

A Glossary Of Some Newspaper Terms

angle – an approach or point of view for a story

art – a general term for all newspaper illustrations and photographs

attribution – identification by name and other information of a source of information

balloon – the words appearing in a circle above characters in a cartoon or comic strip, which indicates their words or thoughts

banner – a headline running across the entire width of the page

beat – a reporter's regular area of coverage, such as local government, police news, science, religion

bias – a viewpoint expressed in an editorial, column or quote or a writer's personal opinion or attitudes

broadsheets – a standard page size newspaper. The Chronicle's size is 13 3/4 x 22 5/8. All broadsheet sizes will be within this range.

byline – the name of the writer printed at the top of the story

caricature – the exaggeration of features for comic or critical effect in a cartoon

classified advertising – ads set in small type that are grouped together under headings to form a section of the newspaper

column – the arrangement of horizontal lines of type in the newspaper; also an article expressing the personal experience or opinion of its author, the columnist

compositor – the person who arranges all copy, ads, headlines, etc., on a board into the form of printing

community newspaper – published three or less times per week. The Chronicle is a community newspaper.

confidential source – one who gives information to a reporter with the understanding his identity will never be revealed, even in a court of law

copy – any material ready to be put into printed form

cutline – identifying information that appears under photographs or illustrations

dateline – the opening words of a story, usually in bold type, which give the location from which the story was submitted and sometimes the date

desk – editing stations for various areas of coverage or activity, such as the sports desk, the community news and the copy desk

display advertising – ads of various sizes appearing throughout the newspaper that make use of varied type styles and sizes, art and photographs

dummy – a diagram of a newspaper page, showing the placement of stories, headlines and pictures

editor – a person who corrects and revises copy; also, a person in a supervisory position in the newsroom, such as the sports editor, the managing editor, or the community news editor

editorial – a statement of opinion, reflecting the publisher's position, which appears on the editorial page

expose – a story that uncovers corruption or poor conditions and includes information that is generally difficult to obtain

feature – a story in which the interest lies in something other than the news value

flag – the newspaper's logo on the front page

headline – the large type above a story stating its main idea

interview – a face-to-face or telephone conversation with a person, in which the reporter asks questions to obtain information for a story

invasion of privacy – a charge that a news story reveals personal information that should not be made public

inverted pyramid – the basic organization of a news story, in which the most important information comes first and the least important details appear last.

investigative reporter – a reporter skilled in uncovering information, particularly information an individual or organization attempts to conceal.

jump – to continue a story from one page to another.

layout – the arrangement of copy, art and headlines on a page.

lead – the first few sentences of a story, usually answering all or most of the basic questions who, what, when, where, why.

leak – to give information to the press on the sly, against the wishes of organizations or individuals involved.

libel – the publication of a statement that hurts unjustly the reputation of a person or organization.

logo – the name of a newspaper or section set in a distinctive style of type so as to be easily recognized; a distinctive design bearing the name or trademark of a company or business.

masthead – the formal statement of a paper's name, officers, point of publication and other information, usually found on the editorial page.

nut – a summary statement or paragraph in a feature story

op ed page – the page opposite the editorial page devoted to the opinions of syndicated columnists and others

obituaries (obit) – announcements of deaths, funerals and details of the deceased person's life.

photocomposition – a method of printing that relies on photographic means of producing engravings and plates.

press conference – a meeting called by a public figure for the purpose of addressing the questions of the news media.

press release – a statement submitted to the news media by an organization or individual to announce an event, promote an organization or issue a statement.

profile – any story that provides an in-depth look at a personality.

public figure – a person who, by virtue of his position or vocation or actions, is in the limelight, such as a politician, a high-ranking public official, an entertainer or an activist.

public record – official government records required by law to be open to public scrutiny, such as budgets, salaries, bids, births, deaths, marriages, arrests.

scoop – an exclusive story, obtained before a competitor prints it.

source – a supplier of information, such as a person or publication.

staff writer – a writer employed by the newspaper that prints his/her story.

sky box – space above the newspaper's name on the front page that highlights inside stories.

tab (tabloid) – "half-size" newspaper such as *The Chronicle's NIE/Career Guide* "tab" when unfolded will equal a broadsheet page.

tip – a idea for a story.

top story – the story that usually appears at the top of the front page on the right hand side, considered by editors to be the most important story of the day.

typo – slang for typographical error, a mistake made by hitting the wrong key of the typewriter.

unattributed sources – sources who provide information with the understanding that their names will not be used in the story.

wire service – a national or international news service that distribute news and pictures by means of wire communication.

Black History
Women shares secret to long life at Bethesda Center for Homeless.

Spartan Action
Mt. Tabor girls and JV boys basketball highlights inside.

skybox

flag

Winston-Salem Chronicle
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1993
"Power concedes nothing without a struggle" — Frederick Douglas
VOL. XIX, No. 26

Residents Angered Over Property Assessment Value
▲ Homeowners Question County Tax Officials.
by-line

er headline

lead or top story

cut or photograph

dateline

NATIONAL NEWS

lead paragraph

Miss USA's Winning Reaction

Arrest Backfires On Yadkin Deputy
▲ Carrying shotgun was legal, but arrest wasn't
headline

Rappers' Usage Of "Nigger" Triggers Debate
outline

Jump line
(continuation line)