**TYPES OF NEWS STORIES IV**

**COMPLEX NEWS**

These are, as a matter of fact, stories which involve complexities of the nature of the beat, of the language that is to be employed while penning down the news item, of the jargons which are frequently used in the writings or in the conversation about the field.

These are the news stories which demand reporter’s special knowledge about the beat he is covering. The reporter covering this type of stories must be well versed in the basic knowledge about the beat.

Actually this is where comes up ***interpretative reporting*** to facilitate people with back and foreground of the event covered by the reporter so that they may not find any lack or ambiguity while listening to the news item.

The following are the essentials to be made a part of complex news items by a reporter:

* Reporter must incorporate extra explanation in the news item.
* Technical vocabulary is to be made easy.
* Expert knowledge of the reporter about the beat must be evident from the coverage of the event.

What interpretative reporting is will be gone through in detail in the coming lessons. Now let us have a glance at some complex news story types ‘that require interpretation from the reporter’s background of specialized information.’

**Court, Trials, Lawsuits:**

Court stories are considered among the most difficult and challenging stories to report since they involve complexity of legal process. The reporting of a trial especially when it is under hearing in any court is a pretty sensitive task. The reporter needs to be very careful and cautious while reporting owing to the strong possibility of the fact that any of his comment or information given in the report may create problems for either defendant or the plaintiff or even for himself. An even insignificant expression of carelessness and there will be a notice from the court demanding explanation from the reporter.

Another thing, as discussed above, while reporting court related stories, reporter has to simplify the terms used while the trial by the lawyers and the judge since these terms, though can be understood by the ones who have special knowledge of law, may not be understandable by a layman.

Court stories, normally, have already been reported in news bulletins before they become court stories. A murder, for instance, has been done and its facts have already been known to people. Now the matter is in the court for hearing so that the accused be declared murderer or be set free from the allegation. Hence while reporting this case; background of the case will also be the part of the report.

**Government & Policies:**

One of the prime objectives of any news channel is to keep people informed with the policies and projects announced and initiated by the government in the interest of the people. So the coverage of news stories regarding different departments and organs of government is pretty important and it demands reporter to be well conversant with the following areas:

**Forms of Government:**

Presently there are three types of government found in different countries.

***Democracy***

It means government of the people, by the people and for the people. Countries enjoying democracy have opted either for presidential system reposing the maximum powers in the president as the head of the state

or for parliamentary system letting the prime minister enjoy the status as the head of the state.

It is important to be noted that in democracy the head of the states are elected by the representatives of the people and they are answerable to the people for every of their act or decision.

***Monarchy***

Monarchy is a kind of government in which the power rests with one person whose decisions cannot be challenged. The monarch or the king is the ruler and the head of the state the right to rule is transferred to any one of the heirs of the king like any transferable commodity.

***Dictatorship***

In dictatorship one person manages to become the ruler of the state and enjoys the power as long as he wishes. To run the affairs of the state he may select a band of ministers and technocrats of his own choice and his decisions can not be challenged in any way by anyone.

**Different Parliaments and Constitutions**

A reporter must study the nature and the functioning of different parliaments in the world. Most important countries in this connection are United States of America, England, France, Russia, India, and Germany.

Likewise the constitutions of these countries must also be known to a good reporter. A reporter must be well familiar with the constitution and parliament of his own country. He is to be well aware of all the members of National Assembly, Senate, Provincial Assemblies, Federal and Provincial Ministers with their respective ministries.

Local governments with the entire set-up and working must be in the knowledge of the reporter.

**Business & Commerce News:**

Stories pertaining to business and commerce also demand a reporter to equip him with special knowledge of terms, jargons and economic trends of business and commerce sphere.

Given below are some special areas of news on business and commerce;

**Markets**

Stocks and bonds

Livestock and commodities

Local, national and international market trends

**Real Estate**

Routine transfer

New additions

Large sales

Improvements and expansion of buildings and housing schemes

Construction permits issued.

**Merchandising**

Retail and wholesale stores

Expansions and improvements

New corporations and partnerships

Mergers, Bankruptcies, Prices, Cost of living

**Financing and Banking**

Stockholders’ meetings

Dividends

Bonds

Interest rates

Money market in general, Currency exchange rates.

**Industry Related News:**

Knowledge about industries in Pakistan

Leather & Surgical instruments

Textile & Sports industry

Imports /exports

New industries, products, shares, mergers

**Transportations**

Changes in schedules

New policies regarding transportation

**Labour:**

Wages and hours

Unemployment

Strikes, lockouts, relief

Labour unions,

Labour problems and laws

Int’l Labour organization

**Business and Government**

Taxes

Legislative acts

Court decisions and business

Regulations and enforcements

**Agriculture:**

Crops, Sales, Droughts

New methods of farming

Land reforms

Regulations by government

New varieties in seeds and seedlings

Seed & Seedling crops

Winter & Summer crops

Sowing, Reaping & Harvesting season

Arid lands

Irrigation lands

Canal system of Pakistan

**Medicine & Psychology:**

Stories regarding medical technology and psychology demand a reporter to make special terms easy for listeners. Some of the terms are given below:

By pass

Angiography

E.C.G. (electrocardiogram)

Anatomy

Migraine

Schizophrenia

Hydrophobia

Kleptomania

**TYPES OF NEWS STORIES V**

**COMPLEX NEWS**

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**Education**

While covering education related news items a reporter must keep following points in his mind.

* Govt.’s policy on education
* Change in syllabus
* Exams of different classes
* Results
* Interviews of toppers and policy makers

**Research**

Research may occur in the following fields.

* **Medicine**
* **Disease**
* **Agriculture**
* **History**
* **Science**
  + Inventions
  + Improvements
  + Innovations
  + Space sciences

Reporter must keep himself/herself in touch with the names that are directly or indirectly involved in the research work in the said fields and whenever there is any breakthrough, must pick up the news.

**Religion**

Reporter covering news items regarding religion needs to have the adequate knowledge about the following aspects of this type:

1. Basic knowledge about own religion
2. Historical facts
3. Jurisprudence
4. Minorities
5. Basic history of minorities’ religion
6. Religious Heroes & Personalities

**TYPES OF NEWS STORIES VI**

**SPECIAL NEWS**

The emergence of so many radio channels has created an atmosphere of competition and in this competitive era listeners demand more than just what is termed as hard news. A quality news bulletin is the one that contains as many segments as it can. The segment contains something to tell listeners about fashion, family, foods and social events; and the reviews of television, plays, radio programmes, films, etc.

**Lifestyles:**

In lifestyle following aspects of a society may be covered:

**Receptions**

In different organizations, departments or other official or educational set-ups, whenever there is a fresh arrival of any officer, he is welcomed in a formal way and a kind of function is arranged in his honour. This function is to be covered.

**Farewells**

Likewise, on retirement or transfer of any important official, he is given a farewell party where his colleagues and other figures of society gather to say words in his honour. These functions are to be covered.

Sometimes a get- to-gather is arranged at tea-time or dinner and these occasions carry a lot to be recorded and to be made a part of news bulletin.

**Entertainment**

Functions and personalities in showbiz always have a potential to attract listeners’ ears. News about actors, actresses, singers, etc. is put in a news bulletin. Showbiz functions such as recitals (music programmes), music shows, charity shows, film festivals, award ceremonies, film-openings, etc. make news. These functions are to be covered.

**Fashion**

Happenings in the world of fashion make news. While covering fashion news following important things must be concentrated:

1. What’s in?
2. What’s out?
3. New trends
4. Top models
5. Models’ interviews.

**Engagements and Weddings**

News of engagements and weddings of important figures in a society also fall in special story types.

**Sports:**

Sports news items are given special place and space in a news bulletin. People, more than anything else are interested in listening to stories about sports. News becomes most important when one of the teams playing is listeners’ own country’s team. All of the news values, i.e., prominence, progress, human interest, conflict and consequence, contribute to the importance of this type of news.

In big radio organizations there is a separate department of reporters, writers and editors for the coverage and treatment of sports events.

**Literature & Art:**

Something new and interesting in the realm of literature and art makes news.

The following are the important areas to be covered in this story type:

**Literary Personalities**

**New Literary Works**

**Nobel Prize**

**Criticism**

**Books**

**Articles**

**Painting and sculpturing**

* Famous artistes and sculptors
* Forms of art
* Realism
* Impressionism
* Romanticism