

Lecture VI

Functional Styles of the English Language:

- **Newspaper Style.**

Newspaper style

- Brief news items
- Headlines
- Advertisements and announcements
- Editorials

Specific features of newspaper style:

1) Special political and economic terms

Ex: constitution, president, by-election,
General Assembly, gross output, etc.

2) Non-term political vocabulary

Ex: public, people, progressive, nation-wide,
unity, peace

3) Newspaper clichés

Ex: vital issue, pressing problem,
overwhelming majority, informed sources,

this is the matter of vital importance, pillars of society.

4) Abbreviations

Ex: MP – Member of Parliament

UNO – United Nations Organisation

NATO – North Atlantic Treaty Organisation

EEC – European Economic Community

5) Neologisms

Ex: a splash-down, teach-in

Brief news items

- Ex:1) Health Minister Kenneth Robinson made this shock announcement yesterday in the Commons. (Daily Mirror)
- 2)Defence Secretary Roy Mason yesterday gave a rather frosty reception in the Commons to the latest proposal for a common defence policy for all EEC countries. (Morning Star)

Grammatical peculiarities of **brief news items:**

- 1) Complex sentences with a developed system of clauses.

Ex: Mr. Boyd-Carpenter, Chief Secretary to the Treasury and Paymaster-General (Kingston-upon-Thames), said he had been asked what was meant by the statement in the Speech that the position of war pensioners and those receiving national insurance benefits would be kept under close review. (The Times)

2) Verbal constructions(infinitive, participial, gerundial) and verbal noun constructions.

Ex: by announcing, numbering, the disbanding of smth

3) Syntactical complexes

Ex: 1. The condition of Lord Samuel, aged 92, *was said* last night *to be* little better.
(The Guardian)

2. A Petrol bomb *is believed to have been exploded* against the grave of Cecil Rhodes in the Matopos. (The Times)

4) Attributive noun groups

Ex: *the national income and expenditure*
figures.

5) Specific word order

“5-w-and-h pattern rule”:

Who-what-why-how-where-when

Subject - Predicate(+Object) - Adv. modifier
of reason(manner) - Adv. modifier of place
- Adv. modifier of time.

Advertisements and Announcements

2 types: classified and non-classified.

Classified: births, marriages, deaths, business offers, personal, etc.

Ex: CULHANE. – On November 1st, at St. Peter's Hospital, to BARBARA and JOHN CULHANE – a son.

- **Elliptical sentences**
- **Absence of articles, conjunctions, punctuation marks**
- Ex: TRAINED NURSE with child 2 years seeks post London preferred. – Write Box C. 658 (The Times)

Non-classified

Different kinds of printing, different colours, typographical, graphical, stylistic (lexical and syntactical) means:
nonce words, metaphors, hyperbolies, epithets, parallel constructions, etc.

Headlines

- Ex: 1) Three dead and thousands homeless
2) New Danger as Rivers Keep Rising
3) End this *Bloodbath*
4) Milk *Madness*
5) No Wonder Housewives are *Pleading* – HELP!

Deliberate breaking-up of set expressions

- Ex: 1) Cakes and *Bitter* Ale (Cakes & Ale)
2) conspirator-in-chief Still at large
(commander-in-chief)

Pun: And *what* is about *Watt*.

Alliteration: *Miller* in *Maniac* *Mood*

Grammatical features

1) Full declarative sentences

Ex: They Threw Bombs on Gypsy Sites.

2) Interrogative sentences

Ex: Do you love war?

3) Nominative sentences with no predicate

Ex: 1. Gloomy Sunday.

2. Atlantic Sea Traffic.

4) Elliptical Sentences

a) with an auxiliary verb omitted

Ex: Initial report not expected until June!

b) with the subject omitted

Ex: Will win!

c) With the subject and part of the predicate omitted

Ex: 1. Off to the sun.

2. Still in danger.

5) Sentences with articles omitted

Ex: Blaze kills 15 at Party.

6) Phrases with verbals – infinitive, participial and gerundial.

Ex: 1. To get US aid.

2. Keeping Prices Down.

3. Speaking parts.

7) Questions in the form of statements

Ex: 1. The worse the better?

2. Growl now, smile later?

8) Complex sentences

Ex: Senate Panel Hears Board of Military
Experts Who Favoured Losing Bidder.

9) Headlines including direct speech

a) Introduced by a full sentence

Ex: Prince Richard says: “I was not in trouble”.

b) Introduces elliptically

Ex: *The Queene*: “My deep distress!”

Editorials

Ex: “The *long-suffering* British housewife needs a *bottomless* purse to cope with this scale of inflation”.

**Emotionally coloured vocabulary,
political words and expressions, terms,
clichés, abbreviations, colloquial
words, slang, professionalisms.**

Ex: topmost, grant, screams, scandalous,
frightening.

Metaphors and epithets:

international climate, a price explosion,
an outrageous act, an astounding
statement, crazy polices, this golden
handshake.

Periphrases: Wall Street, Downing Street, Fleet Street.

Irony, breaking-up of set expressions, allusions, parallel constructions, repetitions, rhetorical questions.

Ex: “So if the result of the visit is *the burying of the cold war*, the only *mourners* will be people like Adenauer and the arms manufacturers who profit from it. The ordinary people *will dance on the grave.*”

Home Assignment:

1. **Universal Declaration of Human Rights**

Analyse preamble and the articles,
point out distinctive features on all
the language levels;

2. Find a **scientific article** devoted
to your research paper and analyse
it in written form.