

Comparing Newspapers

In Project 6, you discovered that a newspaper editor's judgment largely determines which news story will become the top story. For this assignment, collect several different newspapers all published on the same day. With these newspapers on your desk or their online versions, complete the following survey:

NAME OF NEWSPAPER A: _____

Headline of the Top Story: _____

Headlines of all local news stories on page one: _____

Brief descriptions of all pictures on page one: _____

How many stories are of national or international interest? _____

How many news stories were distributed by Associated Press International? _____

By United Press International? _____

By other wire serviced? _____

NAME OF NEWSPAPER B: _____

Headline of the Top Story: _____

Headlines of all local news stories on page one: _____

Brief descriptions of all pictures on page one: _____

How many stories are of national or international interest? _____

How many news stories were distributed by Associated Press International? _____

By United Press International? _____

By other wire serviced? _____

NAME OF NEWSPAPER C: _____

Headline of the Top Story: _____

Headlines of all local news stories on page one: _____

Brief descriptions of all pictures on page one: _____

How many stories are of national or international interest? _____

How many news stories were distributed by Associated Press International? _____

By United Press International? _____

By other wire serviced? _____

NAME OF NEWSPAPER D: _____

Headline of the Top Story: _____

Headlines of all local news stories on page one: _____

Brief descriptions of all pictures on page one: _____

How many stories are of national or international interest? _____

How many news stories were distributed by Associated Press International? _____

By United Press International? _____

By other wire serviced? _____

Now that you have surveyed several newspapers, write a report on separate paper in which you compare the treatment each of these newspapers gives front page news.

Did each newspaper choose the same event for the top story?

Did each choose the same pictures?

Does one newspaper print more local or state news on page one than the others?

Does there seem to be much difference between the stories written by each of the wire services?

These are some of the question you should try to answer in your report. Try to explain why you think the differences in each newspaper exist and tell what effect you think these differences have on the quality of the paper.