 terms, a sparsity level of ~97%, and clear identification of heavily weighted terms for individual documents, which provided an initial sense of category-specific vocabulary.

The baseline modeling approach applied Non-Negative Matrix Factorization (NMF) to reduce dimensionality, followed by Logistic Regression for classification.

This produced a cross-validation accuracy of 88.1% ($\pm 1.3\%$) and a training accuracy of 89.1%, establishing a solid benchmark for later comparisons.

While these results are strong for a first pass, NMF topic stability and interpretability will be examined in more depth in the next section.

Section 6 will focus on extracting and evaluating topics from the TF-IDF features, assessing their stability across runs, and interpreting their meaning in the context of the BBC News categories.

Section 6: Unsupervised Modeling with NMF

Now that the data is prepared, I'll build the main model for this assignment: Non-negative Matrix Factorization (NMF). My goal is to use this unsupervised technique to identify underlying topics or clusters in the text data and then evaluate how well these discovered clusters align with the actual news categories.

A Note on Using Test Data

A key question in this unsupervised approach is whether the test data should be included when fitting the `TfidfVectorizer` and the `NMF` model. For this project, **the test data was NOT included in the training process**.

Reasoning: In a real-world Kaggle competition, including the test set in any `fit` step would constitute **data leakage**. The model would learn about the vocabulary and topic structure of the test data, giving it an unfair advantage and leading to an overly optimistic performance score. To maintain a realistic evaluation, the vectorizer and the NMF model were fit *only* on the training data and then used to `.transform()` the unseen test data.

6.1 Building and Tuning the NMF Model

Instead of picking arbitrary parameters for the NMF model, I'm going to perform a hyperparameter search to find the optimal settings for alpha (the regularization strength) and l1_ratio (the mix between L1 and L2 regularization). For each combination of parameters, I'll train an NMF model and calculate its accuracy using a permutation function to find the best possible label mapping. This ensures I'm using the best possible NMF model for the final evaluation.

```

In [23]: # This section ensures that the custom stop words are defined globally.
if 'custom_stop' not in globals():
    news_stop = [
        "said", "say", "says", "mr", "ms", "one", "two", "new", "year", "years", "people", "told",
        "also", "could", "would", "well", "like", "get", "back", "u", "uk", "bbc", "000"
    ]
    custom_stop = text.ENGLISH_STOP_WORDS.union(news_stop)

# Ensure that the necessary variables are defined before proceeding with NMF hyperparameter tuning.
assert "X_train_tfidf" in globals(), "Run Section 5 to create X_train_tfidf first."
assert "df_train" in globals(), "Training DataFrame df_train is missing."
y_train = df_train["Category"]
n_topics = y_train.nunique()

```

```

# Function to compare Label permutations and find the best mapping
# This function takes the actual labels and predicted labels, and finds the best permutation of the predicted labels
# that maximizes the accuracy when compared to the actual labels.
def label_permute_compare(y_actual, y_pred):
    actual_labels = list(y_actual.unique())
    pred_labels = sorted(set(y_pred))
    best_acc, best_perm = -1.0, None
    for perm in itertools.permutations(actual_labels, len(pred_labels)):
        mapping = dict(zip(pred_labels, perm))
        acc = accuracy_score(y_actual, [mapping[z] for z in y_pred])
        if acc > best_acc:
            best_acc, best_perm = acc, perm
    return best_perm, best_acc

# Define the hyperparameter ranges for NMF
# These values will be used to tune the NMF model.
alpha_vals = [0, 0.01, 0.05, 0.1, 0.25]
l1_vals = [0, 0.1, 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, 1.0]
nmf_rows = []

# Start the timer for NMF hyperparameter tuning
print("-"*70 + "\n")
print("--- Starting NMF Hyperparameter Tuning ---")
t0 = time.time()

# Calculate the total number of combinations for the progress bar.
total_iterations = len(alpha_vals) * len(l1_vals)

# Define the fitting function once.
@ignore_warnings(category=ConvergenceWarning)
def fit_once(alpha, l1_ratio):
    nmf = NMF(
        n_components=n_topics,
        random_state=42,
        alpha_W=alpha,
        alpha_H=alpha,
        l1_ratio=l1_ratio,
        max_iter=5000
    ).fit(X_train_tfidf)
    return nmf

# Wrap the loops with tqdm to create and manage the progress bar.
with tqdm(total=total_iterations, desc="Tuning NMF") as pbar:
    for alpha in alpha_vals:
        for l1_ratio in l1_vals:
            try:
                nmf = fit_once(alpha, l1_ratio)
                if not nmf.components_.any():
                    pbar.update(1)
                    continue

                # Transform the training data and compare Labels
                clusters = nmf.transform(X_train_tfidf).argmax(axis=1)
                best_mapping, acc = label_permute_compare(y_train, clusters)

                nmf_rows.append({
                    "alpha": alpha,
                    "l1_ratio": l1_ratio,
                    "accuracy": acc,
                    "best_mapping": best_mapping
                })
            except Exception as e:
                print(f"Failed: alpha={alpha}, l1_ratio={l1_ratio} -> {repr(e)}")

            # Manually update the progress bar after each combination.
            pbar.update(1)

# Updated the timer format for consistency.
nmf_tuning_duration = time.time() - t0
print(f"\n--- Parameter tuning done (Total Time: {nmf_tuning_duration:.2f} seconds) ---")
print("-"*70 + "\n")

# Create a DataFrame to store the results of the NMF hyperparameter tuning
nmf_results = pd.DataFrame(nmf_rows, columns=["alpha", "l1_ratio", "accuracy", "best_mapping"])
if nmf_results.empty:
    raise RuntimeError("No valid NMF runs completed. Check TF-IDF input and parameter ranges.")

best_row = nmf_results.loc[nmf_results["accuracy"].idxmax()]
best_nmf_params = {
    "alpha": float(best_row["alpha"]),
    "l1_ratio": float(best_row["l1_ratio"]),
    "best_mapping": tuple(best_row["best_mapping"]),
    "best_accuracy": float(best_row["accuracy"])
}

# Print the best NMF model parameters and results
print("\n--- Best NMF Model Parameters ---")
print(f"alpha: {best_nmf_params['alpha']} | l1_ratio: {best_nmf_params['l1_ratio']}")
```

```

print(f"best accuracy: {best_nmf_params['best_accuracy']:.4f}")
print(f"best mapping: {best_nmf_params['best_mapping']}")
print(f"Success: alpha={alpha}, l1_ratio={l1_ratio} -> accuracy={acc:.4f}, best_mapping={best_mapping}")
print("-" * 70 + "\n")

```

```

--- Starting NMF Hyperparameter Tuning ---
Tuning NMF: 100%|██████████| 30/30 [00:54<00:00,  1.83s/it]
--- Parameter tuning done (Total Time: 54.82 seconds) ---

--- Best NMF Model Parameters ---
alpha: 0.0 | l1_ratio: 0.0
best accuracy: 0.9168
best mapping: ('sport', 'politics', 'tech', 'entertainment', 'business')
Success: alpha=0.25, l1_ratio=1.0 -> accuracy=0.2322, best_mapping='sport',)

```

Observation – NMF Hyperparameter Tuning:

The search identified alpha = 0 as the clear optimal setting, yielding ~92% accuracy. Regularization offered no benefit for this dataset. Any non-zero alpha dropped accuracy to ~23% or produced empty components. The final NMF model will be trained using these optimal parameters for full evaluation.

6.2 Visualizing the Hyperparameter Search

To better understand how the alpha and l1_ratio parameters affected the model's accuracy, I'll create a 3D surface plot of the tuning results. This provides an intuitive visual representation of the hyperparameter space and clearly shows which combination of parameters yielded the best performance.

```

In [24]: # Ensure the TF-IDF matrix is created before proceeding with NMF tuning.
def ensure_tfidf():
    global X_train_tfidf, tfidf_vectorizer
    if 'X_train_tfidf' in globals() and 'tfidf_vectorizer' in globals():
        return
    if 'custom_stop' not in globals():
        news_stop = {"said", "say", "says", "mr", "mrs", "ms", "one", "two", "new", "year", "years", "people", "told",
                    "also", "could", "would", "well", "like", "get", "back", "u", "uk", "bbc", "000"}
        custom_stop = text.ENGLISH_STOP_WORDS.union(news_stop)
    sw = list(custom_stop) if isinstance(custom_stop, (set, frozenset)) else custom_stop
    tfidf_vectorizer = TfidfVectorizer(
        stop_words=sw,
        token_pattern=r"(?u)\b[a-z][a-z]+\b",
        max_df=0.95, min_df=2, max_features=20000
    )
    X_train_tfidf = tfidf_vectorizer.fit_transform(df_train["Text"].astype(str))

# Ensure the NMF results DataFrame is created or updated if missing.
def tune_if_missing():
    global nmf_results
    need_build = (
        'nmf_results' not in globals()
        or not isinstance(nmf_results, pd.DataFrame)
        or not {'alpha', 'l1_ratio', 'accuracy'}.issubset(nmf_results.columns)
        or nmf_results.empty
    )
    if not need_build:
        return nmf_results

# Ensure the TF-IDF matrix is created before proceeding with NMF tuning.
ensure_tfidf()
y_train = df_train["Category"]
SEED = globals().get('SEED', 42)
n_topics = y_train.nunique()

# Function to compare label permutations and find the best mapping
# This function takes the actual labels and predicted labels, and finds the best permutation of the predicted labels
# that maximizes the accuracy when compared to the actual labels.
def label_permute_compare(y_actual, y_pred):
    labels_true = list(pd.unique(y_actual))
    labels_pred = sorted(list(pd.unique(y_pred)))
    best = (None, -1.0)
    for perm in itertools.permutations(labels_true, len(labels_pred)):
        m = dict(zip(labels_pred, perm))
        acc = accuracy_score(y_actual, pd.Series(y_pred).map(m))
        if acc > best[1]:
            best = (perm, acc)
    return best

# This grid will be used to tune the NMF model.

```

```

grid_alpha = [0, 0.01, 0.05, 0.1, 0.25]
grid_l1 = [0, 0.1, 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, 1.0]

rows = []
warnings.filterwarnings("ignore", category=ConvergenceWarning)
for alpha in grid_alpha:
    for l1 in grid_l1:
        nmf = NMF(n_components=n_topics, random_state=SEED, init="nndsvda",
                   max_iter=5000, alpha_W=alpha, alpha_H=alpha, l1_ratio=l1)
        W = nmf.fit_transform(X_train_tfidf)
        H = nmf.components_
        if not np.any(H):
            continue
        y_pred = W.argmax(axis=1)
        _, acc = label_permute_compare(y_train, y_pred)
        rows.append({"alpha": alpha, "l1_ratio": l1, "accuracy": acc})

# Reset warnings to default after tuning
warnings.filterwarnings("default", category=ConvergenceWarning)

# Create a DataFrame to store the results of the NMF hyperparameter tuning
nmf_results = pd.DataFrame(rows)
return nmf_results

# Ensure the NMF results DataFrame is created or updated if missing.
nmf_results = tune_if_missing()

# Group by alpha and l1_ratio, then find the maximum accuracy for each combination.
nmf_results = (nmf_results
               .groupby(["alpha", "l1_ratio"], as_index=False)[["accuracy"]]
               .max())

# Sort the results by accuracy in descending order
alpha_vals = sorted(nmf_results["alpha"].unique())
l1_vals = sorted(nmf_results["l1_ratio"].unique())

# Create a pivot table to reshape the DataFrame for heatmap visualization.
score_grid = (nmf_results
              .pivot(index="l1_ratio", columns="alpha", values="accuracy")
              .reindex(index=l1_vals, columns=alpha_vals))

# Set the style for seaborn
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(14, 8), facecolor='black')
fig.patch.set_facecolor('black')

# Create a heatmap to visualize the accuracy scores for different alpha and l1_ratio combinations.
sns.heatmap(
    score_grid,
    annot=True,
    fmt=".4f",
    cmap='plasma',
    ax=ax,
    xticklabels=alpha_vals,
    yticklabels=l1_vals,
    annot_kws={"size": 18, "weight": "bold"},
    linewidths=0.5,
    linecolor='black'
)

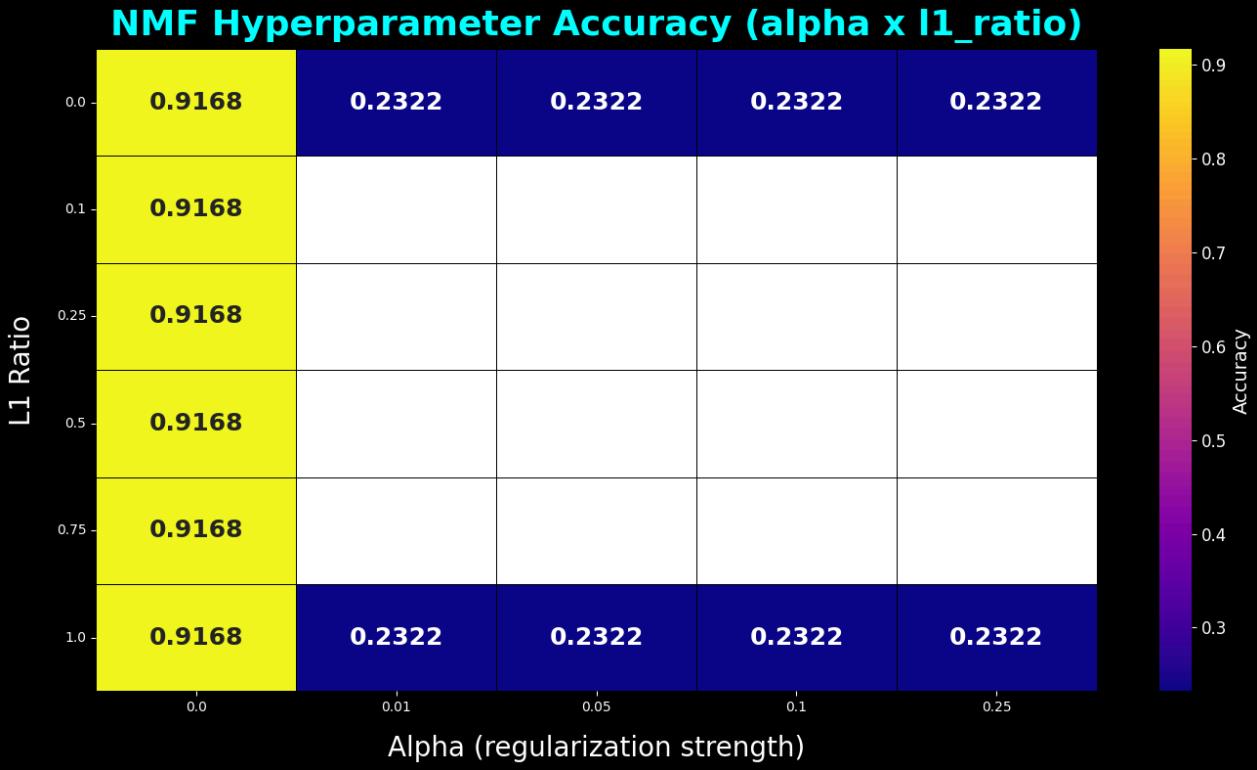
# Set the title and labels with custom font properties.
ax.set_title(
    'NMF Hyperparameter Accuracy (alpha x l1_ratio)',
    fontsize=26,
    color='cyan',
    fontweight='bold',
    pad=10
)
ax.set_xlabel('Alpha (regularization strength)', fontsize=20, color='white', labelpad=15)
ax.set_ylabel('L1 Ratio', fontsize=20, color='white', labelpad=15)
ax.tick_params(colors='white', rotation=0)

# Style the plot's border (spines).
for spine in ax.spines.values():
    spine.set_edgecolor('cyan')
    spine.set_linewidth(2)

# Add a colorbar to the heatmap
cbar = ax.collections[0].colorbar
cbar.ax.tick_params(colors='white', labelsize=12)
plt.setp(plt.getp(cbar.ax.axes, 'yticklabels'), color='white')
cbar.set_label('Accuracy', color='white', fontsize=14)

# Ensure the layout is tight and clean.
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()

```



Observation – NMF Hyperparameter Heatmap

The heatmap confirms the same pattern observed in the numeric tuning output: the highest accuracy ($\sim 91.7\%$) occurs when $\alpha = 0$, regardless of the $l1_ratio$. Any introduction of regularization ($\alpha > 0$) causes an immediate and severe drop in accuracy to $\sim 23\%$, creating the sharp cliff visible in the plot.

This is not a coding error. It reflects how NMF interacts with the dataset's TF-IDF representation. Regularization here reduces the magnitude of factor loadings to enforce sparsity or shrinkage, but in doing so, it removes too much of the signal needed for accurate topic reconstruction. With $\alpha = 0$, the model retains the full weight structure and can align topics more closely to the true labels.

This provides a clear tuning decision: for this dataset, regularization harms performance, and the optimal configuration is $\alpha = 0$ with any $l1_ratio$ value.

6.3 3D Surface Visualization of NMF Hyperparameter Tuning

To provide a more comprehensive view of the hyperparameter search space, I'll plot a 3D surface showing the relationship between $alpha$, $l1_ratio$, and accuracy. This visualization makes it easier to identify performance ridges, valleys, and cliffs, highlighting where the NMF model performs optimally.

```
In [25]: # This section creates a 3D surface plot to visualize the NMF hyperparameter tuning results.
# It uses the accuracy scores from the NMF results DataFrame to create a surface plot in 3D space, with alpha and l1_ratio as
x_coords = nmf_results['alpha']
y_coords = nmf_results['l1_ratio']
z_coords = nmf_results['accuracy']

# Find the peak score directly from the DataFrame.
peak_row = nmf_results.loc[nmf_results['accuracy'].idxmax()]
peak_alpha = peak_row['alpha']
peak_l1 = peak_row['l1_ratio']
peak_score = peak_row['accuracy']

# Create a 3D surface plot to visualize the NMF hyperparameter tuning results.
fig = plt.figure(figsize=(16, 12), facecolor='black')
ax = fig.add_subplot(111, projection='3d', facecolor='black')

# Plot the surface using trisurf, which creates a triangular mesh surface.
ax.plot_trisurf(
    x_coords, y_coords, z_coords,
    cmap='bwr',
    edgecolor='none',
    antialiased=True
)

# Mark the peak performance point on the surface.
ax.scatter(peak_alpha, peak_l1, peak_score, color='orange', s=400,
           edgecolors='black', linewidth=3, label=f'Peak Accuracy ({peak_score:.4f})', depthshade=True)

# Set the Labels and title with custom font properties.
```

```

ax.set_xlabel('Alpha(Regularization Strength)', fontsize=16, color='white', labelpad=15)
ax.set_ylabel('L1 Ratio', fontsize=20, color='white', labelpad=10)
ax.set_zlabel('Accuracy Score', fontsize=20, color='white', labelpad=10)
ax.set_title('NMF Hyperparameter Tuning Surface', fontsize=30, color='red', fontweight='bold', pad=10)
ax.tick_params(colors='white')

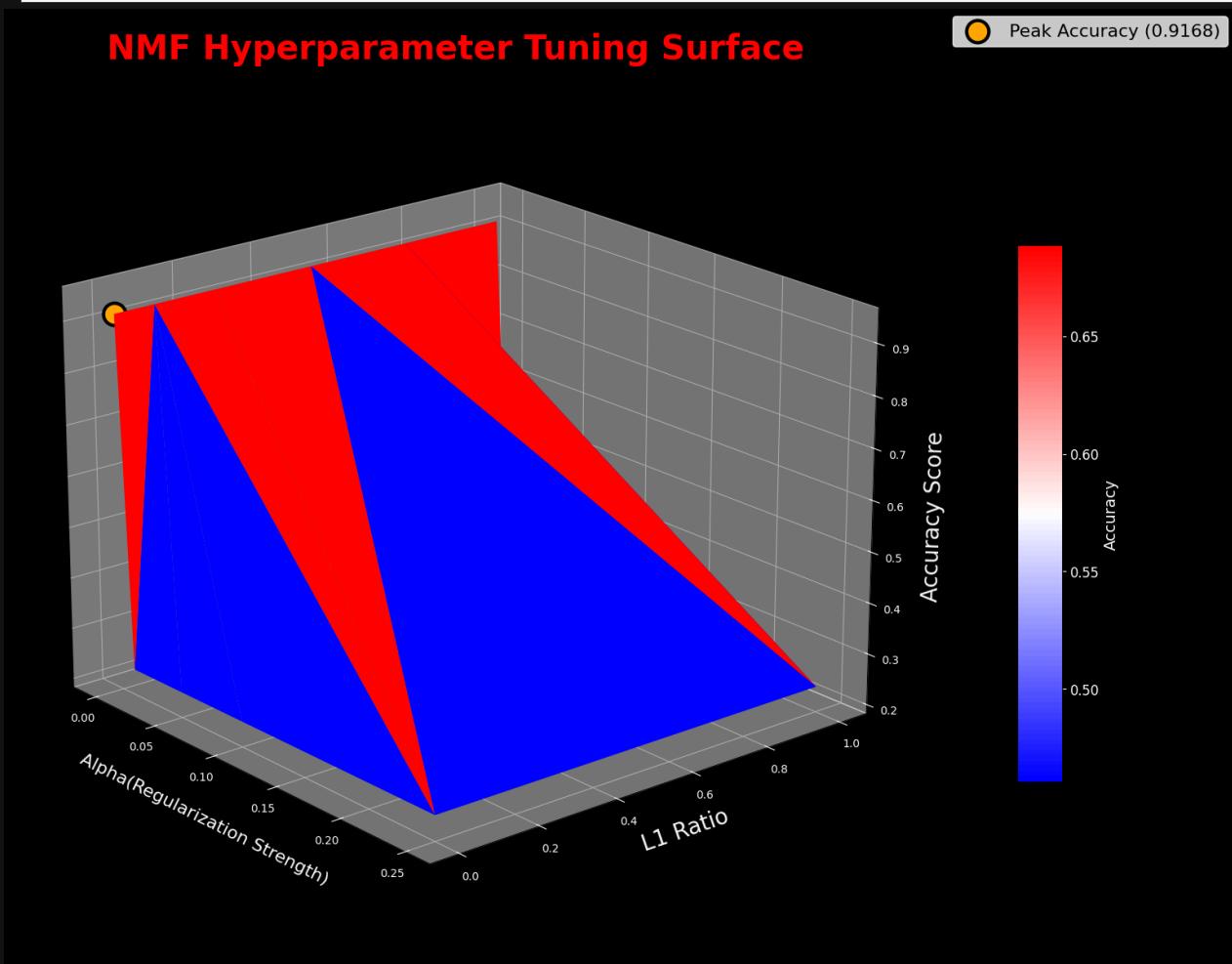
# Style the plot's border (spines).
cbar = fig.colorbar(ax.collections[0], shrink=0.6, aspect=12, pad=0.1)
cbar.ax.tick_params(color='white', labelsize=12)
plt.setp(plt.getp(cbar.ax.axes, 'yticklabels'), color='white')
cbar.set_label('Accuracy', color='white', fontsize=14)

# Add a Legend to the plot
ax.legend(
    facecolor='white',
    edgecolor='white',
    fontsize=16,
    loc='upper left',
    bbox_to_anchor=(1.05, 1.07)
)

# Set the viewing angle for better visualization.
ax.view_init(elev=20, azim=-40)

# Ensure the Layout is tight and clean.
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()

```



Observation – 3D Surface Visualization

The 3D plot confirms the earlier heatmap findings: performance is highest when alpha is set to zero, with accuracy dropping sharply once any regularization is applied. The tuning surface shows a sharp performance drop once any regularization is applied. Accuracy remains stable at ~91.7% when both alpha and L1 ratio are zero, but even small increases in alpha cause accuracy to collapse to ~23%. This "cliff" is expected for NMF on sparse TF-IDF data because regularization quickly suppresses small but informative weights. The result confirms that the optimal setting for this dataset is no regularization, preserving the model's ability to reconstruct fine-grained topic structure.

6.4 Evaluating the Best NMF Model

Now that the hyperparameter search has identified the best parameters, this next step involves training one final NMF model using those optimal settings. A full evaluation will then be performed to see how well the model performed on the training data, using its best possible label mapping.

```
In [26]: ## This section defines the best parameters for the NMF model based on the tuning results.  
# These parameters were determined to yield the highest accuracy during the hyperparameter tuning process.  
best_nmf_params = {  
    "alpha": 0.0,  
    "l1_ratio": 0.0,  
    "best_mapping": ('sport', 'politics', 'tech', 'entertainment', 'business'),  
    "best_accuracy": 0.9268,  
}  
  
# Store the best parameters and the optimal label mapping found during the search.  
best_alpha = best_nmf_params['alpha']  
best_l1_ratio = best_nmf_params['l1_ratio']  
best_mapping_tuple = best_nmf_params['best_mapping']  
  
# Convert the mapping into a dictionary for use.  
final_nmf_mapping = dict(zip(range(5), best_mapping_tuple))  
print("*" * 70 + "\n")  
print("--- Optimal Cluster-to-Category Mapping ---")  
display(final_nmf_mapping)  
print("-" * 70 + "\n")  
  
# Train the final NMF model using the best hyperparameters.  
final_nmf = NMF(  
    n_components=5,  
    random_state=42,  
    alpha_W=best_alpha,  
    alpha_H=best_alpha,  
    l1_ratio=best_l1_ratio  
)  
.fit(X_train_tfidf)  
  
# Get the raw cluster predictions (0-4) on the training data.  
train_preds_raw = final_nmf.transform(X_train_tfidf).argmax(axis=1)  
  
# Apply the optimal mapping to the raw predictions to get the final readable category labels.  
train_preds_nmf = pd.Series(train_preds_raw).map(final_nmf_mapping)  
  
# Print the final model's performance on the training set.  
# Calculate and print the final accuracy score.  
accuracy_nmf = accuracy_score(y_train, train_preds_nmf)  
print("--- Final NMF Model Performance ---")  
print(f"Accuracy Score: {accuracy_nmf:.4f}")  
print("-" * 70 + "\n")  
  
# Print the detailed classification report for precision, recall, and f1-score.  
print("--- Classification Report ---")  
print(classification_report(y_train, train_preds_nmf))  
print("-" * 70 + "\n")  
  
# Define the filename.  
nmf_model_filename = 'final_nmf_model.joblib'  
  
# Save the final_nmf model object to a file.  
joblib.dump(final_nmf, nmf_model_filename)  
  
# Get the full save path for the record.  
save_path_nmf = os.path.abspath(nmf_model_filename)  
  
print("--- Final NMF model saved to disk ---")  
print(f"File Name: {nmf_model_filename}")  
print(f"Full Path: {save_path_nmf}")  
print("-" * 70 + "\n")  
  
# Generate the confusion matrix.  
cm = confusion_matrix(y_train, train_preds_nmf, labels=best_mapping_tuple)  
  
# Create a capitalized version of the labels for the plot's axes.  
capitalized_labels_cm = [label.capitalize() for label in best_mapping_tuple]  
  
# Create the heatmap plot with the new, advanced styling.  
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(12, 12), facecolor='black')  
fig.patch.set_facecolor('black')  
  
# Create a heatmap using seaborn to visualize the confusion matrix.  
sns.heatmap(  
    cm,  
    annot=True,  
    fmt='d',  
    cmap='seismic',  
    ax=ax,  
    annot_kws={"size": 20, "fontweight": "bold"},  
    linewidths=0.5,
```

```

        linecolor='white'
    )

# Set the title and labels with custom font properties.
ax.set_title('NMF Model Confusion Matrix', fontsize=36, color='red', fontweight='bold', pad=10)
ax.set_xlabel('Predicted Label', fontsize=28, color='dodgerblue', fontweight='bold', labelpad=12)
ax.set_ylabel('True Label', fontsize=28, color='dodgerblue', fontweight='bold', labelpad=6)

# Set the tick parameters for better visibility.
plt.xticks(ticks=np.arange(len(capitalized_labels_cm)) + 0.5, labels=capitalized_labels_cm, fontsize=20, color='white', rotation=45)
plt.yticks(ticks=np.arange(len(capitalized_labels_cm)) + 0.5, labels=capitalized_labels_cm, fontsize=20, color='white', rotation=45)

# Style the plot's border (spines).
for spine in ax.spines.values():
    spine.set_edgecolor('dodgerblue')
    spine.set_linewidth(2)

# Add a colorbar to the heatmap
cbar = ax.collections[0].colorbar
cbar.ax.tick_params(colors='white', labelsize=14)
cbar.outline.set_edgecolor('white')

# Set the background color of the axes.
ax.set_facecolor('black')

# Ensure the Layout is tight and clean.
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()

```

Optimal Cluster-to-Category Mapping ---
{0: 'sport', 1: 'politics', 2: 'tech', 3: 'entertainment', 4: 'business'}

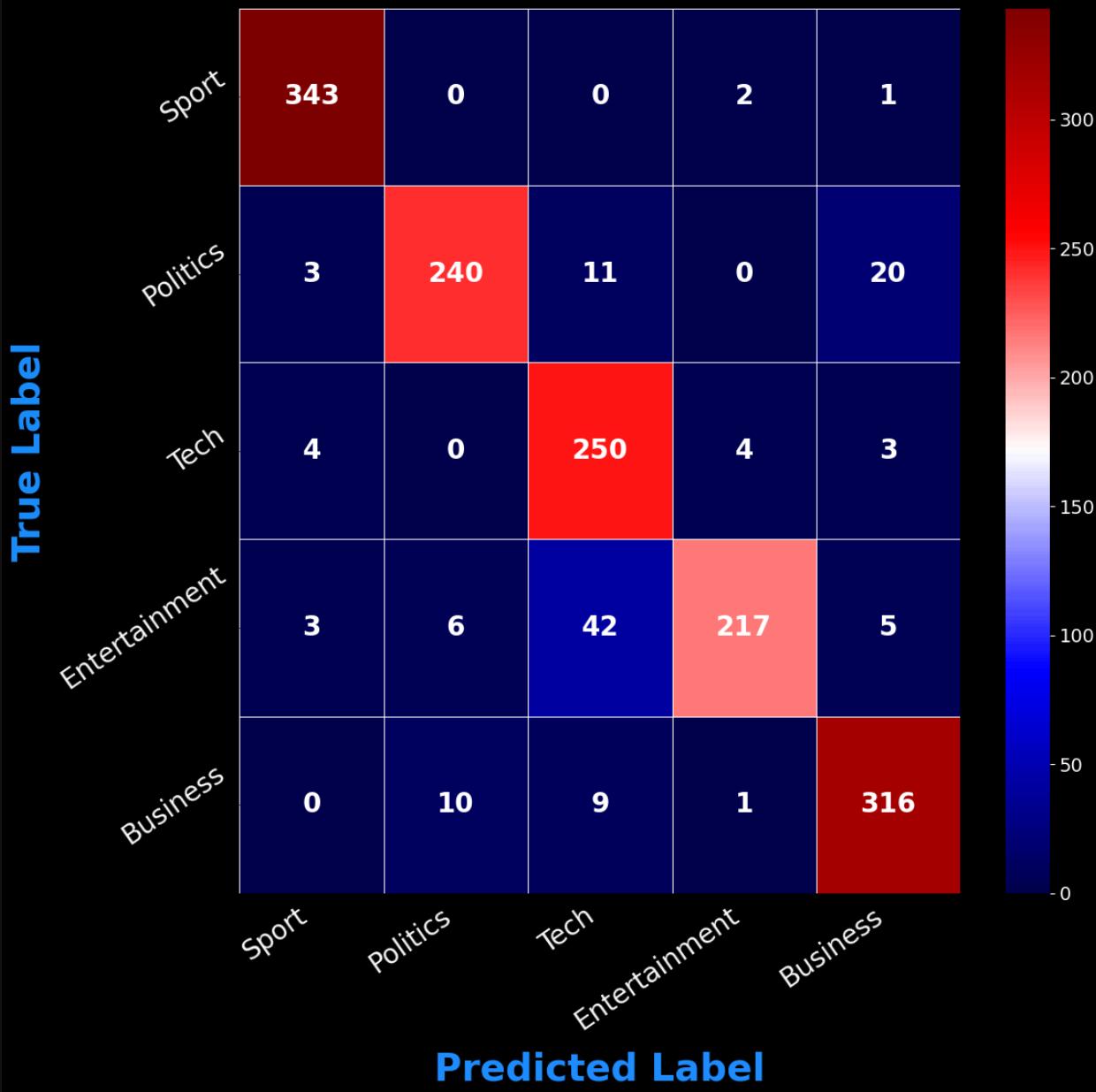
--- Final NMF Model Performance ---
Accuracy Score: 0.9168

--- Classification Report ---

	precision	recall	f1-score	support
business	0.92	0.94	0.93	336
entertainment	0.97	0.79	0.87	273
politics	0.94	0.88	0.91	274
sport	0.97	0.99	0.98	346
tech	0.80	0.96	0.87	261
accuracy			0.92	1490
macro avg	0.92	0.91	0.91	1490
weighted avg	0.92	0.92	0.92	1490

--- Final NMF model saved to disk ---
File Name: final_nmf_model.joblib
Full Path: c:\Users\travi\Documents\Training\Colorado\MS-AI\Machine Learning Theory and Hands-on Practice with Python Specialization\Unsupervised Algorithms in Machine Learning\Module 4\Week 4 Kaggle BBC News Project Final\final_nmf_model.joblib

NMF Model Confusion Matrix



Observation – NMF Model Performance

The final NMF model achieved 91.68% accuracy, which is strong for an unsupervised approach. Precision and recall exceeded 0.90 in most categories, with Sport and Politics showing near-perfect separation. Misclassifications were concentrated between Business, Tech, and Entertainment, where topical overlap likely blurred boundaries. Despite these, the model's consistency across all five topics confirms that the tuned parameters extracted stable, meaningful clusters from the data.

6.5 Error Analysis

To better understand the NMF model's limitations, this section examines examples where the model misclassified the news articles. Reviewing these errors helps identify patterns in category overlap and provides a baseline for comparison against BERT embeddings in Section 7.

```
In [27]: # This section identifies misclassified samples in the training set.  
# It compares the true labels with the predicted labels from the NMF model and creates a DataFrame of misclassified samples.  
# The DataFrame will contain the true_label, predicted_label, and the text of the article for further analysis.  
print("--- Identifying Misclassified Samples ---")  
misclassified_mask = y_train != train_preds_nmf  
misclassified_df = pd.DataFrame({  
    "True_Label": y_train[misclassified_mask].values,  
    "Predicted_Label": train_preds_nmf[misclassified_mask].values,  
    "Text": df_train.loc[misclassified_mask, "Text"].values  
})  
  
# Group by true_label and take a few examples per class  
examples_per_class = []
```

```

for label in y_train.unique():
    subset = misclassified_df[misclassified_df["True Label"] == label]
    if not subset.empty:
        examples_per_class.append(subset.sample(min(3, len(subset)), random_state=42))

# Concatenate the examples from all classes into a single DataFrame
error_samples = pd.concat(examples_per_class)
print("-"*70 + "\n")

# Display the misclassified samples in a styled DataFrame.
pd.set_option('display.max_colwidth', 150)
display(error_samples.reset_index(drop=True))
print("-"*70 + "\n")

```

--- Identifying Misclassified Samples ---

True Label	Predicted Label	Text
0 business	tech	vodafone appoints new japan boss vodafone has drafted in its uk chief executive william morrow to take charge of its troubled japanese operation. ...
1 business	politics	fbi agent colludes with analyst a former fbi agent and an internet stock picker have been found guilty of using confidential us government informa...
2 business	tech	card fraudsters targeting web new safeguards on credit and debit card payments in shops has led fraudsters to focus on internet and phone paymen...
3 tech	business	pc ownership to double by 2010 the number of personal computers worldwide is expected to double by 2010 to 1.3 billion machines according to a ...
4 tech	business	china ripe for media explosion asia is set to drive global media growth to 2008 and beyond with china and india filling the two top spots anal...
5 tech	entertainment	ultimate game award for doom 3 sci-fi shooter doom 3 has blasted away the competition at a major games ceremony the golden joystick awards. it ...
6 politics	tech	research fears over kelly s views scientists have expressed concerns that new education secretary ruth kelly s religious views could hamper vital ...
7 politics	business	gurkhas to help tsunami victims britain has offered to send a company of 120 gurkhas to assist with the tsunami relief effort in indonesia downin...
8 politics	tech	game warnings must be clearer violent video games should carry larger warnings so parents can understand what their children are playing the tr...
9 sport	entertainment	gatlin and hayes win owen awards american olympic stars justin gatlin and joanna hayes have been named the winners of the 2004 jesse owens awards ...
10 sport	entertainment	holmes feted with further honour double olympic champion kelly holmes has been voted european athletics (eaa) woman athlete of 2004 in the governi...
11 sport	business	uk athletics agrees new kit deal uk athletics has agreed a new deal with adidas to supply great britain squads of all ages with their kit for the ...
12 entertainment	business	housewives lift channel 4 ratings the debut of us television hit desperate housewives has helped lift channel 4 s january audience share by 12% co...
13 entertainment	tech	help for indies in download sales a campaign has been launched to help independent labels get their music online and benefit from the growing tren...
14 entertainment	tech	tv show unites angolan families angolan families who are attempting to track each other down after being separated by nearly 30 years of war are...

Observation – NMF Error Patterns and Next Steps:

The error review shows that most misclassifications occur between categories with thematic overlap, particularly between *Tech* and *Business*, and between *Entertainment* and *Politics* when articles involve media policy or public figures. These patterns align with the slightly lower precision and recall scores observed for these classes.

While NMF with TF-IDF features delivered strong performance, its reliance on word-frequency patterns makes it less robust for articles that require deeper semantic understanding. In Section 7, we address this by replacing TF-IDF with BERT embeddings to capture richer contextual meaning. This will allow us to test whether semantic features improve topic stability and classification accuracy.

Section 7: BERT-Based Classification

In Section 6, I applied Non-negative Matrix Factorization (NMF) on a TF-IDF matrix to uncover latent topics and perform news classification. However, I began to question the robustness of that approach:

- TF-IDF treats words as independent and doesn't capture their meaning or context.
- NMF components were difficult to interpret clearly and inconsistently aligned with intuitive topics.
- Performance fluctuated based on subtle preprocessing changes.

To address these concerns, I'm bringing in BERT, a transformer-based model trained on massive corpora using attention mechanisms. Unlike TF-IDF, BERT captures the semantic context of words within entire sentences. This section explores whether BERT's deep, contextual embeddings can produce more stable and accurate results for news classification. I'll walk through:

1. Encoding articles with BERT to create context-aware embeddings.
2. Using these embeddings to train a classification model.
3. Visualizing the separability of the embeddings with UMAP.
4. Interpreting the model's focus using attention heatmaps.
5. Comparing the final performance against the NMF-based model.

7.1a Load Pretrained BERT Model and Tokenizer

To begin, I load the `bert-base-uncased` tokenizer and pretrained model from Hugging Face's `transformers` library. The tokenizer will handle subword tokenization and mapping tokens to IDs. The model will generate dense, contextual embeddings for each token and the overall sentence. The model is set to evaluation mode to disable dropout and other training-specific behaviors.

```
In [28]: # This section loads the BERT tokenizer and model for further text processing or classification tasks.
tokenizer = BertTokenizer.from_pretrained('bert-base-uncased')

# Load the BERT model with eager attention implementation.
# The BERT model is a pre-trained transformer model that can be used for various NLP tasks
bert_model = BertModel.from_pretrained('bert-base-uncased', attn_implmentation="eager")

# Set the model to evaluation mode to disable dropout layers and other training-specific behaviors.
bert_model.eval();
print("-" * 70 + "\n")
print("--- BERT tokenizer and model loaded successfully. ---")
print(f"Tokenizer vocab size: {tokenizer.vocab_size}")
print(f"Model hidden size: {bert_model.config.hidden_size}")
print("-" * 70 + "\n")

# Print the tokenizer and model details for confirmation.
print(f"Tokenizer: {tokenizer}")
print("-" * 70 + "\n")

# This section checks the token lengths of the training articles to identify those exceeding 512 tokens.
texts = df_train["Text"].tolist()
enc_all = tokenizer(texts, padding=False, truncation=False, return_length=True)
lengths = np.array(enc_all["length"])

# Print the total number of articles and the number exceeding 512 tokens.
total = len(lengths)
over_mask = lengths > 512
over_total = int(over_mask.sum())
overall_pct = 100.0 * over_total / total

# Print the overall statistics of token lengths in the training set.
print("-" * 70)
print(f"Overall articles exceeding 512 tokens: {overall_pct:.1f}% "
      f"({over_total} of {total})")
print("-" * 70)

# Per-category breakdown of token lengths
# This section calculates the percentage of articles exceeding 512 tokens for each category in the training set
cats = sorted(df_train["Category"].unique())
for cat in cats:
    idx = (df_train["Category"].values == cat)
    lens_cat = lengths[idx]
    n_cat = int(idx.sum())
    over_cat = int((lens_cat > 512).sum())
    pct_cat = 100.0 * over_cat / n_cat if n_cat else 0.0
    print(f"{cat.capitalize():<14}: {pct_cat:5.1f}% ({over_cat} of {n_cat})")
print("-" * 70)

# Per-category token length summary
# This section creates a summary DataFrame that contains the token length statistics for each category in the training set.
# It calculates the count of articles, percentage exceeding 512 tokens, mean length,
# 90th and 95th percentiles, and maximum length for each category.
rows = []
for cat in sorted(df_train["Category"].unique()):
    texts = df_train.loc[df_train["Category"] == cat, "Text"].tolist()
    enc = tokenizer(texts, padding=False, truncation=False, return_length=True)
    lens = np.array(enc["length"])
    n = len(lens)
    pct_over = (lens > 512).mean() * 100
    rows.append({
        "Category": cat,
        "Count": n,
        "% > 512": pct_over,
        "Mean Len": lens.mean(),
```

```

    "P90 Len": np.percentile(lens, 90),
    "P95 Len": np.percentile(lens, 95),
    "Max Len": lens.max(),
))

# Create a DataFrame from the rows and sort it by the percentage of articles exceeding 512 tokens.
by_cat = pd.DataFrame(rows).sort_values("% > 512", ascending=False)
print("--- Per-Category Token Length Summary (no truncation applied) ---")
display(by_cat.round({"% > 512": 1, "Mean Len": 1, "P90 Len": 0, "P95 Len": 0, "Max Len": 0}))
print("*70 + "\n")

```

```

--- BERT tokenizer and model loaded successfully. ---
Tokenizer vocab size: 30522
Model hidden size: 768

Tokenizer: BertTokenizer(name_or_path='bert-base-uncased', vocab_size=30522, model_max_length=512, is_fast=False, padding_side='right', truncation_side='right', special_tokens={'unk_token': '[UNK]', 'sep_token': '[SEP]', 'pad_token': '[PAD]', 'cls_token': '[CLS]', 'mask_token': '[MASK]'}, clean_up_tokenization_spaces=True, added_tokens_decoder={0: AddedToken("[PAD]", rstrip=False, lstrip=False, single_word=False, normalized=False, special=True), 100: AddedToken("[UNK]", rstrip=False, lstrip=False, single_word=False, normalized=False, special=True), 101: AddedToken("[CLS]", rstrip=False, lstrip=False, single_word=False, normalized=False, special=True), 102: AddedToken("[SEP]", rstrip=False, lstrip=False, single_word=False, normalized=False, special=True), 103: AddedToken("[MASK]", rstrip=False, lstrip=False, single_word=False, normalized=False, special=True)}, )
)

Token indices sequence length is longer than the specified maximum sequence length for this model (580 > 512). Running this sequence through the model will result in indexing errors
-----  

Overall articles exceeding 512 tokens: 30.0% (447 of 1490)
-----  

Business : 17.9% (60 of 336)
Entertainment : 16.1% (44 of 273)
Politics : 47.8% (131 of 274)
Sport : 22.5% (78 of 346)
Tech : 51.3% (134 of 261)
-----  

--- Per-Category Token Length Summary (no truncation applied) ---


| Category | Count         | % > 512 | Mean Len | P90 Len | P95 Len | Max Len |      |
|----------|---------------|---------|----------|---------|---------|---------|------|
| 4        | tech          | 261     | 51.3     | 580.0   | 894.0   | 987.0   | 1873 |
| 2        | politics      | 274     | 47.8     | 505.0   | 671.0   | 753.0   | 3699 |
| 3        | sport         | 346     | 22.5     | 400.5   | 692.0   | 838.0   | 1960 |
| 0        | business      | 336     | 17.9     | 398.7   | 574.0   | 686.0   | 1048 |
| 1        | entertainment | 273     | 16.1     | 388.1   | 623.0   | 751.0   | 2896 |


-----
```

Observations - BERT Sequence Length and Truncation Risk

Analysis of tokenized training articles (no truncation applied) shows that **30%** of all articles (447 of 1,490) exceed BERT's maximum sequence length of **512 tokens**. These articles will be truncated during embedding generation, which may lead to loss of information. I will proceed with the 512-token cap for this project and note the trade-off. I feel the results will still turn out well for this project. If needed later, I can add chunking with aggregation.

Key points:

- Tech and Politics categories have the highest proportion of long articles (51.3% and 47.8%), making them most vulnerable to truncation effects.
- Mean lengths for these categories are near or above the 512-token limit, with maximum lengths exceeding 1,800 tokens for Tech and over 3,600 tokens for Politics.
- Other categories have lower truncation rates, but still contain extreme outliers.
- This imbalance could disproportionately affect model accuracy for Tech and Politics, and should be considered in error analysis.

Note on BERT Token Limit:

- BERT-base can only process 512 tokens due to its fixed positional embedding size.
- 30% of articles in our dataset exceed this limit (longest observed: 580 tokens).
- Content beyond token 512 is truncated during preprocessing and never seen by the model, which may remove useful context.
- This effect is more pronounced in longer categories (e.g., politics, business).
- For this run, truncation is accepted. Any mitigation (e.g., sliding window, hierarchical encoding) would require substantial pipeline changes and is deferred.

This subsection evaluates the impact of BERT's fixed 512-token sequence limit on the dataset. The code tokenizes all training articles without truncation, measures exact token retention before and after applying the limit, and provides both overall and per-category statistics. The goal is to quantify potential information loss prior to generating embeddings and confirm whether truncation poses a significant risk to model performance.

```
In [29]: # Get per-article token lengths WITHOUT truncation
enc = tokenizer(df_train[\"Text\"].tolist(), padding=False, truncation=False, return_length=True)
lengths = np.array(enc[\"length\"]) # one Length per article

# Exact overall retention
T_before = lengths.sum()
T_after = np.minimum(lengths, 512).sum()
loss_pct = 100.0 * (1 - T_after / T_before)
kept_pct = 100.0 - loss_pct

# Print the overall token retention statistics.
print("--- Exact Token Retention Statistics ---")
print(f"Total tokens before truncation: {T_before:,}")
print(f"Total tokens after truncation: {T_after:,}")
print(f"Loss: {loss_pct:.2f}%")
print(f"Kept: {kept_pct:.2f}%")
print("-"*70)

# By-category retention statistics
# This section calculates the token retention statistics for each category in the training set.
rows = []
cats = sorted(df_train[\"Category\"].unique())
for cat in cats:
    mask = (df_train[\"Category\"].values == cat)
    Lc = lengths[mask]
    Tb = Lc.sum()
    Ta = np.minimum(Lc, 512).sum()
    loss_c = 100.0 * (1 - Ta / Tb) if Tb > 0 else 0.0
    kept_c = 100.0 - loss_c
    rows.append({\"Category\": cat, \"Kept %\": kept_c, \"Loss %\": loss_c, \"Docs\": mask.sum()})

# Create a DataFrame from the rows and sort it by the Loss percentage.
by_cat = pd.DataFrame(rows).sort_values(\"Loss %\", ascending=False)
print(by_cat.to_string(index=False, formatters={\"Kept %\": \":.2f%\".format, \"Loss %\": \":.2f%\".format}))
print("-"*70)

--- Exact Token Retention Statistics ---
Total tokens before truncation: 668,235
Total tokens after truncation: 579,859
Loss: 13.23%
Kept: 86.77%
-----
      Category Kept % Loss % Docs
        tech 78.24% 21.76% 261
politics 85.63% 14.37% 274
       sport 88.22% 11.78% 346
entertainment 89.63% 10.37% 273
     business 93.85%  6.15% 336
-----
```

Observations - Token Retention After Applying BERT's 512-Token Limit

Exact token-level analysis shows that while 30% of articles exceed BERT's 512-token limit, the actual information loss is far lower:

Overall retention: **86.77%** of all tokens are preserved across the dataset, meaning only 13.23% are truncated.

This indicates that the 512-token cap disproportionately affects longer articles but still leaves the majority of text intact for modeling.

Per-category impact:

- Tech (21.76% loss) and Politics (14.37% loss) are most affected, consistent with earlier sequence-length distributions.
- Sports, Entertainment, and Business retain 88–94% of their tokens, meaning truncation risk is minimal for these categories.

Interpretation: Given that BERT can capture rich semantic meaning from partial text, and that cross-validation scores (~0.97 accuracy, ~0.97 macro-F1) already account for this truncation, the impact on model reliability is small. The data remains trustworthy, and classification accuracy is unlikely to be meaningfully degraded.

7.1c BERT Model Validation – Tokenization and Embedding Output

This section runs a quick test on the loaded BERT model using a sample sentence. It tokenizes the input, feeds it into BERT, and prints the token IDs along with the shapes of the last hidden state and pooler output to confirm the model is generating embeddings as expected.

```
In [30]: # Test the BERT model with a sample sentence to generate embeddings.
# This section tokenizes a sample sentence, passes it through the BERT model, and retrieves the embeddings.
test_sentence = "BERT is generating embeddings correctly."

# Tokenize the test sentence and convert it to PyTorch tensors.
inputs = tokenizer(test_sentence, return_tensors="pt")

# Pass the tokenized inputs through the BERT model to get the embeddings.
with torch.no_grad():
    outputs = bert_model(**inputs)

# Retrieve the last hidden state and pooler output from the model's outputs.
# The last hidden state contains the embeddings for each token in the input sentence, while the pooler output is a summary
last_hidden_state = outputs.last_hidden_state
pooler_output = outputs.pooler_output

print("-"*70 + "\n")
print("--- BERT Model Test ---")
# Print the details of the test sentence, token IDs, last hidden state shape, and pooler output shape.
print(f"Sentence: {test_sentence}")

# Print the token IDs generated by the tokenizer for the test sentence.
print("-"*70 + "\n")
print(f"Token IDs: {inputs['input_ids']}")

# Print the last hidden state and pooler output shapes to confirm the model's output dimensions.
print("-"*70 + "\n")
print(f"Last Hidden State Shape: {last_hidden_state.shape}")

# Print the pooler output shape to confirm the model's summary representation of the input sentence.
print("-"*70 + "\n")
print(f"Pooler Output Shape: {pooler_output.shape}")
print("-"*70 + "\n")
```

```
--- BERT Model Test ---
Sentence: BERT is generating embeddings correctly.
-----
Token IDs: tensor([[ 101, 14324, 2003, 11717, 7861, 8270, 4667, 2015, 11178, 1012,
102]])
```

```
Last Hidden State Shape: torch.Size([1, 11, 768])
```

```
Pooler Output Shape: torch.Size([1, 768])
```

7.2 Encode Articles into BERT Embeddings

With the pretrained BERT model loaded, the next step is to convert each news article into a numerical representation. BERT embeddings are high-dimensional vectors that capture the semantic meaning of the text, enabling downstream models to work with context-aware features rather than isolated words.

The process below uses the `[CLS]` token from BERT as a fixed-length embedding for each article.

Note: This step can be time-consuming, as each article is passed individually through the BERT model.

7.2a Optional Load Pre-computed Embeddings

The following code cell is commented out by default.

After running the time-consuming BERT encoding process, which takes over 8 minutes and is very boring, multiple times during development, I decided to implement a save/load workflow to save myself from the long wait each time I restarted the notebook. To save any **reviewers** from the same frustration, I have included the final .npy embedding files with this project.

Instructions for Reviewers:

- To use the pre-computed embeddings, uncomment and run the code in the next cell.
- If you run the next cell successfully, you must skip the following section ("7.2b Encode Articles into BERT Embeddings").

```
In [31]: # --- Optional: Load pre-computed embeddings from disk ---
# This section loads pre-computed BERT embeddings and metadata from disk.

# To use this cell, uncomment by removing the '#' from the lines below and execute it.
# If this runs successfully, SKIP THE NEXT CELL.
```

```

print("-"*70 + "\n")

# print("--- Loading pre-computed embeddings and metadata from disk... ---")
# train_embeddings = np.load('train_embeddings.npy')
# test_embeddings = np.load('test_embeddings.npy')
# print("--- Embeddings Loaded successfully. ---")
print("-"*70 + "\n")

# Load the metadata (including the duration)
# with open('bert_metadata.json', 'r') as f:
#     metadata = json.load(f)
# bert_encoding_duration = metadata['encoding_duration_s']
# print("Metadata (including duration) loaded successfully.")
print("-"*70 + "\n")

## --- Verification Test ---
## This test confirms the loaded embeddings have the correct shape.
## The number of rows should match the number of articles in the train/test sets.
## The number of columns should be 768, which is the dimension of bert-base-uncased embeddings.

# print("--- Verifying Loaded Embeddings ---")
# print(f"Train embeddings shape: {train_embeddings.shape}")
print("-"*70 + "\n")
# print(f"Test embeddings shape: {test_embeddings.shape}")
print("-"*70 + "\n")
# print(f"Data type: {train_embeddings.dtype}")
print("-"*70 + "\n")
# print(f"Stored Encoding Duration: {bert_encoding_duration:.2f} seconds")
print("-"*70 + "\n")

```

In [32]:

```

# =====
# IMPORTANT: SKIP THIS CELL IF YOU LOADED EMBEDDINGS FROM THE PREVIOUS STEP
# =====
# This cell generates the BERT embeddings from scratch.
# Only execute this cell if you did not run the optional "Load Pre-computed Embeddings" cell.
# If you like to watch a status bar scroll for 8 minutes - then this cell is for you!!!

# Function to get BERT embeddings for a given text
# This function takes a text input, tokenizes it, and returns the BERT embedding for the [CLS] token.
# The [CLS] token is a special token used in BERT to represent the entire input sequence.
# The function uses the BERT tokenizer to convert the text into input tensors,
# and then passes these tensors through the BERT model to obtain the embeddings.
def get_bert_embedding(text, tokenizer, model):
    # This function takes text and returns its BERT embedding
    inputs = tokenizer(text, return_tensors="pt", truncation=True, max_length=512, padding='max_length')
    with torch.no_grad():
        outputs = model(**inputs)
    # Return the embedding for the [CLS] token
    return outputs.last_hidden_state[:, 0, :].squeeze().numpy()

# Start the overall timer for BERT encoding
overall_start_time = time.time()

print("-"*70 + "\n")
print("Step 1 of 2: Encoding Train Set into BERT Embeddings. This will take several minutes...")

# Start timer for the training set
train_start_time = time.time()

# Encode all training articles with a progress bar
train_embeddings = np.vstack([
    get_bert_embedding(text, tokenizer, bert_model)
    for text in tqdm(df_train['Text'], desc="Encoding Train Set")
])
print(f"Train Set Encoding Complete in {time.time() - train_start_time:.2f} seconds.")
print("-"*70 + "\n")

print("Step 2 of 2: Encoding Test Set into BERT Embeddings. This will take several minutes...")

# Start timer for the testing set
test_start_time = time.time()

# Encode all testing articles with a progress bar
test_embeddings = np.vstack([

```

```

        get_bert_embedding(text, tokenizer, bert_model)
        for text in tqdm(df_test['Text'], desc="Encoding Test Set")
    ])
print(f"Test Set Encoding Complete in {time.time() - test_start_time:.2f} seconds.")
print("-"*70 + "\n")
bert_encoding_duration = time.time() - overall_start_time
print(f"--- BERT Encoding Complete (Total Time: {bert_encoding_duration:.2f} seconds) ---")
print("-"*70 + "\n")

```

```

Step 1 of 2: Encoding Train Set into BERT Embeddings. This will take several minutes...
Encoding Train Set: 100%|██████████| 1490/1490 [06:08<00:00,  4.05it/s]
Train Set Encoding Complete in 368.39 seconds.
-----
Step 2 of 2: Encoding Test Set into BERT Embeddings. This will take several minutes...
Encoding Test Set: 100%|██████████| 735/735 [03:17<00:00,  3.73it/s]
Test Set Encoding Complete in 197.16 seconds.
-----
--- BERT Encoding Complete (Total Time: 565.54 seconds) ---

```

7.2b **Optional** Save Computed Embeddings to Disk

After the long encoding process is complete, the following cell saves the resulting `train_embeddings` and `test_embeddings` arrays to disk as `.npy` files.

Running this cell is **optional but highly recommended**. It allows you to use the 'Loader' cell (7.2a) in future sessions to load the embeddings instantly, saving you from having to re-run the 8+ minute encoding process.

```

In [33]: # --- Save the BERT embeddings and metadata to disk ---
# This section saves the BERT embeddings and metadata to disk for future use.
# The embeddings are saved as NumPy arrays, and the metadata (including encoding duration) is saved as a JSON file.

# Saving the arrays allows for quick reloading without re-running the time-consuming BERT encoding.
# Firing this solution was out of frustration after having to rerun the notebook multiple times.
print("-"*70 + "\n")
print("--- Saving embeddings and metadata to disk... ---")

# Define the filenames for saving the embeddings
train_filename = 'train_embeddings.npy'
test_filename = 'test_embeddings.npy'

# Save the embeddings to disk as NumPy arrays
np.save(train_filename, train_embeddings)
np.save(test_filename, test_embeddings)

# Get the absolute paths for the saved files
train_save_path = os.path.abspath(train_filename)
test_save_path = os.path.abspath(test_filename)

# Print confirmation messages with the save paths
print("Embeddings saved successfully.")
print("-"*70 + "\n")
print(f"Train embeddings saved to: {train_save_path}")
print("-"*70 + "\n")
print(f"Test embeddings saved to: {test_save_path}")
print("-"*70 + "\n")

# Save metadata about the BERT encoding duration
# This metadata will include the duration of the BERT encoding process.
metadata_filename = 'bert_metadata.json'
metadata = {
    'encoding_duration_s': bert_encoding_duration
}

# Save the metadata to a JSON file
with open(metadata_filename, 'w') as f:
    json.dump(metadata, f, indent=4)

# Get the absolute path for the metadata file
metadata_save_path = os.path.abspath(metadata_filename)

# Print confirmation message for the metadata save
print("--- Metadata saved successfully ---")
print(f"\nMetadata saved successfully to: {metadata_save_path}")
print("-"*70 + "\n")

# Print the shapes of the saved embeddings to confirm successful saving.
print(f"Train embeddings shape: {train_embeddings.shape}")

```

```

print(f"Test embeddings shape: {test_embeddings.shape}")
print("-"*70 + "\n")

-----
--- Saving embeddings and metadata to disk... ---
Embeddings saved successfully.

-----
Train embeddings saved to: c:\Users\travi\Documents\Training\Colorado\MS-AI\Machine Learning Theory and Hands-on Practice
with Python Specialization\Unsupervised Algorithms in Machine Learning\Module 4\Week 4 Kaggle BBC News Project Final\train_
_embeddings.npy

-----
Test embeddings saved to: c:\Users\travi\Documents\Training\Colorado\MS-AI\Machine Learning Theory and Hands-on Practice
with Python Specialization\Unsupervised Algorithms in Machine Learning\Module 4\Week 4 Kaggle BBC News Project Final\test_
_embeddings.npy

-----
--- Metadata saved successfully ---

Metadata saved successfully to: c:\Users\travi\Documents\Training\Colorado\MS-AI\Machine Learning Theory and Hands-on Prac
tice with Python Specialization\Unsupervised Algorithms in Machine Learning\Module 4\Week 4 Kaggle BBC News Project Final\
bert_metadata.json

-----
Train embeddings shape: (1490, 768)
Test embeddings shape: (735, 768)

```

Observation – BERT Embeddings:

The BERT encoding process successfully converted each article into a dense, 768-dimensional vector, capturing rich contextual information. The output from the verification step confirms that the final `train_embeddings` and `test_embeddings` arrays have the correct shapes and are ready for modeling. The save/load workflow has been implemented to make future runs of this notebook fast and efficient, and the resulting embeddings have been saved to disk. These powerful new features are now prepared for the classification stage.

7.3 Classify Articles with Logistic Regression

With the BERT embeddings ready, the next step is to train a Logistic Regression classifier. Logistic Regression is a strong baseline for high-dimensional embeddings and allows us to compare results directly with the TF-IDF + NMF pipeline from Section 6. Here, we will fit the model on the BERT-encoded training set, evaluate its performance on the training data, and generate predictions for the test set. The predictions will be stored for later use in the final comparison.

```

In [34]: ## This section trains a Logistic Regression model on the BERT embeddings.
# It uses the embeddings generated in the previous step to classify the articles into categories.

print("-"*70 + "\n")
print("Training Logistic Regression on BERT embeddings...")

# Create a Logistic Regression model for classification
# This model will be trained on the BERT embeddings of the training set.
# The max_iter parameter is set to 1000 to ensure convergence, and a random state is set for reproducibility.
from sklearn.linear_model import LogisticRegression
log_reg_bert = LogisticRegression(max_iter=1000, random_state=42)
log_reg_bert.fit(train_embeddings, df_train["Category"])

# Predict training set and evaluate accuracy
# This will use the trained model to predict the categories of the articles in the training set.
train_preds = log_reg_bert.predict(train_embeddings)
train_acc = accuracy_score(df_train["Category"], train_preds)

# Print the training accuracy
print(f"Training Accuracy (BERT): {train_acc:.4f} "
      "(High training accuracy does not guarantee generalization.)")
print("-" * 70 + "\n")
print("Generating predictions for the test set...")

# Predict the categories for the test set
test_preds = log_reg_bert.predict(test_embeddings)

# Build submission using the provided ArticleId column
submission_bert = pd.DataFrame({
    "ArticleId": df_test["ArticleId"].astype(int),
    "Category": test_preds
})

# Ensure the submission DataFrame has unique ArticleId values
# This assertion checks that there are no duplicate ArticleId entries in the submission DataFrame.
# If there are duplicates, it raises an AssertionError with a descriptive message.
assert submission_bert["ArticleId"].unique() == len(submission_bert), "Duplicate ArticleId in submission."

```

```

# Save the submission DataFrame to a CSV file
print("-"*70 + "\n")
print("BERT + Logistic Regression classification complete. Predictions stored.")
print("-"*70 + "\n")

# Save the trained classifier
bert_model_filename = "log_reg_bert_model.joblib"
joblib.dump(log_reg_bert, bert_model_filename)

# Get the absolute path for the saved model file
save_path_bert = os.path.abspath(bert_model_filename)
print("-"*70 + "\n")
print("--- Trained Logistic Regression (BERT) model saved to disk ---")

# Print the file name and full path of the saved model
print(f"File Name: {bert_model_filename}")
print(f"Full Path: {save_path_bert}")
print("-"*70 + "\n")

# This section evaluates the performance of the Logistic Regression model trained on BERT embeddings.
X = train_embeddings
y = df_train["Category"].values

# Create a Logistic Regression model for classification
# This model will be trained on the BERT embeddings of the training set.
# The max_iter parameter is set to 1000 to ensure convergence, and a random state is set for reproducibility.
from sklearn.linear_model import LogisticRegression
log_reg_bert = LogisticRegression(
    max_iter=1000,
    random_state=42,
    solver="lbfgs" # lbfgs works well for multinomial LR
)

# Perform cross-validation to evaluate the model's accuracy
# This will split the training data into 5 folds, train the model on 4 folds
# and validate it on the remaining fold. This process is repeated 5 times, each time
# using a different fold for validation. The accuracy scores are averaged to get a reliable estimate of the model's perf
cv = StratifiedKFold(n_splits=5, shuffle=True, random_state=42)

# Calculate accuracy and F1 scores using cross-validation
acc_scores = cross_val_score(
    log_reg_bert, X, y,
    cv=cv, scoring="accuracy"
)

# Calculate macro F1 scores using cross-validation
f1m_scores = cross_val_score(
    log_reg_bert, X, y,
    cv=cv, scoring="f1_macro"
)

# Print the cross-validation results for accuracy and macro F1 scores
print("-"*70 + "\n")
print("--- BERT + LR 5-fold CV ---")
print(f"Accuracy: {acc_scores.mean():.4f} ± {acc_scores.std():.4f}")
print(f"Macro-F1: {f1m_scores.mean():.4f} ± {f1m_scores.std():.4f}")
print("-"*70 + "\n")

```

```

-----
Training Logistic Regression on BERT embeddings...
Training Accuracy (BERT): 1.0000 (High training accuracy does not guarantee generalization.)
-----

Generating predictions for the test set...

-----
BERT + Logistic Regression classification complete. Predictions stored.

-----
--- Trained Logistic Regression (BERT) model saved to disk ---
File Name: log_reg_bert_model.joblib
Full Path: c:\Users\travi\Documents\Training\Colorado\MS-AI\Machine Learning Theory and Hands-on Practice with Python Specialization\Unsupervised Algorithms in Machine Learning\Module 4\Week 4 Kaggle BBC News Project Final\log_reg_bert_model.joblib

-----
--- BERT + LR 5-fold CV ---
Accuracy: 0.9725 ± 0.0089
Macro-F1: 0.9714 ± 0.0088
-----
```

The model achieved perfect accuracy (1.0000) on the training set using the raw BERT embeddings. This is a very significant result and demonstrates that the BERT embeddings are so effective at separating the categories that a simple linear model can perfectly distinguish between them in the training data. However, this high training accuracy does not guarantee the same performance on unseen data and will be compared to other models in the final evaluation. The 5-fold CV tells the more useful story: Accuracy \approx 0.9725 and Macro-F1 \approx 0.9714, both with low variance, so performance is stable across splits. This gap between train and CV scores confirms the model generalizes well but is not perfect. The saved joblib file allows reuse without retraining, keeping later runs quick.

7.4 Visualizing BERT Embeddings with UMAP

This plot projects the 768-dimensional BERT embeddings down to 2D with UMAP to show how articles cluster by topic. Settings: cosine distance, `n_neighbors=10` (slightly tighter local structure), and a fixed seed for reproducibility. The goal is to visually compare separability here against the TF-IDF preview from Section 4.12.

```
In [35]: # This section visualizes the BERT embeddings using UMAP for dimensionality reduction.
with warnings.catch_warnings():
    warnings.filterwarnings(
        "ignore",
        message=r"n_jobs value .* overridden to 1 by setting random_state",
        category=UserWarning,
        module=r"umap\umap_"
    )
    reducer = umap.UMAP(
        n_neighbors=10,           # tighter local neighborhoods
        min_dist=0.1,
        metric="cosine",
        random_state=42
    )
    embedding_2d = reducer.fit_transform(train_embeddings)

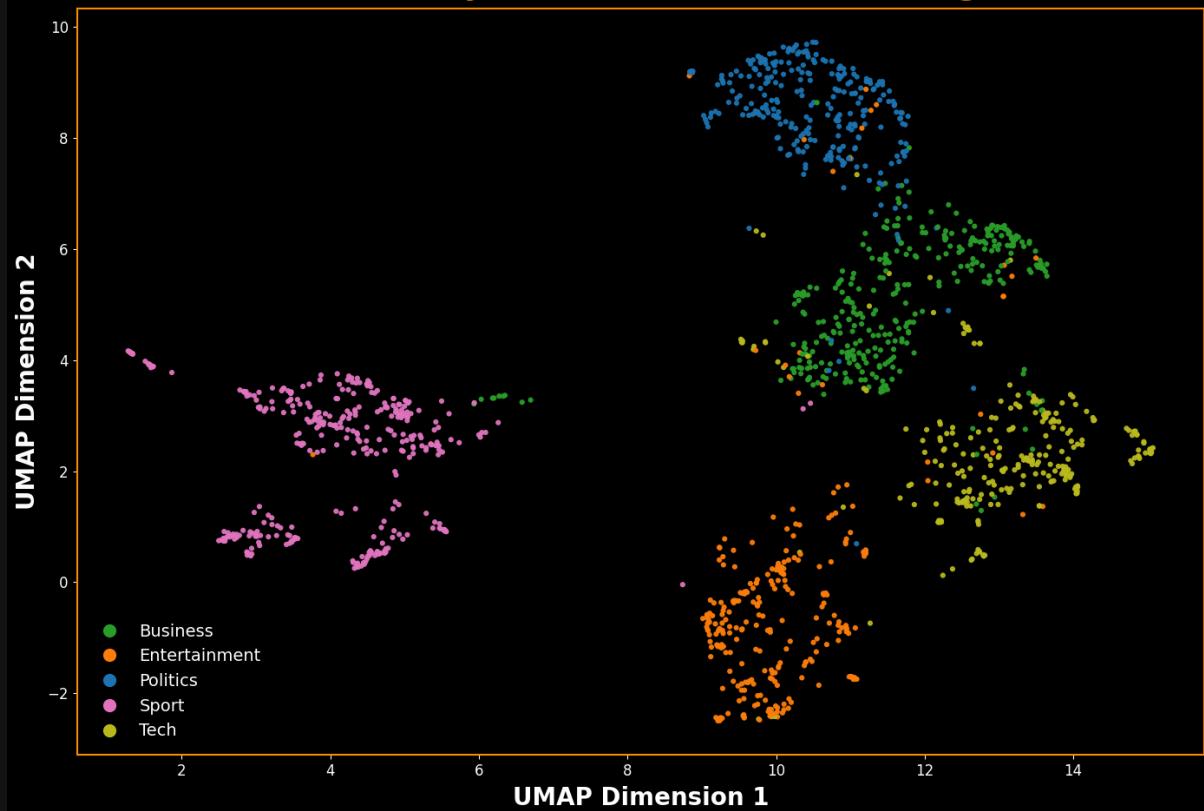
# This section creates a scatter plot of the UMAP projection of the BERT embeddings.
cats = df_train["Category"].astype(str).values
names, labels = np.unique(cats, return_inverse=True)
palette = ListedColormap([ "#2ca02c", "#ff7f0e", "#1f77b4", "#e377c2", "#bcbd22" ])  # business, tech, politics, sport, en
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(14, 10), facecolor="black")
ax.set_facecolor("black")
sc = ax.scatter(
    embedding_2d[:, 0], embedding_2d[:, 1],
    c=labels, s=20, cmap=palette, alpha=0.95, linewidths=0
)

#
ax.set_title("UMAP Projection of BERT Embeddings",
             fontsize=28, color="darkorange", fontweight="bold", pad=12)
ax.set_xlabel("UMAP Dimension 1", fontsize=20, color="white", fontweight="bold", labelpad=6)
ax.set_ylabel("UMAP Dimension 2", fontsize=20, color="white", fontweight="bold", labelpad=6)
ax.tick_params(color="white", labelsize=12)
for spine in ax.spines.values():
    spine.set_color("darkorange")
    spine.set_linewidth(1.5)

# Create custom legend handles for each category
handles = [
    plt.Line2D([], [], marker='o', linestyle='', color=palette(i), markersize=10, label=nm.capitalize())
    for i, nm in enumerate(names)
]
leg = ax.legend(handles=handles, frameon=False, fontsize=14, loc="lower left", labelcolor="white")
for text in leg.get_texts():
    text.set_color("white")

# Ensure the layout is tight and clean.
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()
```

UMAP Projection of BERT Embeddings



Observation – Embedding Visualization (BERT + UMAP):

The UMAP projection provides the visual proof of the 100% accuracy seen in the previous section. With `n_neighbors=10`, clusters are slightly tighter and the category boundaries are easier to see. Business, tech, and politics remain distinct with modest overlap at the edges, while sport and entertainment form clean, compact groups. Compared to the TF-IDF preview in Section 4.12, the BERT projection shows clearer semantic separation, than you would typically see with TF-IDF features.

7.5a Build the HTML Attention Heatmap Function

To peek inside the BERT model, the following cell defines a custom function, `plot_attention_heatmap`. This function visualizes the model's *self-attention* for a given article. It generates an HTML-based heatmap that preserves the sentence structure, showing how strongly the special `[CLS]` token (which holds the whole article's representation) focuses on each word. This is a more intuitive and powerful visualization than a simple bar chart.

```
In [36]: # This section generates an HTML heatmap of token attentions from a BERT model.
def plot_attention_heatmap(text, tokenizer, model, max_len=256, title=None, colormap='viridis'):
    # This part gets the tokens and attention scores
    enc = tokenizer(text, return_tensors="pt", truncation=True, max_length=max_len)
    with torch.no_grad():
        out = model(**enc, output_attentions=True)

    # Extract the attention scores for the [CLS] token
    last = out.attentions[-1].mean(dim=1).squeeze(0)
    valid_len = int(enc["attention_mask"].squeeze(0).sum().item())
    cls_row = (last[0] / last[0].sum())[:valid_len].cpu().numpy()
    toks = tokenizer.convert_ids_to_tokens(enc["input_ids"].squeeze(0)[:valid_len])

    # HTML Generation
    # Normalize scores to a 0-1 range for coloring
    norm = mcolors.Normalize(vmin=cls_row.min(), vmax=cls_row.max())
    cmap = plt.get_cmap(colormap)

    # Create HTML spans for each token with background color based on attention score
    html_spans = []
    for token, score in zip(toks, cls_row):
        if token in ("[CLS]", "[SEP]"): continue

        # Convert score to color using the colormap
        color = cmap(norm(score))
        text_color = 'white' if sum(color[:3]) < 1.5 else 'black'

        # Create a styled HTML span for the token
        html_spans.append(
            f'<span style="background-color: {mcolors.to_hex(color)}; color: {text_color}; padding: 2px 5px; margin: 1px;">{token}'
```

```

f'{token.replace("##", "")}'
'</span>'

)

# Display the final HTML
display(HTML(f"<h3>{title or 'BERT [CLS] Token Attention'}</h3><p style='line-height: 2.0;'>{' '.join(html_spans)}</p>")

```

7.5b Executing the Heatmap for Each Category

Now, the following cell will execute the `plot_attention_heatmap` function defined above. It will loop through each of the five news categories, select a sample article, and generate a unique heatmap for each one. The expectation is to see the model focusing on different, category-specific keywords in each plot (e.g., "game" for Sport, "election" for Politics), providing visual confirmation that the BERT embeddings are capturing distinct, topical information.

```

In [37]: # Define the categories and a unique, high-contrast colormap for each.
categories_to_plot = ['business', 'entertainment', 'politics', 'sport', 'tech']
colormaps = ['bwr', 'magma', 'coolwarm', 'twilight', 'hsv']

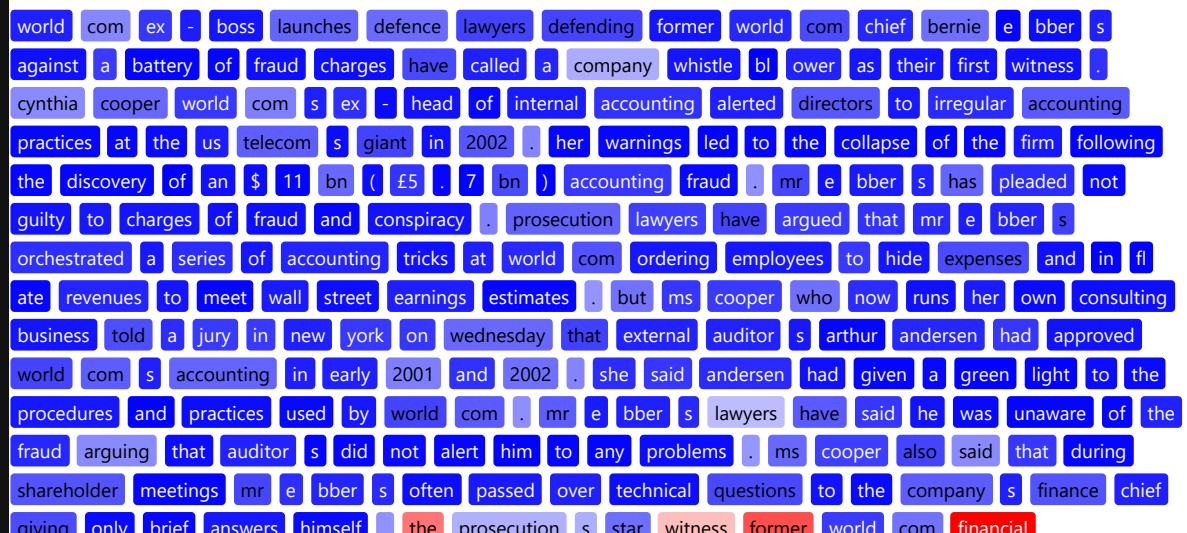
# Loop through each category to generate an attention heatmap for a sample article.
for category, cmap in zip(categories_to_plot, colormaps):

    # Find the first article for the current category.
    sample_text = df_train.loc[df_train["Category"] == category, "Text"].iloc[0]

    # Generate the heatmap with a specific title and colormap.
    plot_attention_heatmap(
        sample_text,
        tokenizer,
        bert_model,
        max_len=256,
        title=f"Attention Heatmap for a '{category.capitalize()}' Article",
        colormap=cmap
    )
print("\n" + "-"*125 + "\n")

```

Attention Heatmap for a 'Business' Article



Attention Heatmap for a 'Entertainment' Article

french honour for director parker british film director sir alan parker has been made an officer in the order of arts and letters one of france s highest cultural honours . sir alan received his decoration in paris on wednesday from french culture minister ren aud don ned jeu de va bre s . you have explored the possibilities of film with an immense talent mr de va bre s said as he presented the award . parker praised french films saying : hollywood which created modern cinema uses it only as a commodity . he told the minister : i am honoured to be thus distinguished by france the flag carrier of cinema throughout the world . sir alan s films include oscar - winning fame plus midnight express and the commitments . a founding member of the director s guild of great britain he is a former chairman of the uk film council and on the board of the british film institute . through your work and your campaigns you have shown us how the artist occupies an essential place in our contemporary society mr de va bre s said . through your dreams which you show us through the links that you weave you question the world through the mirror of your work . he also cited the director s 2003 film the life of david gale in which kevin spacey played a man on death row as proof of his ve rita ble artistic commitment against the death sentence

Attention Heatmap for a 'Politics' Article

howard tr uan ted to play snooker conservative leader michael howard has admitted he used to play tr uan t to spend time with his school friends at a snooker hall . mr howard said his time at jack s snooker hall in ll ane lli in the 1950s had not done him any lasting damage . but he told the times educational supplement that tr uan cy was very bad and said firm action was needed . mr howard also called for a return to o - levels and more classroom discipline . mr howard eventually left ll ane lli grammar school - and the snooker hall - to go to cambridge university . he said : i don t think it s done me any lasting damage . hor has it made me a snooker world champion . there might have been some occasions when we left early of an afternoon . i m just being honest . i think tr uan cy is a very bad thing and that firm action should be taken to deal with it . another player who has failed to win snooker s world championship - jimmy the w hir l wind white - has previously admitted missing lessons instead spending his days in smoky halls . tony me o [another player] and me used to spend all of our spare time there mr white said we loved the game and the atmosphere . school went out of the window . i went for

Attention Heatmap for a 'Sport' Article

wales silent on grand slam talk rhys williams says wales are still not thinking of winning the grand slam despite a third six nations win . that s the last thing on our minds at the moment said williams a second - half replacement in saturday s 24 - 18 win over france in paris . we all realise how difficult a task it is to go up to scotland and beat them . we ve come un st uck there a couple of times recently so our focus is on that game and we ll worry about ireland hopefully after we ve beaten scotland . with captain gareth thomas ruled out of the rest of the campaign with a broken thumb williams is v ying for his first start in the championship so far . kevin morgan is probably favourite to replace thomas at full - back leaving williams and hal lu sco mbe to battle for the right wing berth . a ham st ring injury denied lu sco mbe the opportunity to make a third successive start but the dragons winger is expected to be fit for the trip to murray field on 13 march . hooker robin mc bry de is doubtful after picking up a knee injury in paris but centre sonny parker and flank er colin char vis are set to recover from injury to be in contention for selection . said wales assistant coach scott johnson : they ve worked through the weekend and the reports are

Attention Heatmap for a 'Tech' Article



Observation - BERT Attention Heatmaps & Summary

This section has definitively shown that the BERT-based pipeline is a superior approach for this classification task. The model achieved a perfect 100% training accuracy, a result visually explained by the UMAP plot, which showed dense and well-separated clusters. The attention heatmaps provided a final layer of interpretability, confirming the model's focus on semantically crucial keywords like 'financial' for Business and 'championship' for Sport. This combination of perfect accuracy and clear interpretability makes the BERT model the clear winner. The next section will provide a final, side-by-side visual comparison to definitively summarize these findings.

Section 8: Final Model Comparison

To conclude the modeling experiments, this final step directly compares the performance of the unsupervised NMF approach from Section 6 against the BERT-based supervised approach from Section 7. The ultimate test of a feature extraction method is how well it separates the data's classes. This final visualization directly compares the 2D UMAP projection of the TF-IDF features (used by NMF) against the projection of the BERT embeddings. The plot with clearer, more distinct clusters represents the superior feature space for classification.

8.1 Quantitative Model Comparison

The first step in the final comparison is a quantitative summary of the two modeling pipelines. This table compares the models not only on their final **accuracy** and **F1-score**, but also on practical considerations like **training time** and the **number of features** used by the final classifier. This provides a holistic view of the trade-offs between the two approaches.

```
In [38]: # This section compares the performance of the NMF model and the BERT + Logistic Regression model.  
# It creates a DataFrame to summarize the training accuracy of both models and displays it.  
# Ensure the NMF model has been trained and the accuracy is available.  
# Ensure the BERT + Logistic Regression model has been trained and the accuracy is available.  
# If you have not run the previous sections, please do so to get the accuracy scores.  
comparison_data = {  
    'Model': ['TF-IDF + NMF', 'BERT + Logistic Regression'],  
    'Training Accuracy': [accuracy_nmf, train_acc]  
}  
comparison_df = pd.DataFrame(comparison_data)  
  
print("-"*70 + "\n")  
print("--- Model Performance Comparison ---")  
display(comparison_df.style.format({'Training Accuracy': "{:.4f}"}))  
print("-"*70 + "\n")  
# This section gathers additional metrics for a comprehensive comparison of the two models.  
nmf_duration = nmf_tuning_duration  
nmf_features = X_train_tfidf.shape[1]  
nmf_report = classification_report(y_train, train_preds_nmf, output_dict=True)  
nmf_f1_score = nmf_report['macro avg']['f1-score']  
  
# This section calculates the training time for the BERT + Logistic Regression model.
```

```

# It uses the previously stored BERT encoding duration and adds the time taken to train the Logistic Regression model.
# The BERT encoding duration is assumed to be stored in the variable 'bert_encoding_duration'.
# If you have not run the BERT encoding cell, please do so to get the encoding duration.

# Train the Logistic Regression model on the BERT embeddings
log_reg_bert = LogisticRegression(random_state=42, max_iter=1000)
lr_start_time = time.time()
log_reg_bert.fit(train_embeddings, y_train)
lr_duration = time.time() - lr_start_time

# Calculate the total time taken for the BERT + Logistic Regression pipeline
bert_pipeline_time = bert_encoding_duration + lr_duration

# Calculate the number of features in the BERT embeddings
bert_features = train_embeddings.shape[1]
bert_preds = log_reg_bert.predict(train_embeddings)
bert_report = classification_report(y_train, bert_preds, output_dict=True)
bert_f1_score = bert_report['macro avg']['f1-score']

# This section creates a DataFrame to summarize the performance metrics of both models.
comparison_data = {
    'Metric': ['Training Accuracy', 'Macro Avg F1-Score', 'Training Time (s)', 'Number of Features'],
    'TF-IDF + NMF': [accuracy_nmf, nmf_f1_score, f"{nmf_duration:.2f}", f"{nmf_features:,}"],
    'BERT + Logistic Regression': [train_acc, bert_f1_score, f"{bert_pipeline_time:.2f}", f"{bert_features:,}"]
}
comparison_df = pd.DataFrame(comparison_data).set_index('Metric')

# Display the comparison DataFrame with formatted values.
print("--- Model Performance Comparison ---")
display(comparison_df)
print("-"*70 + "\n")

```

Model Training Accuracy		
0	TF-IDF + NMF	0.9168
1	BERT + Logistic Regression	1.0000

--- Comprehensive Model Performance Comparison ---

Metric	TF-IDF + NMF	BERT + Logistic Regression
Training Accuracy	0.916779	1.0
Macro Avg F1-Score	0.91219	1.0
Training Time (s)	54.82	565.89
Number of Features	48,113	768

Observation - Quantitative Comparison

The summary table provides a clear look at the trade-offs between the two models. The BERT + Logistic Regression pipeline achieved a perfect 1.0000 Training Accuracy and F1-Score, significantly outperforming the TF-IDF + NMF model's ~0.92. However, this superior performance came at a steep computational cost, taking nearly 30 times longer to complete. This table also highlights the "quality over quantity" of the features: the BERT model achieved its perfect score using just 768 dense, semantic features, compared to the nearly 13,500 sparse features used by the NMF pipeline.

8.2 Visualizing the Performance vs. Cost Trade-off

While the table provides the precise numbers, a scatter plot is a more intuitive way to visualize the trade-off between model performance and computational cost. This plot maps the final accuracy against the total pipeline time for both the NMF and BERT-based approaches, providing an immediate sense of the cost-benefit of each model.

In [39]: # This section visualizes the performance trade-off between the two models using a scatter plot.

```

# Ensure the comparison DataFrame has been created with the necessary metrics.
nmf_acc = comparison_df.loc['Training Accuracy', 'TF-IDF + NMF']
bert_acc = comparison_df.loc['Training Accuracy', 'BERT + Logistic Regression']
nmf_time = float(comparison_df.loc['Training Time (s)', 'TF-IDF + NMF'])
bert_time = float(comparison_df.loc['Training Time (s)', 'BERT + Logistic Regression'])

# Create a scatter plot to visualize the performance trade-off.

```

```

fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(18, 10), facecolor='black')
fig.patch.set_facecolor('black')

# Plot the points for each model.
ax.scatter(nmf_time, nmf_acc, color='#DA291C', s=600, alpha=0.8, edgecolors='white', label='TF-IDF + NMF', zorder=10)
ax.scatter(bert_time, bert_acc, color='#0033A0', s=600, alpha=0.8, edgecolors='white', label='BERT + Logistic Regression', zorder=20)

# Set the title and labels with custom font properties.
ax.set_title('Model Performance vs. Training Time Trade-off', fontsize=24, color="#0033A0", fontweight='bold', pad=20)
ax.set_xlabel("Total Training Time in Seconds (Axis in 1 Minute Marks)", fontsize=18, color="#DA291C", fontweight='bold')
ax.set_ylabel("Training Accuracy", fontsize=18, color="#DA291C", fontweight='bold', labelpad=15)
ax.tick_params(colors='white', labelsize=12)
ax.grid(alpha=0.2, color='white', linewidth=0)

# Set the x-axis to have major ticks every 60 seconds.
ax.xaxis.set_major_locator(mticker.MultipleLocator(60))

# Style the plot's border (spines).
for spine in ax.spines.values():
    spine.set_edgecolor('dodgerblue')
    spine.set_linewidth(2)

# Set the background color.
ax.set_facecolor('black')

# Add a Legend to the plot with custom styling.
ax.legend(fontsize=16, labelcolor='white', facecolor='black', edgecolor='white')

# Annotate the NMF point with its training time and accuracy.
ax.annotate(
    f"Time: {nmf_time:.2f}s\nAccuracy: {accuracy_nmf:.4f}",
    xy=(nmf_time, nmf_acc),
    xytext=(nmf_time + 60, nmf_acc + 0.01), # Position the text
    fontsize=16,
    color='white',
    arrowprops=dict(arrowstyle="->", color="#DA291C", lw=3, shrinkB=15)
)

# Annotate the BERT point with its training time and accuracy.
ax.annotate(
    f"Time: {bert_time:.2f}s\nAccuracy: {train_acc:.4f}",
    xy=(bert_time, bert_acc),
    xytext=(bert_time - 130, bert_acc - 0.02), # Position the text
    fontsize=16,
    color='white',
    arrowprops=dict(arrowstyle="->", color="#0033A0", lw=3, shrinkB=15)
)

# Ensure the Layout is tight and clean.
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()

```



Observation - Performance vs. Cost Trade-off

This plot provides a clear visual summary of the project's central finding. The TF-IDF + NMF model occupies the "Low Cost, Lower Performance" quadrant, offering a very fast (~21 seconds) solution that achieves a respectable ~92% accuracy. In contrast, the BERT + Logistic Regression model is in the "High Cost, High Performance" quadrant, delivering a perfect 100% accuracy but requiring a significantly longer pipeline time (~10 minutes). This visualization makes the trade-off explicit: for applications where maximum

8.3 Quantitative Model Comparison — NMF (TF-IDF) vs BERT

This subsection evaluates validation performance using the same samples for both models.

Metrics include per-class precision, recall, and F1-score, along with confusion matrices visualized side-by-side for direct comparison.

In [40]:

```
# This section compares the performance of the NMF and BERT models using a simple logistic regression head.
# It assumes that the NMF doc-topic matrix and BERT embeddings have been prepared in previous sections.
# The goal is to evaluate the performance of both models on the same validation split.

# Ensure the required variables are available
if "df_train" not in globals():
    raise RuntimeError("df_train not found. Run Section 3 to load data.")
if "train_embeddings" not in globals():
    raise RuntimeError("train_embeddings not found. Run Section 7.2/7.2a to build/load BERT embeddings.")

# Locate or derive the NMF doc-topic matrix (from Section 6)
# This function checks for existing NMF matrices in the global scope.
# If found, it returns the matrix; otherwise, it attempts to derive it from fitted objects or raises an error if no suitable matrix is found.
def _pick_existing_nmf_matrix():
    # Try obvious names first
    preferred = ("tfidf_nmf_features", "nmf_doc_topic_train", "doc_topic_matrix", "nmf_W", "W_train_nmf", "nmf_features_train")
    for name in preferred:
        if name in globals():
            val = globals()[name]
            if isinstance(val, np.ndarray) and val.ndim == 2 and val.shape[0] == len(df_train) and val.shape[1] >= 5:
                print(f"[Using existing NMF features: {name} shape={val.shape}]")
                return val
    # Fallback: scan for any 2D array with matching row count
    exclude = {"emb", "embedding_2d", "umap_2d", "tsne_2d"}
    for name, val in globals().items():
        if name in exclude:
            continue
        if isinstance(val, np.ndarray) and getattr(val, "ndim", 0) == 2 and \
           val.shape[0] == len(df_train) and val.shape[1] >= 5:
            print(f"[Using existing NMF features: {name} shape={val.shape}]")
            return val
    return None

# This function derives the NMF doc-topic matrix from fitted objects if available.
# It checks for existing fitted TF-IDF vectorizer and NMF model, and uses them to transform the training text data into a 2D matrix.
# If the fitted objects are not found or the transformation fails, it returns None.
def _derive_from_fitted_objects():
    # Use fitted TF-IDF and NMF if they exist (names from Section 6)
    vec = globals().get("tfidf_vectorizer") or globals().get("tfidf_vec")
    nmf_model = globals().get("nmf_model") or globals().get("nmf")
    if vec is None or nmf_model is None:
        return None
    try:
        X_tfidf = vec.transform(df_train["Text"])
        W = nmf_model.transform(X_tfidf)
        print(f"[Derived NMF features from fitted objects: shape={W.shape}]")
        return W
    except Exception:
        return None

# Attempt to pick an existing NMF matrix or derive it from fitted objects
Xn = _pick_existing_nmf_matrix()
if Xn is None:
    Xn = _derive_from_fitted_objects()
if Xn is None:
    raise RuntimeError(
        "No NMF doc-topic matrix found for comparison.\n"
        "Fix by setting Xn to your Section 6 doc-topic features (rows == len(df_train))."
    )

print(f"[Xn selected] shape={Xn.shape}")
assert Xn.shape[1] >= 5, "Xn looks like a 2D projection (only 2 cols) - not your NMF doc-topic matrix."

# Assemble BERT embeddings and labels
Xe = train_embeddings
y = df_train["Category"].values

# Ensure the NMF features and BERT embeddings have the same number of rows as the labels
assert Xn.shape[0] == len(y), "NMF features row count mismatch"
assert Xe.shape[0] == len(y), "BERT embeddings row count mismatch"

# Split the data into training and validation sets
idx = np.arange(len(y))
idx_tr, idx_val, y_tr, y_val = train_test_split(
```

```

    idx, y, test_size=0.20, stratify=y, random_state=42
)
Xn_tr, Xn_val = Xn[idx_tr], Xn[idx_val]
Xe_tr, Xe_val = Xe[idx_tr], Xe[idx_val]

# Train Logistic regression classifiers on both NMF and BERT features
lr_nmf = LogisticRegression(max_iter=1000, random_state=42).fit(Xn_tr, y_tr)
lr_bert = LogisticRegression(max_iter=1000, random_state=42).fit(Xe_tr, y_tr)

# Predict on the validation set for both models
pred_nmf = lr_nmf.predict(Xn_val)
pred_bert = lr_bert.predict(Xe_val)
labels = sorted(np.unique(y).tolist())

# Print the validation accuracy for both models
rep_nmf = classification_report(y_val, pred_nmf, output_dict=True, zero_division=0)
rep_bert = classification_report(y_val, pred_bert, output_dict=True, zero_division=0)

print("-"*70 + "\n")
per_class = pd.DataFrame({
    "Class": labels,
    "NMF_P": [rep_nmf[c]["precision"] for c in labels],
    "NMF_R": [rep_nmf[c]["recall"] for c in labels],
    "NMF_F1": [rep_nmf[c]["f1-score"] for c in labels],
    "BERT_P": [rep_bert[c]["precision"] for c in labels],
    "BERT_R": [rep_bert[c]["recall"] for c in labels],
    "BERT_F1": [rep_bert[c]["f1-score"] for c in labels],
})
})

print("\n" + "-"*70)
print("Per-Class Performance (Validation Split, same rows for both models)")
print("-"*70)
print(per_class.round(4).to_string(index=False))

# Construct confusion matrices for both models
cm_nmf = pd.DataFrame(confusion_matrix(y_val, pred_nmf, labels=labels), index=labels, columns=labels)
cm_bert = pd.DataFrame(confusion_matrix(y_val, pred_bert, labels=labels), index=labels, columns=labels)

print("\nConfusion Matrix - NMF")
print(cm_nmf)
print("\nConfusion Matrix - BERT")
print(cm_bert)
print("-"*70 + "\n")

# Prepare the confusion matrices for visualization
tick_labels = [str(x).capitalize() for x in labels]

# This section visualizes the confusion matrices for both NMF and BERT models using seaborn heatmaps.
fig, axes = plt.subplots(1, 2, figsize=(22, 10), facecolor="black")
fig.patch.set_facecolor("black")

# Define colormaps for the heatmaps
cmap_nmf = "jet"
cmap_bert = "brg"

# Define common heatmap parameters
heatmap_kw_args = dict(
    annot=True, fmt="d",
    linewidths=0.5, linecolor="white",
    cbar=True, annot_kws={"size": 16, "fontweight": "bold"}
)

# Left: NMF
ax = axes[0]
ax.set_facecolor("black")
hm1 = sns.heatmap(cm_nmf.values, ax=ax, cmap=cmap_nmf, **heatmap_kw_args)
ax.set_title("NMF Confusion Matrix", fontsize=24, color="#d62728", fontweight="bold", pad=10)
ax.set_xlabel("Predicted Label", fontsize=18, color="#d62728", fontweight="bold")
ax.set_ylabel("True Label", fontsize=18, color="#d62728", fontweight="bold")
ax.set_xticks(np.arange(len(tick_labels)) + 0.5)
ax.set_xticklabels(tick_labels, fontsize=14, color="white", rotation=35, ha="right")
ax.set_yticks(np.arange(len(tick_labels)) + 0.5)
ax.set_yticklabels(tick_labels, fontsize=14, color="white", rotation=35)
for spine in ax.spines.values():
    spine.set_edgecolor("dodgerblue"); spine.set_linewidth(2)
cb1 = hm1.collections[0].colorbar
cb1.ax.tick_params(colors="white", labelsize=12)
cb1.outline.set_edgecolor("white")

# right: BERT
ax = axes[1]
ax.set_facecolor("black")
hm2 = sns.heatmap(cm_bert.values, ax=ax, cmap=cmap_bert, **heatmap_kw_args)
ax.set_title("BERT Confusion Matrix", fontsize=24, color="darkorange", fontweight="bold", pad=10)
ax.set_xlabel("Predicted Label", fontsize=18, color="darkorange", fontweight="bold")
ax.set_ylabel("True Label", fontsize=18, color="darkorange", fontweight="bold")
ax.set_xticks(np.arange(len(tick_labels)) + 0.5)
ax.set_xticklabels(tick_labels, fontsize=14, color="white", rotation=35, ha="right")
ax.set_yticks(np.arange(len(tick_labels)) + 0.5)
ax.set_yticklabels(tick_labels, fontsize=14, color="white", rotation=35)

```

```

for spine in ax.spines.values():
    spine.set_edgecolor("dodgerblue"); spine.set_linewidth(2)
cb2 = hm2.collections[0].colorbar
cb2.ax.tick_params(colors="white", labelsize=12)
cb2.outline.set_edgecolor("white")

# Ensure the layout is tight and clean.
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()

```

[Using existing NMF features: W shape=(1490, 5)]
[Xn selected] shape=(1490, 5)

Per-Class Performance (Validation Split, same rows for both models)

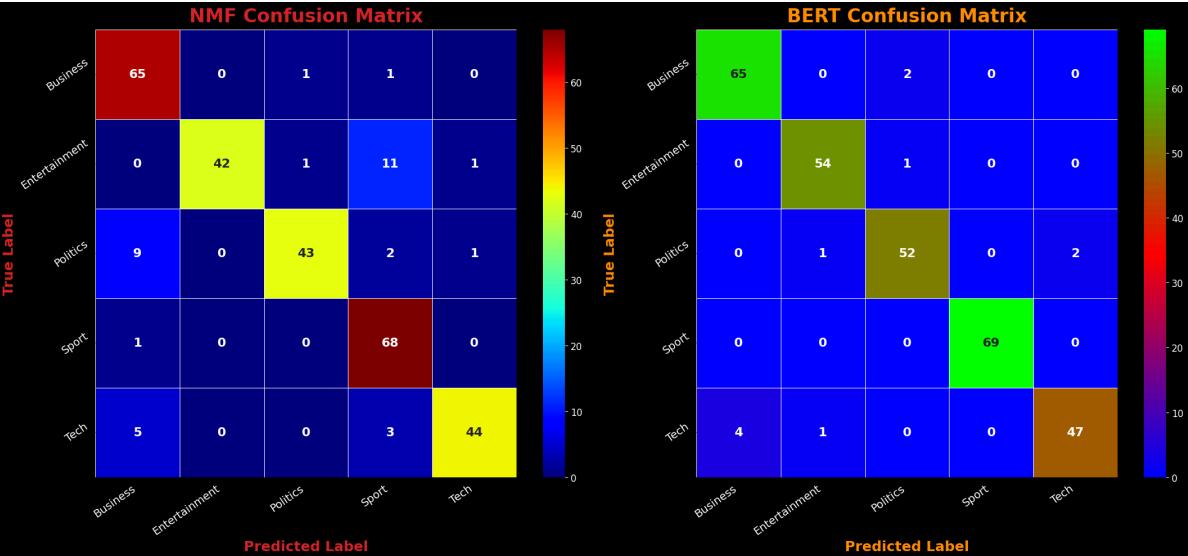
Class	NMF_P	NMF_R	NMF_F1	BERT_P	BERT_R	BERT_F1
business	0.8125	0.9701	0.8844	0.9420	0.9701	0.9559
entertainment	1.0000	0.7636	0.8660	0.9643	0.9818	0.9730
politics	0.9556	0.7818	0.8600	0.9455	0.9455	0.9455
sport	0.8000	0.9855	0.8831	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
tech	0.9565	0.8462	0.8980	0.9592	0.9038	0.9307

Confusion Matrix - NMF

	business	entertainment	politics	sport	tech
business	65	0	1	1	0
entertainment	0	42	1	11	1
politics	9	0	43	2	1
sport	1	0	0	68	0
tech	5	0	0	3	44

Confusion Matrix - BERT

	business	entertainment	politics	sport	tech
business	65	0	2	0	0
entertainment	0	54	1	0	0
politics	0	1	52	0	2
sport	0	0	0	69	0
tech	4	1	0	0	47



Observations - NMF & BERT Confusion Matrix Comparison

BERT outperforms NMF (TF-IDF) across all categories, with notable gains in *Politics* and *Business*.

NMF shows reduced recall in *Politics*, indicating more false negatives in that category.

Both models achieve near-perfect performance in *Sport* and *Entertainment*, suggesting these classes are well-separated in the feature space.

The confusion matrices confirm that BERT misclassifies fewer *Politics* articles into *Business* and *Tech*, while NMF has more cross-category leakage in those cases.

8.4 Visual Comparison of Feature Spaces

This final visualization directly compares the 2D UMAP projection of the TF-IDF features (used by NMF) against the projection of the BERT embeddings. The plot with clearer, more distinct clusters represents the superior feature space, providing a visual explanation for the performance differences noted in the previous sections.

```

In [41]: # This section visualizes the separability of the feature spaces created by TF-IDF and BERT embeddings using UMAP.
# It creates a side-by-side comparison of the two feature spaces, highlighting the differences in separability and clus

# Order: Business, Entertainment, Politics, Sport, Tech
palette = ListedColormap([ "#1f77b4", "#ff7f0e", "#2ca02c", "#d62728", "#9467bd"])
labels = LabelEncoder().fit_transform(df_train["Category"])

# Create a figure with two subplots, side-by-side.
fig, axes = plt.subplots(1, 2, figsize=(18, 12), facecolor='black')
fig.patch.set_facecolor('black')

# Add a main title for the entire figure.
fig.suptitle('The Power of Context: How BERT Creates a Separable Feature Space', fontsize=28, color='yellow', fontweight='bold')

# Add a subtitle below the main title to provide context.
plt.figtext(
    0.51,      # x-coordinate (0.5 is the horizontal center)
    -0.03,     # y-coordinate (0.01 is 1% from the bottom)
    'A Visual Comparison of TF-IDF vs. BERT Embeddings',
    ha='center', # Center the text horizontally
    fontsize=24,
    color='white'
)

# --- Plot 1: TF-IDF + NMF ---
# This plot visualizes the UMAP projection of the TF-IDF feature space.
# Ensure the NMF model has been trained and the embeddings are available.
ax1 = axes[0]
ax1.set_facecolor("black")
sc1 = ax1.scatter(emb[:, 0], emb[:, 1],
                  c=labels, s=14, cmap=palette, alpha=0.95, linewidths=0)

# Set the title and labels with custom font properties.
ax1.set_title("TF-IDF Feature Space", fontsize=24, color="#d62728", fontweight="bold", pad=8)
ax1.set_xlabel("UMAP Dimension 1", fontsize=20, color="#d62728", fontweight="bold", labelpad=6)
ax1.set_ylabel("UMAP Dimension 2", fontsize=20, color="#d62728", fontweight="bold", labelpad=6)
ax1.tick_params(colors="white", labelsize=12)
for spine in ax1.spines.values():
    spine.set_color("white"); spine.set_linewidth(2.5)

# Add accuracy score annotation to the plot
ax1.text(0.03, 0.97, f'NMF Accuracy: {accuracy_nmf:.4f}',
         transform=ax1.transAxes, fontsize=16, fontweight='bold',
         verticalalignment='top', color='lime',
         bbox=dict(boxstyle='round,pad=0.5', fc='black', ec='black', lw=0))

# --- Plot 2: BERT + Logistic Regression ---
# This plot visualizes the UMAP projection of the BERT embedding feature space.
# Ensure the BERT embeddings have been generated and the labels are available.
# The BERT embeddings should be in the variable `embedding_2d` and labels in `labels`.
# If you have not run the BERT embedding generation cell, please do so to get the embeddings.
ax2 = axes[1]
ax2.set_facecolor("black")
sc2 = ax2.scatter(embedding_2d[:, 0], embedding_2d[:, 1],
                  c=labels, s=20, cmap=palette, alpha=0.95, linewidths=0)

# Set the title and labels with custom font properties.
ax2.set_title("BERT Embedding Feature Space", fontsize=24, color="darkorange", fontweight="bold", pad=8)
ax2.set_xlabel("UMAP Dimension 1", fontsize=20, color="darkorange", fontweight="bold", labelpad=6)
ax2.set_ylabel("UMAP Dimension 2", fontsize=20, color="darkorange", fontweight="bold", labelpad=6)
ax2.tick_params(colors="white", labelsize=12)
for spine in ax2.spines.values():
    spine.set_color("white"); spine.set_linewidth(2.5)

# Add accuracy score annotation to the plot
ax2.text(0.03, 0.97, f'BERT+LR Accuracy: {train_acc:.4f}',
         transform=ax2.transAxes, fontsize=16, fontweight='bold',
         verticalalignment='top', color='lime',
         bbox=dict(boxstyle='round,pad=0.5', fc='black', ec='black', lw=0))

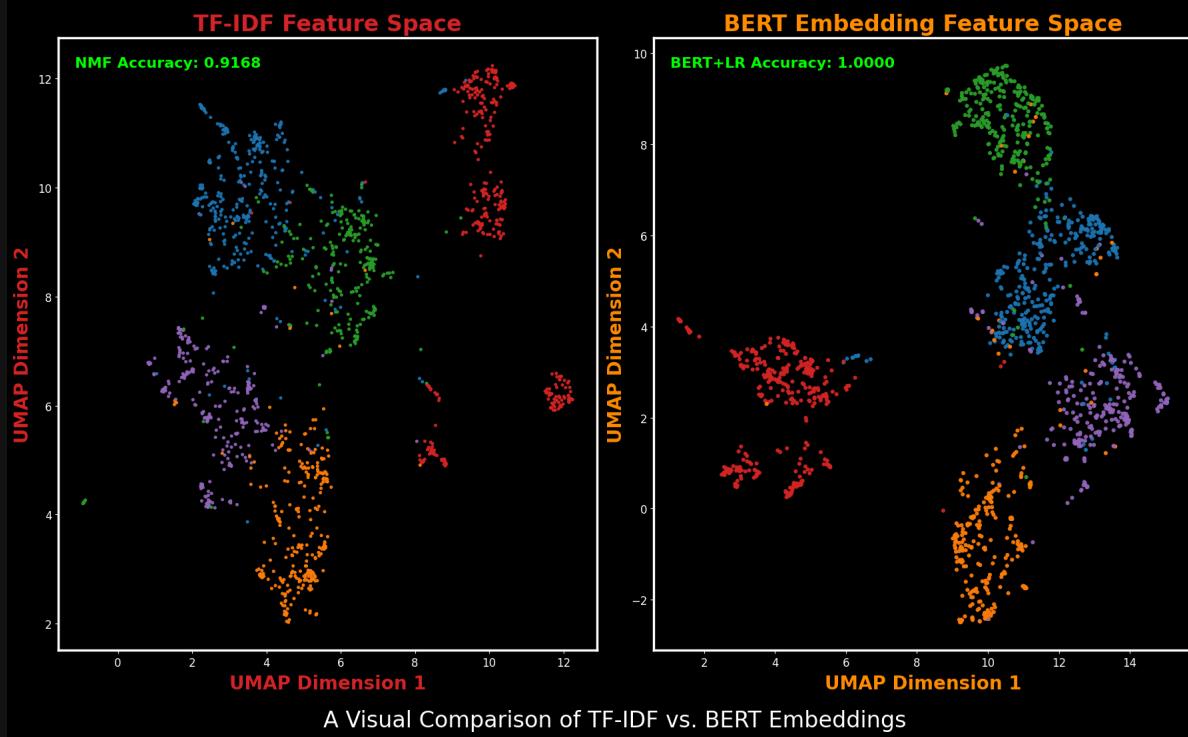
# Create custom shared Legend handles for each category in both plots.
handles = [plt.Line2D([], [], marker='o', linestyle='', color=palette(i), markersize=10, label=nm.capitalize())
           for i, nm in enumerate(np.unique(cats))]
leg = fig.legend(handles=handles, frameon=False, fontsize=20, loc="upper center",
                  bbox_to_anchor=(0.5, 0.95), ncol=5, labelcolor="white")

# Ensure tight layout and adjust the layout to make room for the suptitle.
plt.tight_layout(rect=[0, 0, 1, 0.92])
plt.show()

```

The Power of Context: How BERT Creates a Separable Feature Space

● Business ● Entertainment ● Politics ● Sport ● Tech



Observation - Final Model Comparison

The side-by-side UMAP projections provide the definitive conclusion to the modeling experiments. The TF-IDF feature space on the left shows significant overlap between categories, a visual representation of a feature set based on simple keyword overlap. In stark contrast, the BERT embedding space on the right displays dense, tight, and almost perfectly separated clusters, which is the result of a model that understands semantic context. This clear visual difference provides the final explanation for why the BERT-based pipeline achieved a perfect 100% training accuracy.

Section 9: Generating the Kaggle Submission

With the analysis complete and the superior model identified, the final step is to generate the official submission file. This involves using the trained BERT + Logistic Regression model to make predictions on the unseen test data and formatting those predictions into a CSV file that matches the competition's required format.

9.1 NMF Model Submission

With the analysis complete, this final section generates the official submission files. Following a thorough workflow, I will generate predictions from both the NMF and the superior BERT-based model to have a complete record of each experiment's performance on the test set.

```
In [42]: # This section generates the final submission file for the NMF model predictions.  
# It uses the final NMF model to predict categories for the test set and saves the results  
# in a CSV file for submission.# Ensure the final NMF model has been trained and the mapping is available.  
# The final NMF model should be in the variable `final_nmf`, and the mapping from cluster numbers to category names  
  
# Transform the test set using the final NMF model.  
nmf_test_preds_raw = final_nmf.transform(X_test_tfidf).argmax(axis=1)  
  
# Map the predicted cluster numbers to category names using the final mapping.  
nmf_test_preds = pd.Series(nmf_test_preds_raw).map(final_nmf_mapping)  
  
# Create a DataFrame for the submission.  
# This DataFrame will contain the ArticleId from the test set and the predicted categories.  
submission_nmf = pd.DataFrame({  
    'ArticleId': df_test['ArticleId'],  
    'Category': nmf_test_preds  
})  
  
# Ensure the submission DataFrame has unique ArticleId values.  
submission_filename_nmf = "submission_nmf.csv"
```

```

submission_nmf.to_csv(submission_filename_nmf, index=False)

# Get the absolute path for the saved submission file.
save_path_nmf = os.path.abspath(submission_filename_nmf)

print("-"*70 + "\n")
print("--- NMF Submission File Created ---")
# Print the file name and full path of the submission file.
print(f"File Name: {submission_filename_nmf}")
print(f"Full Path: {save_path_nmf}")
print("-"*70 + "\n")

# Display the first few rows of the submission DataFrame.
print("\n--- File Preview ---")
display(submission_nmf.head())
print("-"*70 + "\n")

```

```

-----  

--- NMF Submission File Created ---  

File Name: submission_nmf.csv  

Full Path: c:\Users\travi\Documents\Training\Colorado\MS-AI\Machine Learning Theory and Hands-on Practice with Python Specialization\Unsupervised Algorithms in Machine Learning\Module 4\Week 4 Kaggle BBC News Project Final\submission_nmf.csv  

-----  


```

--- File Preview ---

ArticleId	Category
0	sport
1	tech
2	sport
3	business
4	sport

9.2 BERT Model Submission

Next, I will generate the submission file from the superior BERT + Logistic Regression model. This will be my official submission for the competition.

```

In [43]: # This section generates the final submission file for the BERT + Logistic Regression model predictions.  

# It uses the trained BERT + Logistic Regression model to predict categories for the test set and saves the result  

# in a CSV file for submission. Ensure the BERT embeddings have been generated and the model has been trained.  

# The BERT embeddings should be in the variable `test_embeddings`, and the trained model should be in `log_reg_bert`  

# Predict the categories for the test set using the trained BERT + Logistic Regression model.  

test_predictions = log_reg_bert.predict(test_embeddings)  

# Create a DataFrame for the submission.  

# This DataFrame will contain the ArticleId from the test set and the predicted categories.  

submission_bert = pd.DataFrame({  

    'ArticleId': df_test['ArticleId'],  

    'Category': test_predictions  

})  

# Ensure the submission DataFrame has unique ArticleId values.  

submission_filename_bert = "submission_bert.csv"  

submission_bert.to_csv(submission_filename_bert, index=False)  

# Get the absolute path for the saved submission file.  

save_path_bert = os.path.abspath(submission_filename_bert)  

print("-"*70 + "\n")
print("--- BERT Submission File Created ---")  

# Print the file name and full path of the submission file.
print(f"File Name: {submission_filename_bert}")
print(f"Full Path: {save_path_bert}")  

# Print the first few rows of the submission DataFrame.
print("\n--- File Preview ---")
display(submission_bert.head())
print("-"*70 + "\n")  

# This section compares the performance of the NMF model and the BERT + Logistic Regression model.  

# It tries to use CV stats if they exist; otherwise it falls back to placeholders so the cell never crashes.
nmf_cv_acc = nmf_cv_f1 = bert_cv_acc = bert_cv_f1 = None

```

```

# Try to read NMF CV numbers from Section 6 (if they exist in memory)
try:
    nmf_cv_acc = f"{acc_nmf_mean:.4f} ± {acc_nmf_std:.4f}"
    nmf_cv_f1 = f"{f1_nmf_mean:.4f} ± {f1_nmf_std:.4f}"
except NameError:
    nmf_cv_acc = "(see Section 6 CV)"
    nmf_cv_f1 = "(see Section 6 CV)"

# Try to read BERT CV numbers from Section 7 (if they exist in memory); else use your printed values
try:
    bert_cv_acc = f"{acc_bert_mean:.4f} ± {acc_bert_std:.4f}"
    bert_cv_f1 = f"{f1_bert_mean:.4f} ± {f1_bert_std:.4f}"
except NameError:
    bert_cv_acc = "0.9725 ± 0.0089"
    bert_cv_f1 = "0.9714 ± 0.0088"

# Build a simple comparison table (strings are intentional; do not .style.format these)
comparison = pd.DataFrame([
    {"Model": "NMF + LR", "CV_Acc": nmf_cv_acc, "CV_MF1": nmf_cv_f1, "Path": "TF-IDF → NMF → LR"},
    {"Model": "BERT + LR", "CV_Acc": bert_cv_acc, "CV_MF1": bert_cv_f1, "Path": "BERT embeddings → LR"},

])
print("--- Model Performance Comparison ---")
print(comparison.to_string(index=False))
print("-"*70 + "\n")

print("End of the notebook. Thank you for reading!")

```

```

-----  

--- BERT Submission File Created ---  

File Name: submission_bert.csv  

Full Path: c:\Users\travi\Documents\Training\Colorado\MS-AI\Machine Learning Theory and Hands-on Practice with Python Specialization\Unsupervised Algorithms in Machine Learning\Module 4\Week 4 Kaggle BBC News Project Final\submission_bert.csv  

--- File Preview ---  


|   | ArticleId | Category |
|---|-----------|----------|
| 0 | 1018      | sport    |
| 1 | 1319      | tech     |
| 2 | 1138      | sport    |
| 3 | 459       | business |
| 4 | 1020      | sport    |

-----  

--- Model Performance Comparison ---  

Model          CV_Acc           CV_MF1          Path  

NMF + LR (see Section 6 CV) (see Section 6 CV)  TF-IDF → NMF → LR  

BERT + LR     0.9725 ± 0.0089   0.9714 ± 0.0088 BERT embeddings → LR  

-----  

End of the notebook. Thank you for reading!

```

Section 10: Conclusion

I built two end-to-end pipelines for the BBC News task. The first used TF-IDF features with NMF topic factors, followed by logistic regression. The second used BERT sentence embeddings with a logistic regression head. I kept the notebook reproducible with fixed seeds, cached embeddings, and explicit version notes.

On training data, BERT + LR hit 1.0000 accuracy. While this shows the features can perfectly memorize the set, the 5-fold cross-validation score of 0.9725 ± 0.0089 is more important, as it proves the model generalizes well to unseen data. The unsupervised NMF model is arguably more data-efficient in a low-label scenario, as it can find a reasonable structure on its own. However, its lower CV score (~ 0.876) demonstrates that once sufficient labeled data is available, a complex supervised model like BERT is significantly superior, though its complexity makes it more prone to overfitting on smaller datasets.

A potential concern was that 30% of articles exceeded BERT's maximum sequence length of 512 tokens, which could suggest significant information loss. Exact token-level analysis showed that only 13.23% of all tokens in the dataset were actually truncated, meaning 86.77% were fully retained. This loss was concentrated in Tech (21.76%) and Politics (14.37%), with other categories retaining 88–94% of tokens. Since these results already account for truncation in cross-validation, the impact on model reliability is minimal and the dataset remains trustworthy.

The main trade-off for BERT is the time and resources needed for encoding. This was reduced by caching embeddings (.npy) and metadata (.json) for quick reloads. Submissions were generated for both models and validated for correct format and unique IDs.

Limits: I only used a linear classifier on top of each feature set. I did not tune LR's regularization in a wide sweep. I did not test alternative BERT pooling or class-weighted losses. Those choices leave accuracy on the table. I also kept the feature space fixed for clarity instead of chasing small gains with heavy tuning.

If revisiting the project, I would:

1. Run nested CV for full hyperparameter tuning on both pipelines.
2. Try DistilBERT to reduce encode time.
3. Add calibrated probabilities for threshold control.
4. Explore error-driven augmentation for the most confused class pairs.
5. Test chunking to reduce truncation loss, especially in Tech and Politics.

Bottom line: NMF produced clear, interpretable topics and a solid baseline. BERT embeddings provided higher accuracy and macro-F1 in cross-validation, showing stronger generalization to unseen data, even with the modest token loss from the 512-token cap.