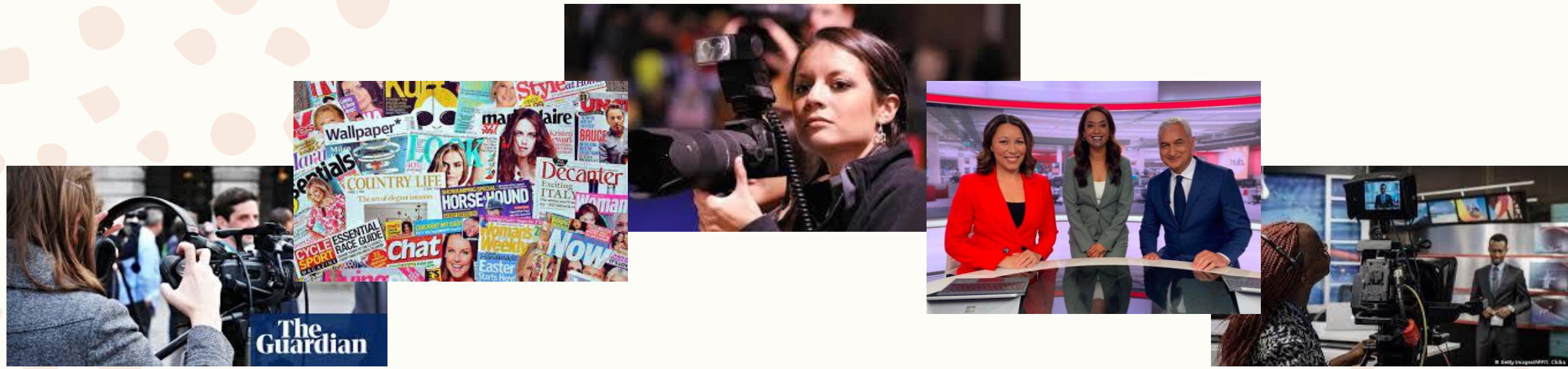


Career of the Fortnight

Journalist



Journalist

Journalism can be an exciting career if you're passionate about sharing information with the world. There are numerous digital platforms and television news channels, giving countless opportunities for journalists to grow their careers.

Job description:

Journalists research, write, edit, proofread and file news stories, features and articles.

Their pieces are used on television and radio or within magazines, journals and newspapers, in print and online.

The key objective of a journalist is to gather information, write news pieces, and present the news in an honest and balanced manner. In addition to investigating and reporting on current events, they also work on articles and features that update and influence public opinion.

Skills:

- Excellent communication. The primary role of a journalist is to communicate news, either written or verbally.
- To be thorough and pay attention to detail.
- The ability to accept criticism and work under pressure
- Persistence.
- Research skills.
- Digital literacy.
- Logical reasoning and objectivity.
- Investigative reporting.
- Problem-solving skills
- The ability to use your initiative

Roles and Responsibilities

- reading press releases
- researching articles
- establishing and maintaining contacts
- interviewing sources
- writing, editing and submitting copy
- attending events
- proofreading
- verifying statements and facts
- staying up to date with privacy, contempt and defamation law
- liaising with editors, sub-editors, designers and photographers.

It is possible to transfer between television, radio, newspaper and publishing work

<p>Employers of Journalists:</p> <p>Newspapers Magazines Newswires Press agencies Websites Radio stations Television companies Periodical publishers</p>	<p>Qualifications:</p> <p>There are routes into journalism for both university graduates and school leavers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A lot of organisations and newspapers now ask for a degree. While any subject is acceptable, English or journalism are preferred. Specialist subjects such as economics, languages or sciences can be a great advantage.• If you don't want to go to university, there are limited numbers of journalism apprenticeships available for school leavers who want to work for newspapers or broadcast companies• Some jobs may require a qualification accredited by the National Council for the Training of Journalists (NCTJ).• Relevant work experience is also essential and can be gained through published articles, freelance work, writing competitions or voluntary work.• A full, clean driving licence is often a requirement.	<p>Working Hours:</p> <p>40-hours per week.</p> <p>However, the schedule of a journalist may vary based on the needs of their assignment. Some journalists may need to work weekends, evenings and overtime to gather the information they need for a story</p>
<p>Working conditions</p> <p>You could work in a television studio, office or at home.</p> <p>You may be needed on location, which may require you to travel. You may have to work in a range of weather conditions if outside.</p>		<p>Annual Income:</p> <p>This will vary depending on the type of journalism.</p> <p>Starting salary: £13,000 Experienced salary: £80,000</p>

Labour Market Information

Labour Market Information (LMI) shows you what sorts of employment opportunities exist in your area and which sectors are growing. It can help you decide on a career path or where to get more information.

Journalists, newspaper and periodical editors	Photographers, audio-visual and broadcasting equipment operators	Authors, writers and translators
Weekly Pay £610 Hours/Week 30h	Weekly Pay £570 Hours/Week 36h	Weekly Pay £650 Hours/Week 33h
Annual Pay £31,720 Hourly Pay £20	Annual Pay £29,640 Hourly Pay £16	Annual Pay £33,800 Hourly Pay £20
Workforce Change (projected) Growth 5.7% Replacement 56.1% <small>The workforce is projected to grow by 5.7% over the period to 2027, creating 5,100 jobs. In the same period, 56.1% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 49,900 job openings.</small>	Workforce Change (projected) Growth 1.9% Replacement 58.5% <small>The workforce is projected to grow by 1.9% over the period to 2027, creating 1,900 jobs. In the same period, 58.5% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 59,800 job openings.</small>	Workforce Change (projected) Growth 1.9% Replacement 58.5% <small>The workforce is projected to grow by 1.9% over the period to 2027, creating 1,800 jobs. In the same period, 58.5% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 55,900 job openings.</small>
You might find this job in Advertising, etc Publishing activities Arts & entertainment Sport & recreation Film & music	You might find this job in Employment activities Film & music Other professional Arts & entertainment Publishing activities	You might find this job in Legal & accounting Publishing activities Arts & entertainment Head offices, etc Computer programming, etc
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Powered by LMI For All.

Where can you find out more information?



Careers library

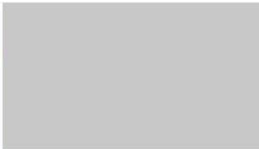
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Newspaper journalist

Newspaper journalists investigate and write up stories for local, regional and national newspapers.

[Read the profile >](#)



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Keyword: journalist

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Filter

journalist



Newspaper journalist

Newspaper journalists investigate and write up stories for local, regional and national newspapers.

[Read the profile >](#)



Magazine journalist

Magazine journalists research and write news articles and features for a wide variety of publications.

[Read the profile >](#)



Broadcast journalist

Broadcast journalists research and present news stories and factual programmes on TV, radio and the internet.

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Search by keyword

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journalist

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Search by school subjects

Search for careers using the subjects you're school that you like the most

Subject 1 eg Biology

Subject 2 (optional)

Type in career and then click go

Click on 'Read the profile'



Copy editor

Copy editors check text before it's published, usually in books, in journals and on websites.

[Read the profile >](#)



Literary agent

Literary agents represent authors by pitching and submitting their books to publishers.

[Read the profile >](#)



Sports commentator

Sports commentators describe and analyse what's happening at sporting events for listeners and viewers.

[Read the profile >](#)



Sub-editor

Sub-editors check written content before it's published, usually in newspapers and magazines.



Newspaper or magazine editor

Newspaper and magazine editors manage the style and content of printed publications.



Social media manager

Social media managers communicate with an organisation's customers and clients through social media channels.



Hello Donna, here's a summary of your progress so far...



Want to move things forward? We recommend you...

Complete the Interests quiz

3.9%

[See all your tasks >](#)

ACCESS ALL THE TOOLS BELOW
Exploring pathways

Interests profile

✕ Quiz not taken

[Start >](#)

Personality profile

✓ Quiz last taken 5 Dec 19: ESJ

[Start >](#)

Careers library

✕ Careers favoured

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Click on the Careers Library

Webinars

Hear directly from the experts

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Newspaper journalist

Also called: Reporter

Newspaper journalists investigate and write up stories for local, regional and national newspapers.

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What you'll do

You could be reporting on council meetings and school fêtes for a local paper, or on general elections and world events for the national press.

Your day-to-day tasks may include:

- investigating a story as soon as it breaks
- following up potential leads and developing new contacts
- interviewing people face-to-face and over the phone
- attending press conferences
- recording meetings and interviews using recording equipment or shorthand
- coming up with ideas for stories and features
- writing up articles in a style that will appeal to the reader
- sub-editing other reporters' articles for publication
- writing up articles for online publication

Record relevant activities you've already done on the [Activities tool](#) >

Skills required

You'll need:

- excellent 'plain English' writing skills
- excellent research skills
- excellent listening and questioning skills

Got evidence of these skills? Record your examples on the [Competencies tool](#) >

Where next?

Arts and Media

114 careers profiles

[Return to the careers library Start.](#)

Newspaper journalist

[UK >](#)

UK Entry Requirements

You could start as a trainee on a local or regional newspaper. Opportunities are rare and you'll need to show you've writing experience.

You could also get into this job through an [apprenticeship](#).

You could also get into this career through a degree in journalism or English, or a postgraduate journalism qualification.

You could also take a journalism qualification like those offered by the [National Council for the Training of Journalists \(NCTJ\)](#).

The [National Union of Journalists \(NUJ\)](#) has more careers information.

Working hours and environment

You may work long, irregular hours including evenings, weekends and public holidays.

You'll usually work in an open-plan office. You'll also spend time out of the office, following up stories. If you work for the national or international press you could travel abroad.

Labour Market Information (LMI)

UK Current Jobs

Media professionals (SOC3)

UK jobs: 132,941

Peterborough City Council jobs: 371 (85th of 214 UK LEAs)

Top 5 LEAs: Wandsworth (5,146), Lambeth (4,878), Hackney (4,164), Surrey (4,079), Islington (3,822)

UK Salary

Journalists, newspaper and periodical editors (SOC4)

UK annual median: £35,544

Media professionals (SOC3)

East of England annual median: £30,478

Top 3 regions: South West (£40,681), London (£38,813), South East (£38,307)

UK Prospects

Business, media and public service professionals (SOC2)

UK growth: +11.8% from 2017 to 2027, creating 219,107 jobs

East of England growth: +13% from 2017 to 2027, creating 19,456 jobs

What is SOC?

Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) codes are the UK government's official method of sorting jobs into categories.

SOC4 sorts all jobs into 370 different categories, SOC3 has 90 categories, and SOC2 has 25.

Here's an example of how it works. The Unifrog careers profile 'Classical musician' goes into the SOC4 category 'Musicians', which goes into the SOC3 category 'Artistic, literary and media occupations', which in turn goes into the SOC2 category 'Culture, Media and Sports occupations'.