

Analyzing Newspapers



On the same day, look through three different newspapers (Globe and Mail *or* National Post, The Toronto Sun, and The Toronto Star) and complete this analysis.

- 1) Examine the front page of each of the newspapers.
 - a) What is the major news story on each?
 - b) Make a sketch of the 3 front pages. Identify areas occupied by...
 - i) Photos
 - ii) News
 - iii) Headings & directories
 - c) What proportion does each represent of this page?
- 2) What are the sources of each newspaper's...
 - a) Local stories
 - b) Canadian stories
 - c) Global stories
- 3) Find as many sources as possible. Indicate which of the sources are most common.
- 4) Choose a World Issue news item that appears in all three papers.
 - a) Where is it located in all papers?
 - b) Which of the articles has the most effective headline. Why?
 - c) What differences in reporting can you detect between the three stories?
 - d) Why might these differences occur?
- 5) Examine the editorials in all three papers.
 - a) What is the lead editorial in each paper?
 - b) What other editorials does each paper contain?
 - c) Choose one of these editorials.
 - i) What is the point of view of the author?
 - ii) List the facts he/she uses to bolster their argument.
- 6) Choose a political cartoon from one of the papers.
 - a) Explain what the cartoonist is trying to convey with his/her cartoon.
 - b) Do you feel the cartoon is effective in getting this point of view across to the readers? Explain.
- 7) After reading through each of the newspapers it is evident that each is written for a specific target audience.
 - a) Decide which target audience each paper is written for. Explain and give support to your answers.
 - b) Which newspaper would you read? Explain your selection.