**Compare and contrast a news item**

**written in both a tabloid and a broadsheet newspaper**

**Language of the Headlines: Language Devices**

* Play on Words?
* Cultural reference?
* Alliteration?
* Emphatic Language?
* Tabloidese?

The Sun

“Dad finds his angel **knifed** in a field”: use of more colloquial language (dad) knifed, angel: a lot of tragedy; much more striking and thrilling; much more expressive and impressive; grasp readers’ emotions

By using colloquial language, succeeds in establishing a closer relationship with its reader

Fellow searchers found the heartbroken dad cradling his daughter’s **bloodstained** body

Kate’s father “looked over a stile and saw Kate lying yards away, covered in blood in the wet undergrowth”: puts more action at the situations by describing moments as if the writer on his own was present at the scene, recording it with his camera: dramatic and tragic

Assumes some events and then puts them as if they are real ones: “Blonde Kate was dragged off an isolated path, stabbed repeatedly and left in a pool of blood”

Trying to make the reader fascinated for the so detailed description of events, captivate the readers more

The Times

“Murdered girl, 14 found in field by her father” (father) simpler: murdered

Hr father found the body

The father “found the fully-clothed body in the field near a stile”: just gives clear and realistic information, without a lot of exaggerated words or descriptions

Absence of dramatic vocabulary and this is consistent with the writer’s purpose; more distant

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**Headlines: Type of Print**

* Plain? Boldfaced? Italicized? Plain?
* Capitalisation?
* Colour of letters? Background colour?
* Letter size?

The Sun

In capital white letters on a black surface, typed bold

The size of the letters is huge

Letters: four and a half centimetres

Four times longer than those of “The Times”

The huge white capital letters give a strong motivation for the viewer to read the words.

It presents the murder news as very dramatic

The Times

In small letters, also typed bold.

The size of the letters are very small

Letters: half a centimetre long

It just wants to give to the public this news story

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**Pictures and Caption**

* Number of pictures (on which pages?)
* Content of pictures
* Content of caption (precise information?)
* Picture size
* Letter size in caption
* Use of words (i.e. emphatic language)

The Sun

Very small portrait picture of 5x6cm

Caption in italics and typed bold: impression as if someone has written it by hand

Caption composed by dramatic words: slaughtered, victim: what has happened is terrible, Kate is not alive anymore

Same number of pictures – difference in content of their pics

Specific point where the body was found – demonstrates the exact spot to make it seem very dramatic: Kate’s murder took place here

Big capital letters, typed bold: Kate’s house; Body found

Bigger in size picture of the location and the signals’ one, it does not give exact data

The Times

Huge portrait photograph of 15x23cm

Caption in plain small bold letters; more academic

Caption focuses on Kate as if she is still alive; does not give the dramatic dimension of the murder case on the first page

Same number of pictures

Just shows the lane in the are – general scene of the location

Smaller letters size

More precise information

Pic of Kate’s headteacher

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**Vocabulary used in the articles**

* How the same actions and situations are expressed differently (any emotive words?)
* Use of number of figures (which is more precise?)

The Sun

Was supposed to be away for a while

Kate had not returned “as night fell and parents raised the alarm”

Found the body: time not mentioned

Vague, just general information

The Times

Kate would not be out “for more than 20 minutes”

Her parents telephoned the police at 6:44pm

“at 7:35 her father found the body

more precise

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Bottom of Form