

Newspaper Headlines

1 Warm-up Do you read a newspaper? How about English language newspapers? Ask your partners about their reading habits.

2 Introduction Newspapers use special grammar and vocabulary. Look at these two headlines. The meanings are totally different.

1) *Boy found safe in New York.*

2) *Boy finds safe in New York.*

What is the difference? Ask your partner. Guessing is okay!

3 Vocabulary Read the following headlines. Can you guess the meaning of the underlined words?

New hospital plans axed.

Government report due tomorrow.

Juventus stunned by result.

Odds of success low.

Teacher and actress to wed.

Hooligans mar world cup.

Cabinet split on Euro.

Controversy over election result.

4 Matching Match the words below with the meaning in the box.

CHANCE

DIVIDED

GET MARRIED

ABOUT

SPOIL

EXPECT

SHOCK

CANCEL

axe _____

due _____

stun _____

odds _____

wed _____

mar _____

split _____

over _____

5 Writing Headlines **Past and Future and Passive. Can you change these to newspaper headlines?**

- The Prime Minister went to Japan. ➤ _____
- President will go to Thailand. ➤ _____
- Kennedy was assassinated. ➤ _____
- The Central Bank will raise interest rates. ➤ _____
- Armstrong landed on the moon. ➤ _____
- Blair lost the by-election. ➤ _____
- The Mona Lisa was stolen. ➤ _____
- Beckham married Posh Spice. ➤ _____

6 Your turn **Write some headlines of your own.**

- A) Three headlines from History. e.g. *Caesar invades Britain.*
- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- B) Three headlines about you! e.g. *John to go to pub after lesson.*
- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

7 Finally **Go back to exercise 2. What is the difference?**

Newspaper Headlines: Teacher's Notes

Target Structure:	Newspaper English
Vocabulary:	Newspaper
Level:	Upper-Intermediate / Advanced
Time:	45 minutes
Preparation:	None

Suggested Teaching Method.

This worksheet examines both vocabulary and grammar unique to newspaper headlines.

- 1 Students should work in pairs. After a couple of minutes, ask for a few sample answers.
- 2 Students again work in pairs. If you wish, don't ask for the answer. Just ask how many actually understand the difference. (See exercise 7.)
- 3 Chorus the headlines. Depending on the level of the students, ask them to work in pairs and predict the meaning of vocabulary. If this is too difficult, jump straight to exercise 4.
- 4 Students work alone, and then check in pairs
- 5 You will need to pre-teach the grammar rules. (Elicit, if possible. See the answers below if you aren't sure.) Students should work alone, and check in pairs.
- 6 Students work alone, and then read answers in pairs / groups.
- 7 If you didn't get the correct answer in exercise one, this is the time to wrap up.

Answer key (other answers may be possible)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>4</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) cancel 2) shock 3) get married 4) divided | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5) expect 6) chance 7) spoil 8) about |
|--|--|
- 5 PM goes to Japan Central Bank raises interest rates
President goes to Thailand Armstrong lands on moon
Kennedy assassinated Beckham marries Posh Spice

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