

Activity 5:

Conducting Research Through Newspapers

Newspapers are an important tool in historical research. Which newspaper sections would you use to find the following types of information? Explore **Zone 5 – Read All About It!** and match each type of target information below to the right newspaper section.

Target Information

Q5A

Editorial viewpoints,
insights on current affairs

Q5B

Facts on historical and
archival records of events

Q5C

Family trees, ancestry
and demographics

Q5D

Products and services
people are offering

Q5E

Newspaper publication
location, publication
information

Newspaper Sections

News Reports

This section informs readers about things that are happening in the world or in the country. News reports tend to have a formal, neutral tone, as well as time-sensitive facts such as names, dates, places and events.



Editorial Columns

This section features commentary by editors and writers recognised in their fields. Unlike straight news, editorial columns are usually not time sensitive and have a style of their own.



Classified Advertisements

This section is an advertising section offering a large number of smaller and cheaper advertisements, unlike display advertisements that take up large sections or full pages.



Folio

This section captures publication information, including the date, volume number, price and publisher details. This is often located near the name of the paper where the masthead is.



Obituaries

This section offers notices of deaths and memorial services. Obituaries sometimes include brief biographies or eulogies of deceased people.



The News Gallery: BEYOND HEADLINES

Masthead

Activity 1:

Create Your Own News Article

To be a news writer, you must report factually correct information and draw your readers' attention. Here are some common parts of a newspaper front page. Fill in the blanks with your ideas to get readers interested in your article!

Q1A. Headline

Write a memorable story headline in the space provided. Here are some helping words you can use.

Eager Crowds Spotlight

Rich and Storied Media Heritage

Entertained, Engaged, Enlightened

Q1B. Byline

News reporters write in different roles and capacities. The byline tells the reader the name and credentials of the author of each article. Write your name and imaginary role in the space provided. Here are some helping words you can use.

Reporter
at Large

Media
Correspondent

Editor,
Singapore Affairs Desk

Q1A

Headline

Q1B

Byline

Q1C

Q1D

Caption

Image source: Ministry of Communications and Information (MCI)
Photo Credit

Lead

Launched in March 2020, The News Gallery showcases the rich resources on Singapore newspapers in the National Library, and provides a platform to explore issues relating to information and mass media.

The Gallery tells the stories of newspapers in Singapore and uncovers key historical

events of the nation through the perspectives of news reports. It explores the phenomenon of fake news and offers lessons on how we can prevent its spread.

Besides news articles, other features of newspapers — from comics and puzzles to photographs — are also important, as they enlighten, engage and entertain readers.

News media have become an important part of our lives but we do not often realise their impact.

Today, our abilities to interpret, discern, and use information and media channels available to us responsibly have become more important than ever.

Q1C. Lead

Write a creative and accurate lead in the space provided. In a news story, the opening lines are known as the lead. This usually informs the reader of the story's WHO, WHERE, WHAT, WHEN and sometimes HOW and WHY. Here are some helping words

you can use for your article.

National Library Board
(NLB)'s Exhibition

news journalist

evolution of
fake news

role of
newspapers

interactive experience

newspaper history

Singapore and
the world

Q1D. Caption

Descriptive information appearing with visual cuts is called a caption or a cutline. Write your own creative and accurate caption for this photo. Here are some helping words you can use.

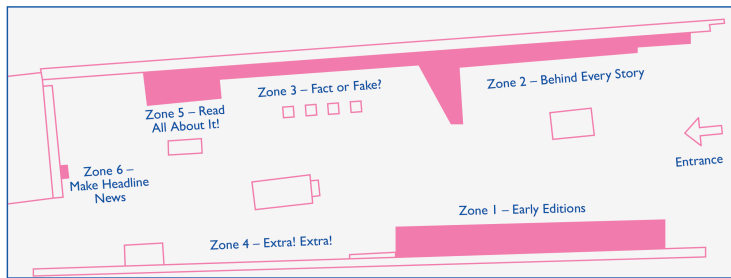
visitors

explore

engage

exhibits

The News Gallery Floor Plan



Activity 2:

Learn About Our Newspaper Heritage

Did you know that our first newspapers were founded over 100 years ago? Our newspapers were created to meet the different needs of our diverse communities.

Explore **Zone 1 – Early Editions** of The News Gallery and construct a timeline of Singapore's newspaper heritage by filling in the names of key newspapers to match these media milestones in Singapore. The first one has been done for you.

Q2A	Q2B	Q2C	Q2D
<p>Singapore Chronicle and Commercial Register</p>	<p>Local News</p>	<p>Straits Khairat</p>	<p>Lat Pau</p>
1824	1845	1881	1907
<p>Our first local newspaper was founded, covering local affairs and business news.</p>	<p>Our leading English-language newspaper today, this newspaper was started after the abolishment of the Gagging Act in 1835.</p>	<p>Our first Chinese-language daily, this newspaper covered local Chinese-speaking community affairs as well as news related to China.</p>	<p>Still in circulation today, this newspaper was started to provide our Malay-speaking community with impartial news and current affairs of Malaya.</p>
			<p>Still in circulation today, this newspaper was started as a social reform movement among Singapore Indians. It featured community news as well as supplements to encourage creative writing in Tamil.</p>

Activity 3:

Look Out For Media Bias

There are at least two sides to every story. Bias happens when the news leans positively or negatively towards a person, group or idea. Learn more about how news bias affects us by exploring **Zone 2 – Behind Every Story!**

On the left are three types of media bias. The headlines on the right show these media biases in action. Write the relevant letters of the bias next to each headline.

Look out! There can be more than one bias in each headline. The number of blanks suggest the number of biases that can be found in each headline. The biases in the first headline have been identified for you.

A Sensationalism happens when a journalist exaggerates to create strong feelings of excitement, anger or horror in readers. B Confirmation Bias happens when a journalist chooses to show information to support prior beliefs or values. C Propaganda happens when an organised group uses information to present a one-sided view in order to promote a cause.	Headline: <u>Gory</u> Tales of Public Canings in Singapore Byline: Julie Smith, Entertainment Desk Newspaper: <i>All American Tribune</i> , USA [Illustration of a person being caned]	Q3A <input type="text"/>
	Headline: Singapore is <u>Out</u>: No Hope for Compromise Byline: Khairul Nizam, Lion Party Spokesperson Newspaper: <i>Temasek Daily</i> , Singapore [Illustration of a newspaper with a person's face]	Q3B <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
	Headline: Singapore's Island Fortress an Impregnable Base for British Empire Byline: Major John Hector, Commandant Forces Newspaper: <i>Empire Standard</i> , British Empire [Illustration of a battleship]	Q3C <input type="text"/>
	Headline: <u>Bloody</u> Hock Lee Bus Clash: Labour Dispute Victims Mercilessly Crushed by Police Byline: Ong See Jin, News Correspondent Newspaper: <i>Xinjiapo Boodao</i> , Singapore [Illustration of a person being hit by a baton]	Q3D <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>

Activity 4:

Can You Believe It?

Do you remember how to be sure of the news you read? Recall the NLB video "**Can You Believe It**" and decide whether each statement below is true or false. Put a tick in the correct box.

Q4A A credible source of information provides accurate information about relevant details, such as specific locations, casualties and situations. 	Q4B To fully understand the content and message, we have to determine the medium of a message instead of the purpose. 	Q4C A good example of conducting research is asking for the opinions of your friends and family who may not have personal experience or knowledge of the topic. 	Q4D To evaluate information and form a fair judgement, we should compare information published in one source to other sources.
True <input type="checkbox"/> False <input type="checkbox"/>	True <input type="checkbox"/> False <input type="checkbox"/>	True <input type="checkbox"/> False <input type="checkbox"/>	True <input type="checkbox"/> False <input type="checkbox"/>