# Reporter Job Interview Questions And Answers



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# Reporter Interview Questions And Answers Guide.

#### Question - 1:

Tell us what Is The Difference Between Saying Journalism And Communications?

#### Ans:

When you write a letter to someone, you are communicating.

Journalism is someone writes in a newspaper or magazine for the whole world to read.

View All Answers

#### Question - 2:

Tell me what Are Tear Sheets And Clips For Copy Editors?

#### Ans:

You can make color reductions and I am sure they will be acceptable. Journalism graphics majors at our university usually buy large portfolios—at least 12 by 17 to put their design tear sheets. Electronic PDF are becoming more and more acceptable. Some of our students here have made online digital portfolios and put their resumes and all of their tear sheets (article and design) on a website.

View All Answers

## Question - 3:

Tell me did the Bravo show portray your profession accurately?

## Ans:

I really only saw the rough cuts to make sure I wasn't getting fucked. It's not like I want to be on television. It was a grueling process because all of a sudden I had to run around with a film crew. I still had to get into that goddamn building, but now with a camera on my tail.

Don't get me wrong: they were gracious, they were good and they were very talented people. They did right by us. It was honest.

View All Answers

## Question - 4:

Tell me what Is The Status Of Written Journalism These Days?

## Ans:

I job shadowed a newspaper reporter when I was a senior in high school, him and his boss basically laughed at me because they said that journalism was a dying thing If you do not necessarily agree with that though, there will always be a need for journalists, whether on newspapers or internet.

View All Answers

## Question - 5:

Explain me how do you deal with being in potentially dangerous situations?

## Ans:

Well, I do that everyday of the week. I've never walked away from a story. Violence is the cost of doing business. You keep your nerve, you keep your wits and you chase stories.

View All Answers

## Question - 6:

Tell us why Are Professional Ethics So Important In Journalism And The Legal World?

## Ans

Lawyers are held to a code of ethics by law (not that they necessarily follow it). As far as journalists are concern, it is more like a suggested set of guidelines. These days it is very rare to find any kind of ethics in Journalism.

View All Answers

## Question - 7:

Tell me what are the unanswered questions?

## Ans:

As journalists, we're not always good at spelling out what we don't know in a story, especially if it's a breaking story. Oftentimes, we try to write around the holes. Better to be clear and 'fess up in the story about what remains to be explained and clarified. This question also prompts the writer and editor to compile a list of questions for any follow-up stories.

View All Answers

#### Question - 8:

Tell us how Should You Dress The Characters In Video Journalism Movie?

#### Ans:

Old woman should be wearing a nice classic dress, with pearls, pearl necklace and earrings, maybe a pillbox hat, shawl very Jackie O, or Queen Elisabeth. Egotistical businesspersons usually wear nice suits, slicked back hair, and cocky stern look on face.

View All Answers

#### Question - 9:

Tell me what's your take on blogs and the burgeoning online media culture?

#### Ans:

I don't have a lot of time for that. I'm busy. This aggregation thing, it's a bad ethos. If people are not producing original journalism, why should people pay attention? Overtime, they won't. But by then the real institutions are going to be gone, and you just don't build those overnight. Everyone's going to be locked into these aggregators until they get bored and realize they don't serve their interest, and they're going to look around for the real newspapers and the real newsmakers, and they're not going to be there anymore. Then what are we going to do?

View All Answers

#### Question - 10:

Explain me how do we bring something new to this story?

#### Ans:

Your best reporters want to be challenged. And chances are, if they are veterans, they have tackled a story similar to the one they are tackling now. What better way to challenge them than to ask them to come up with a fresh approach to the story? The approach could involve words, but it could also involve photography, graphics and online elements. This question will also help writers think about collaborating with visual journalists across the newsroom.

View All Answers

#### Question - 11:

Tell me what Are The Different Leads Of Journalism?

## Ans:

For the news lead, you should have the 5 W's & H (who, what when, where, why, and how). However, if it is for a feature lead then there are wide varieties. Magic Three, Descriptive, Anecdotal, Narrative, and Teaser are the main ones.

View All Answers

## Question - 12:

Tell us what Should An "editors Note" Contain? How Does One Write It?

## Ans:

An editor's note is usually found in the first several pages of a magazine, and can contain anything from the editor's most recent experiences to his/her opinion on the contents of the magazine. Editor's notes can also contain responses to readers' letters, new research on whatever the subject of the magazine is, event tips. Editor's notes usually reveal the editor's personality, which makes readers come back for more!

View All Answers

## Question - 13:

Tell me how would you tell this story to a friend?

## Ans:

I like asking this question because it encourages the writer to think about the most interesting and relevant nuggets of the story. We're good at considering the news value of a story, but we're not always as good pondering the "Why should the reader care?" part. Having the writer imagine telling the story to a friend can help him or her think about why we should care. This approach can also help the writer move away from any jargon and bring a conversational tone to the piece.

View All Answers

## Question - 14:

Explain me what's one of the longest stakeouts you've been on?

## Δns:

A long time ago I was waiting four days around the clock to take a photograph of Sarah Jessica Parker's baby. I was parked outside the hospital. It was single-digit temperatures. But I got the first picture ever. I squeezed off a few frames of her, the baby and her husband from behind a column near the exit of the hospital. I even got the baby's face with his eyes open. That picture was worth a great deal of money, but the Daily News accidentally destroyed it. This was back before cell cameras, so I took it with an Instamatic. Someone accidentally destroyed the film.

View All Answers

## Question - 15:

Tell me what Is The Definition Of Journalism Ethics?

#### Ans:

Journalism is the creativity and view of the journalist. It is writing for a newspaper or magazine, but it is the journalist opinion, view, and heart on the issue.

View All Answers

## Question - 16:

As you know what Are Reporter Credentials? How Are Credentials Obtained?

#### Anc:

There is no standard for a reporter's credentials; the only thing I ever had was my employee ID card issued at the time I got the job, and that was always fine. There may be something issued for entertainment or sports journalism, but I do not know those areas.

Some venues may require that you send in a request on corporate letterhead (stationery) for a special event's credentials, but those standards would vary from event to event.

View All Answers

#### Question - 17:

Tell me what's the most common reason people have for not talking?

#### Ans:

People don't want to speak for different reasons, but I think the biggest one is fear. Some people are afraid of cops, some people have outstanding warrants, some people are afraid of payback, and some people are afraid of being singled out by the media. Other people are dirty; they're involved. Either they talk or they don't. And if they don't want to talk, what are you going to do, take hostages?

View All Answers

#### Question - 18:

Explain me why will the reader or viewer care about the story?

#### Ans:

Yes, I'd like to know why a reporter is curious about a story idea. But I'd also like him to step outside of his reporter's role and think as a reader or viewer. How can we frame the story in a way that's relevant to the average person? This is where the reporter considers why the story would grab the attention of his parents or, say, his friends at a bar (or his parents at a bar).

Not that his parents or friends are average people, but they live outside the newsroom (which can sometimes become fixated on a story that's not relevant to others). Ordinary people are most concerned about their finances, health and safety. And if they have kids, they're probably concerned about all of that, plus education. Does the reporter's story idea touch upon any of these issues?

View All Answers

## Question - 19:

Tell me what's the glimpse of wisdom we can offer?

## Ans:

The best stories for me are those that not only tell readers something they don't know, but also resonate with readers because they touch upon a universal theme. They offer readers a "glimpse of wisdom" -- an important lesson that the people we're writing about have learned -- whether it's about love or loyalty, betrayal or resilience. Those are the most satisfying stories for me. Equipped with cable TV, laptops, tablets and smart phones, our readers are lost in a sea of information. They are hungry for context and meaning. The "glimpse of wisdom" is one of the most important things we can offer them.

View All Answers

## Question - 20:

Tell us what's new about the story, and why do you want to tell it now?

## Ans:

I want the reporter to have done enough research to understand where the story lies in a timeline. What previous events have led to the current situation? Give me that context. Then let me know what's new about the situation. Does the story reflect a new trend, a turning point, the start or the end of a conflict? Do we need to tell the story in advance of an upcoming decision, meeting or event?

Such "news pegs" can be limiting, and I've often argued that we should be able to publish stories just because they are good stories. But given how busy readers are and how many distractions they face, it helps if a story -- even "just a good story" -- has a compelling reason to be told today.

View All Answers

## Question - 21:

Tell me how Does Freedom Of Press Affect Journalism?

## Ans

It affects by journalists can write what they want as long as it does not cross certain limits.

View All Answers

## Question - 22:

Tell me have You Any Questions About This Post Of Journalist?

## Ans:

Remember that two key traits of journalists are an inquisitive nature and the ability to ask the right questions so demonstrate these at interview! The best questions to ask are those that you really would like to know the answer to, rather than those you can find in books on interview skills. If you research the company well enough, you will find a number of questions naturally arising that you wish to be answered.

You should, though, concentrate on questions that show your interest in, and motivation to do, the job itself, rather than the rewards it will bring. So, for example, you should ask about training and career progression in preference to pay and pensions!

#### View All Answers

#### Question - 23:

Explain The Terms Yellow Journalism And Muckrakers?

#### Ans:

It means a journalist who writes about bright stuff and about hope

View All Answers

#### Question - 24:

Tell me what Is A Review In A Newspaper?

#### Ans:

Review is someone gives his or her opinion about something

View All Answers

## Question - 25:

Tell me what Is The Difference Between Journalism And Studio Television?

#### Δns·

Journalism is to Studio Television as Newspapers are to Magazines.

View All Answers

#### Question - 26:

Explain me why Was Yellow Journalism Used?

#### Ans:

It is to "Smear" the opposition. To exaggerate news and enrage readers.

View All Answers

#### Question - 27:

Tell me why Do People Keep Journals?

#### Ans:

Well they're used to keep personal thoughts that they are to nervous to share with others.

View All Answers

## Question - 28:

Do you know what Is Yellow Journalism?

## Ans:

It is the practice of over-dramatizing events in order to sell newspapers.

View All Answers

## Question - 29:

Explain me what Are News Values?

## Ans:

News values simplified, determines how important a news story is to the media and the attention it is given by its consumers.

View All Answers

## Question - 30:

Tell us what Is The Difference Between Journalism And Professional Writing?

## Ans:

They are very similar. Journalists generally write for the public (newspapers, magazines, websites, etc.) Professional writers can write for any kind of business, but normally must have a specific topic to write. Journalism is more general in that you learn how to write for the public. Professional writing is more private because you would likely be doing it about a specific subject and/or for a specific industry.

View All Answers

## Question - 31:

Tell us what do you bring with you on a typical day of reporting?

## Ans

Stakeout food. Years ago I had this girlfriend who pointed out that I lived off of slices of pizza, Chinese takeout and beer, and that this would eventually kill me. She was right. She turned me onto yogurt and muesli. It tastes like paste, but it's clean, it's cheap and it's fuel. So everywhere I go I got this container of yogurt and muesli. I also carry cameras, flashlights, binoculars, notepads, pens, unread mail. I got bills in my bag and a newspaper to read. I have an iPad, which, in theory, I can file stories on, but that's been a bad investment because the iPad connection just doesn't really work when you need it. I have a charger, some plastic gloves, a Hagstrom map of the five boroughs, an umbrella and a checkbook, because the dirty side of the business is that sometimes I have to buy pictures. One time I got in a bidding war with the New York Post for footage of two police officers being killed. Another time I bought security footage of these killers. Before they went out to basically kill people, they went to a Popeyes Chicken. I went to that location and let's just say I bought \$1000 worth of chicken.

#### View All Answers

#### Question - 32:

Tell us what Computer Packages Have You Used?

#### Ans

Computing skills are becoming important in all jobs - rather like the skill of driving. If you can use a word-processor well then tell them - although some journalists type with two fingers, word-processing is a valuable skill in journalism - if you can't do it then learn! Start by word-processing your essays.

You could also mention if you have used a database, Microsoft Windows or email. They will almost certainly not be looking for specific skills, just a general familiarity and willingness to learn. Desktop publishing skills could be useful especially if you are aiming at sub-editing posts where a knowledge of layout, fonts and kerning will be useful - "Quark" is the industry standard DTP package.

The Internet is becoming increasingly important and you may be asked your views on how it is affecting the traditional journalistic media. Try to learn how to use it, so you can talk from a position of experience.

View All Answers

#### Question - 33:

Tell me how Internet Journalism Is Different From Electronic Media?

#### Ans:

Web or Internet journalism helps one to read, hear, and view the news, all at the same time! Those who cannot access television, radio and newspapers, keep themselves updated, courtesy the electronic edition of newspapers. Yes, change is the only constant!

Web journalism entered India about ten years ago. Initially, it had to cope with the pressures posed by the post-liberalization era. The deteriorating plight of web journalism led one to question its very survival. However, some companies decided to stick it out, come rain or shine and availed, during the period 2000 - 2002, the services provided by the search engines like Google.

The web revolution started soon thereafter, with newspapers launching their Internet editions. Foreign majors like Yahoo, Google, and MSN also played the role of sheet anchor. These portals also recognized the importance of Hindi and other regional languages. The agreement between Yahoo and Jagran, to initiate a portal, could be an important milestone in the history as well as the future of e-journalism. It will also boost dissemination of news. The linguistic purity associated with web journalism is still a debated topic. It must always be kept in mind that news is read from a newspaper, heard over radio, and viewed on electronic media. However, with web journalism we can read, hear, and view news, all at the same time.

View All Answers

#### Question - 34:

Explain what Effect Did The Yellow Journalism Used By Hearst And Pulitzer Before And During The Spanish American War?

#### Ans:

Yellow Journalism has always had an effect on the way people view different subjects, and how governmental policies are made.

The more sensational the assertion, or outright lie, the more people seem inclined to believe it.

Back in the days of Hurst, and Pulitzer, the media was much less accountable for what it printed, and there were few laws, or rules of conduct for the media to adhere.

View All Answers

## Question - 35:

Tell us do you ever feel that you're intruding on people's lives and exploiting their misery?

## Ans:

Well, I am intruding on their lives. Absolutely. That's one of the reasons I'm so polite. It's not always going to work out for the people involved, but I try to do justice to the story, and thereby justice to everybody involved.

I deal in other people's agony. I do. You can't candy coat that. But if you can't live with that, you shouldn't be in this game. I'm not some nice person from a nice place. I'm not. I do my damndest to be a decent man and an honest reporter.

View All Answers

## Question - 36:

Explain me are You Competitive For Journalist Job? Give An Example?

## Ans:

A Careers Adviser recently visited the main production site of a local television station. Upon asking about opportunities for work experience for students he was told there was every chance to arrange this. What any interested student should do was to contact the company direct and make a request, stating clearly the kind of experience desired and the times when available. The Careers Adviser verified this with the personnel department and was told that while this certainly was the appropriate procedure it would not by itself secure the hoped for work experience.

To cut a long story short any applicant would have to make numerous applications by letter for work experience. The student must convey a dogged, persistent, resolute intent to work for the company. You may not need to express quite this level of determination at interview, but by the actions you have already taken (perhaps in obtaining the interview in the first place) you need to show your determination to work in journalism.

View All Answers

## Question - 37:

Tell us what Is The Modern Understanding Of The Word Yellow In The Term Yellow Journalism?

## Δns

The Journalism favors sensationalism over carefully researched facts.

View All Answers

## Question - 38:

Explain what Censorship Is There In Journalism In Your Country?

## Ans:



Here is the lowdown for the UK.

- 1. Censorship exists in many forms in the UK but is about what the paper's think they can get away with.
- We have no freedom of speech but what has evolved is through Acts of Parliament and court judgments.

what the media can say through a number of ways:

- \* Restricting information but the Freedom of Information Act has eased this.
- \* D notices which restrict information if there is security issues.
- \* Court orders preventing newspapers from publishing stories if they are considered to prejudice a case but only when someone has been charged and trial is proceeding. See the current cash-for-honors scandal where The Guardian got permission to reveal details about an e-mail sent by an aide of Tony Blair.

View All Answers

#### Question - 39:

Explain what Is The Difference Between A Magazine And Newspapers In Term Of The Content Of Each Media?

#### Ans:

The simple answer is that newspaper contains news articles and magazines contain feature articles. However, the U.S. has 18,000 magazines and about 4,000 newspapers. In addition, both contain some of both. The main difference is in audience. Newspapers focus on a broad audience of all ages in one specific city or location. Magazines go to a national or international audience who has an interest in a specific subject, such as gardening, photography, Christianity, history, etc. Newspapers are published daily or weekly; magazines are published monthly, bi-monthly, or quarterly. However, those are generalizations and this kind of question, probably a homework question, escapes simple answers.

View All Answers

#### Question - 40:

Tell us have you ever had to pretend you're someone you're not to get access to a person or place?

I impersonate no one. When I go into a place, I do my best not to answer any questions, but if someone asks me who I am, I tell them. If you lie to people, your leverage is gone. Why should they tell you anything if you're a liar? I know people who've done the impersonation thing, who've lied to people about who they are and what they're doing, and they're malignant. Decent journalists have to repair the damage they've done.

Don't get me wrong: people have looked at me and seen a detective. I don't rush around telling people I'm not a detective. But I let everybody I speak to know who I

am. Sometimes it's at the beginning of the interview, sometimes in the middle, and sometimes at the end.

View All Answers

#### Question - 41:

Tell me how much time will you need to produce the story, and how much space/time do you think the story deserves?

As an editor, I think it's important to talk about the scope of a story before much of the reporting gets under way. I don't want to be rigid about it -- we can increase or decrease the scope depending on what the reporter finds out. But it's important for the reporter and editor to agree on the story's ambitions at the beginning, and then adjust as the reporting progresses.

View All Answers

## Question - 42:

Tell us what Role Did The Apple Macintosh Play In Graphic Journalism, As We Know It Today?

The Apple Macintosh played a primary role in creating the career of graphic journalism in the mid 1980s. With the introduction of the first Macintosh, artists in newsrooms were able to reduce the time it took to produce illustrations, maps, diagrams, and explanatory graphics, which contributed to the visual display of news, features, and editorials. Proactive newsroom artists were then able to participate in the newsgathering process and then design and produce graphics on deadline.

View All Answers

## Question - 43:

Basic Interview Tips for Journalism:

## Ans:

- \* Seize every opportunity to practice your interview skills. The chance to sit down with a potential employer to actually practice interviewing skills is priceless.
- \* Learn how to take the conversation beyond the initial question. If a question ties into something you feel you are very talented at, don't be afraid to expand on the question to highlight those skills.
- \* Keep your resume simple. Keep only jobs that are directly related to what you are applying for.
- \* Be ready for tough questions. In regard to long-distance interviews (via Skype or phone): make sure to be prepared to answer the question, "How soon can you move out here?" Any sort of hesitation can kill your chances of success. (Also: the answer in these situations should always be "Right away.")
- Anticipate what questions you think you may be asked. It helps to make a list ahead of time and work through the key points you want to say
- \* Never underestimate the importance of networking. Meeting and knowing as many people as possible, even those outside your immediate field, is impressive and interviewers will remember it, especially if you share common colleagues.
- \* Know specifically what you would like to do in the future. If you aren't 100 percent sure, think of something at least related to the career/business you are
- \* Have a long list of quality questions to ask at the conclusion of the interview. "Winging" it never works.

  \* Watch for nervous habits. Words such as "um" or "like" can be like nails on a chalkboard for interviewers.
- \* Research the company. (Do I need to say any more on this one? One of my interviewers told me that if an applicant says he or she hasn't looked at the organization's website, they end the interview right there. Ouch.)
- \* Keep your personal life out of it completely. Even if the questions may seem personal, stick to career values and definitions.
- \* Be well rounded. For example, photographers still need to know how to write, etc., especially given staffing shortages.
- \* Have a working knowledge of the organization's area. Try to immerse yourself in the work you are interviewing for beforehand so you can draw on that fresh
- \* Don't go into interviews and act like you know everything. Your interviewer has more experience than you in the field, so maintain some humility. Do, however, emphasize that you are ready to learn as quickly as possible. Respect goes a long way.



## **Reporter Interview Questions And Answers**

- \* Make your work as accessible as possible. Employers don't want to bother downloading ten different PDFs and Word documents from your online portfolio.
- \* Don't rely on technology. Do not just assume the wireless will work, your PDF won't be corrupt or that the computer you're using will even turn on. Always have a backup plan. Preferably two.
- \* When describing who you are, first identify yourself. Example, "I am a senior advertising student graduating from [school]..." and then go into your work ethic/personality traits.
- \* Maintain eye contact. Pretty straight forward for face-to-face interviews, but can get tricky online. Some computers do not have head-on cameras, so it may be awkward looking up at a webcam. Practice.
- \* Keep your cool. You may get asked questions you're not quite sure about, or flat out don't know. If you need clarification on wording, ask. If you still don't know, let them know you aren't sure but will look into it as soon as possible.
- \* Smile. And laugh (when appropriate...) Have a good time. Neither one of you wants to have a stoic, dead conversation for a half hour. Part of the decision about whether or not to hire you may come down to how personable or pleasant you are.
- \* Don't feel like you have to write an entire page cover letter. Try to be as concise as possible because, in a pool of 300 applicants, there just isn't time to sit and read everything.
- \* Know social media. Make sure you understand today's tools (and tomorrow's), as well as how to apply them strategically. Knowing how to use Twitter is a lot different than knowing how to use Twitter to achieve business results.
- \* Bring your portfolio with you. Portfolios add another dimension to your conversation. It is good to always have on hand for reference. Make sure it includes relevant samples of work that pertain to the job you seek.

View All Answers

#### Question - 44:

Tell us how Many Photographs Are Published Annually In U.s. Print Media? Is There A Declining Or Growing Market For Freelance Photography Or Stock Photography?

#### Ans:

There is no way of knowing and no one tracks this information. There are 18,000 magazines in the U.S. published at least quarterly (and most monthly), 1,500 daily newspapers, 3,000 weekly newspapers. As far as the second question as to whether there is a growing or declining market for freelance photography—please e-mail one of my colleagues—a professor of photojournalism at Ball State University. He can probably answer this question for you as he has done a considerable amount of freelance photography in his career.

View All Answers

#### Question - 45:

Tell me have you ever had to break the news of a crime to the victim's friends or family?

#### Ans:

I have lost count of the times I've done that. I know a lot of reporters who won't do it, and I understand and respect that call. But one, someone's got to tell them, and two, I do it with as much grace and empathy as I can summon. Frankly, I need their story. I do my damnedest to do justice to the family and to their lost one.

View All Answers

## Question - 46:

Tell us when you arrive at a crime scene, what's generally happening? How do you go about reporting?

## Ans:

Very often it's absolute chaos. But, you know, I've been doing this for a while, and I read scenes to figure out what's happening when the world's gone mad. I realize, okay, these detectives are the actual case detectives and those detectives aren't. Okay, that's family. Okay, the shots had to have come from over there. You figure out what happened just by looking at the lay of the land and everybody involved.

I see the pack of reporters, and I don't follow the pack. I try to go off in a different direction. I keep an eye on them - I understand that playing defense is a part of every game - but I don't just hang around waiting for the Deputy Commissioner of Public Information (DCPI), the press liaison on crime scenes, to give me handouts. Basically, what they give is cop version.

View All Answers

## Question - 47:

Tell us what questions will you need to ask to get this story, and what sources will you need to consult?

## Ans:

Since this is still the ideas phase, I'm not expecting the reporter to know what the story is going to say. I hope that he has a hypothesis that he's going to test through his reporting. That's why I'd like to know at least three or four questions that the reporter wants to ask, plus two or three sources he'll consult. I'd also like to know whether there's a central question that the reporter is trying to answer in the story. The central question can help us focus the story after he's done most of his reporting.

View All Answers

## Question - 48:

Tell us how Do You Keep Informed Of The News?

## Ans:

Here they may be looking at what papers you read and whether you know the differences between the major broadsheets. A common question for TV journalism is about the difference between BBC and ITN news coverage. Also, don't forget the Internet - this is now a major source of news and current affairs.

Before your interview try to make sure that you keep an eye on all the major news media and the different ways they cover the news - what type of stories do they priorities, do they have a political affiliation, who is their target audience, is there a particular style?

Consider the more popular forms of news availability in particular. How detailed are they in their coverage?

Be prepared for supplementary questions relating to any of the following:

- \* \* Who covers the news most accurately?
- \* \* Who covers the news most superficially
- \*\* What are people normally doing when they "get" the news?\* Which news story has been of particular interest to you lately?

View All Answers

#### Question - 49:

Tell me who Is The Us Newspaper Magnate Who Changed The Face Of Journalism With The Introduction Of Sensationalized Stories?

#### Anc.

That would be William Randolph Hearst with his introduction of Yellow journalism that helped contribute to America and the war with Spain.

View All Answers

#### Question - 50:

Explain when A Person Has Information About A News Story Or Information Worthy Of Reporting How Do They Go About It? Do They Set An Appointment With A Reporter Or Does The Reporter Seek Them?

#### Ans:

You can call your local newspaper and tell whoever answers the telephone that you have information they might be interested in as news.

In the newspapers I worked for, your call would likely be transferred to the City Room, and would be answered on the City Desk by a clerk. The clerk would ask you questions to determine what you had, and what its news value was. Be prepared to answer specific questions about the facts of the story.

View All Answers

## Question - 51:

Explain me in Publishing, What Does Volume/issue/number Refer To, As In Architectural Digest Volume 63/issue 6/number 1?

#### Ans:

Volume generally refers to the year published, so Column 63 would mean it was the 63rd year a magazine was published. Issue 6 would be the sixth of the year, if it was monthly it would be June bimonthly, December.

View All Answers

#### Question - 52:

Tell me what do you think about celebrity journalism?

#### Ans:

I loathe it. But if that's the big story, I'm in. Frankly, with all due respect, I didn't even know who Sarah Jessica Parker was.

View All Answers

## Question - 53:

Tell us do you ever receive angry calls or emails after a story's been published?

#### Ans:

Oh yeah. Death threats and all that. But I respond to everyone who writes or calls me, because that's the test of legitimacy: facing your critics. Often people's qualms aren't about how accurate the piece is; the qualms are about how bad the situation is. They're like, "You fucked us. You fucked us." No. Tell me what's wrong with the story. Is Eddie a coke dealer with a prior murder conviction? Yeah, he is. Well, then what's wrong with the story? Nothing's wrong with the story except that it made Eddie look like the murdering drug dealer he is.

View All Answers

## Question - 54:

Do you know how do newspapers like the Daily News hear about stories as they're breaking?

## Ans:

We're still old school here: we listen to police scanners. But there's also BNN, the Breaking News Network beeper, which is now going onto iPhones. Basically they're a service we subscribe to. They listen to walls of scanners and type in stuff. But you know what, it's not very good. Very often they're first, but we call it "Buff Beeper Bullshit" because it's not that accurate. They let us know that something's maybe up.

View All Answers

## Question - 55:

Tell me what would an early headline be for this story, knowing that the headline is not set in stone?

## Ans:

Boiling the premise down to five or six words can help the writer sharpen the story's focus. In my newsroom, we're asking reporters and line editors to write early Web headlines and short summaries on top of their stories. This is largely for production reasons, but the added benefit is that we're encouraging writers and editors to get at the heart of the story earlier in the process.

View All Answers

## Question - 56:

Tell us what piques your curiosity about the story?

## Ans:

I always ask this when a reporter approaches me with an idea. I want to know whether she is genuinely interested in the idea and whether her curiosity will drive her to seek the answers she needs to tell the story. I want to know what aspect of the story first caught her attention. If she ever gets lost in the weeds during the reporting, I can remind her about the initial moment of intrigue. Finally, I want to understand how the writer thinks. What topics are of natural interest to her? Where is she getting her ideas from? What is she reading?

View All Answers

## Question - 57:

Tell us what Qualities Do You Need To Be A Journalist?

#### Ans:

Working as part of a team is common in many media jobs. It is important that you can get on and work quickly and efficiently with the other technical and creative production team staff. Time very literally is money in media production so there is no room for staff difficulties or temperament. When there are tough deadlines or late nights everyone must pull together to complete the task at hand. An employer will want to know that you can meet these demands and that you can establish a working relationship very quickly with people who you may be meeting for the first time.

You also need good written and oral communication skills and must have a crisp concise writing style - writing essays is not good evidence for this! They will expect you to have a good knowledge of current affairs and an inquisitive nature, and to be flexible - especially with regard to working hours. Many demands can be made on your time, so how experienced are you in putting in extra hours?

View All Answers

#### Question - 58:

Explain me A Big Problem In Your Life And How You Coped With It?

#### Ans:

When working with other people things do not always run smoothly. They may ask you what kinds of difficulties you have had with others and how you have overcome them.

You should be willing to discuss this frankly, because there are bound to be times when you will face these situations in the future. As a trainee journalist on a local newspaper, for example, you may be required to get stories from people or organizations who do not wish to co-operate. Your persistence, tact and resilience could all be examined in this situation and are all features which can be expressed when discussing this issue at interview.

Examples of problems you have coped with might include:

- \* \* Sorting out accommodation
- \* \* Divorce: your own or your parents'
- \* \* Financial difficulty
- \* \* A sudden change in circumstances
- \* \* Having to deliver bad news

View All Answers

#### Question - 59:

Tell me what Is The Difference Between Electronic And Print Journalism?

#### Ans:

Electronic journalism uses electronic stuff (read computers). Print journalism uses ink (read newspapers).

View All Answers

#### Question - 60:

Tell us how Did Yellow Journalism Affect The Americans Toward The Cuban Revolt?

## Ans:

The press played a tremendous part in leading the charge toward America's involvement in Cuba. Two publishers, William Randolph Hearst and Joseph Pulitzer, stood out among these opportunists. They perceived the conflict with Spain as their chance to increase circulation of their newspapers. Seizing upon the opportunity to capitalize on the growing spirit of American patriotism, Hearst and Pulitzer printed sensational anti-Spanish stories.

Graphic illustrations commissioned from some of the country's most-talented artists and stories written by premiere authors and journalists of the day were fodder for fueling the flames of war. Together, Hearst and Pulitzer created frenzy among the American people by reporting the alleged brutality of the Spanish toward the Cuban rebels. (However, acts of outrage committed by the Cubans were seldom mentioned.) By the time the USS Maine exploded in Havana Harbor, the pro-war press had roused national sentiment to the point that President McKinley feared his political party would suffer if he did not engage in war with Spain.

View All Answers

## Question - 61:

Explain what Are The Problems Of Investigative Journalism?

## Ans:

Among the problems I encountered was finding, gaining access to, & then protecting the identity of sources for inside info. Then you still have to get some type of confirmation the info you have obtained is accurate & verifiable.

Many source documents needed for corroboration are difficult or impossible to gain access to as they are protected by security classification or have been destroyed.

View All Answers

## Question - 62:

Tell us how Does The History Of Journalism Relate To Australias Democratic Government Today?

## Ans:

Australia has always been a democracy and it has always had a free press. The two go hand in hand -- you cannot have a democracy without a free press and you cannot have a free press without democracy.

Are you looking at specific events in Australia's history, with regard to how these events were reported in the Australian press? If so, you will have to be more specific.

View All Answers

## Question - 63:

Explain when It Comes To Working In Book And Magazine Publishing, Is It Always Necessary To Be A Writer First, Then An Editor?

## Ans

No, it is not necessary. There are some different skills required to be a successful editor than to be a successful writer. Of course, there is some overlap. However, many people have fine editing skills that are not necessary great writers. Most entry-level position at magazines is as editorial assistants or assistant editors. Magazines use mostly freelance writers and few of them have full-time writers. Editors in chief need good supervisory and management skills as well.

View All Answers

#### Question - 64:

Explain where Does The Expression "op-ed" Come From And What Does It Mean?

#### Anc.

The op-ed page is the page directly opposite the page that contains that particular newspaper's editorials. It is a forum for views from people, columnists from other papers, readers, and letters to the editor, etc.

View All Answers

## Question - 65:

Tell us how do you prevent yourself from becoming quite sad after seeing these situations on a daily basis?

#### Ans:

At the same time, I love these people. These are my people. I walk into these housing projects, cause as I child I lived in the housing projects. I know the fields in which I labor. I'm from the old neighborhood, and I know these people's situations. And I'm always moved by their generosity. You find decency in the most staggeringly bad places.

View All Answers

## Question - 66:

Tell me how many stories are you usually working on at a time?

#### Ans:

Usually anywhere from one to three stories per day. I try to do one story at a time if possible.

View All Answers

#### Question - 67:

Explain me how do you get witnesses, detectives, family members and so on to talk to you?

#### Ans:

I'm unfailingly courteous. You show people respect and they'll give you the goddamned world. We're walking into their lives, very often on the worst day of their lives. They don't owe us anything. One thing I say is "I'm terribly sorry to bother you. I know this is a difficult time. I wonder if you might say a few kind words about..." and then I turn it into a conversation. I don't just question them. I open with an apology and I engage in a conversation.

This might seem like an old Catholic-school boy, but I also show up with a shirt and tie. Basically, they don't know me from jack, and I'm going into their homes, their places of worship, their hospital rooms. A shirt and a tie convey respect. It's very basic stuff. It also conveys authority: I'm someone you should talk to. I mean, it's not something I grew up doing. Hell, I was a rock critic for a number of years with a ripped t-shirt and a leather jacket. But this is a remarkably different game.

View All Answers

## Question - 68:

Tell us what surprised you?

## Ans:

As much as I hate to admit it, many, if not most, of the stories that journalists produce are written in a predictable way. Asking about "surprise" can help the writer shed his or her journalistic mantle, at least for a moment, and just react to the story's events as a human being. Who were the quirky personalities you met? What was a jarring quote you heard? What did you not see coming? What interesting details and anecdotes do you have in your notebook that you left out of the story, and how do we get one or two of them back in?

View All Answers

## Question - 69:

Tell us how can we tell this story digitally?

## Ans:

We are increasingly telling our stories across platforms -- on the Web and on tablets and other digital devices. It's important for the reporter to develop a sharp sense of what kinds of storytelling work well on different platforms. In addition to producing the traditional story, could we create short videos of the people in the story for an online package? Are there any ways of telling the story through an interactive graphic that would work on the iPad?

View All Answers

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