

# An Exploration of Pathways to Enhance the Adaptability of Television News Journalists During Interviews: Postprint

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**Date:** 2023-10-08T00:00:00+00:00

## Abstract

During television station operations, news journalists occupy a crucial position of extremely high significance. For journalists, interviewing is particularly critical—through interviews with news subjects or subject groups, they can present newsworthy content and interview information to the public via television or online platforms. Moreover, face-to-face interview communication is also vital, as it can enhance the accuracy of news reporting while ensuring the reliability of news. However, influenced by factors such as interviewees' educational backgrounds, social status, and other multifaceted elements, this poses stringent challenges for journalists, clearly requiring them to possess strong adaptability during specific interview work. This paper primarily explores fundamental approaches to enhancing television station news journalists' adaptive capabilities during interviews.

## Full Text

### Exploring Paths to Improve TV News Journalists' Adaptive Ability in Interviews

**Abstract:** During television station operations, news journalists occupy a critically important position with substantial impact. For journalists, interviews are particularly crucial—through interviews with news subjects or groups, they can present newsworthy content and interview information to the public via television or online platforms. Face-to-face interview exchanges are also vital, as they enhance the accuracy of news reporting while ensuring news reliability. However, factors such as interviewees' educational background and social status pose significant challenges, clearly requiring journalists to possess strong adaptive capabilities during interviews. This paper primarily explores fundamental approaches to improving TV news journalists' adaptive abilities in interviews.

**Keywords:** TV station; news journalist; interview; adaptive ability; improvement paths

**Chinese Library Classification:** G214.2

**Document Code:** A

**Article ID:** 1671-0134(2018)09-095-02

**DOI:** 10.19483/j.cnki.11-4653/n.2018.09.039

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The work of TV news journalists presents severe challenges. During interviews, journalists encounter diverse content and perspectives due to different interviewees. Based on this reality, they must also comprehensively ensure the authenticity of news reporting, which subjects journalists to numerous challenges and tests. To excel, journalists must acquire high-value news information within relatively short timeframes while communicating effectively with interviewees. This paper proposes reasonable recommendations for improving TV news journalists' adaptive abilities during interviews to promote the further development of journalism in China.

## 1. Discussion on Journalists' Interview Adaptive Ability

### 1.1 Meaning of Interview Adaptive Ability

Interview adaptive ability refers to a journalist's capacity to respond actively and effectively when encountering unexpected events during interviews, implementing appropriate solutions to enhance interview stability and ensure successful completion. For TV news journalists, strong adaptive ability is an indispensable fundamental quality. They must leverage their adaptive and judgment capabilities to identify relevant news value from interview information, thereby fully demonstrating the significance of news content.

#### 1.2.1 Uniqueness of Adaptive Ability

Uniqueness is key to elevating journalists' professional standards. Specifically, when facing unexpected events, journalists must stimulate their potential and subjective initiative based on actual circumstances and work conditions to formulate corresponding solutions.

#### 1.2.2 Innovation in Adaptive Ability

Innovation in adaptive ability during interviews manifests in two primary aspects. First, innovation in interview methods cannot rigidly adhere to traditional concepts; journalists must introduce new approaches, optimize concepts, and improve interview procedures. To promote the stable development of the media industry, work methods should evolve according to contemporary demands, breaking through previous ideological constraints. Second, if emergencies occur during interviews that hinder normal progress, journalists must apply

their knowledge to manage multiple aspects of the situation, resolve issues, and ensure the stability of news information.

### **1.2.3 Flexibility of Adaptive Ability**

Flexibility primarily requires journalists to develop careful observational skills and accurate judgment of their surroundings in daily life. During interview activities, this manifests as assessing interview subjects' psychological states through their verbal behavior and reasonably evaluating the anticipated development of the interview. This preparation enables journalists to formulate appropriate measures when unexpected situations arise, facilitating smooth interview progress.

### **1.3 Role of Adaptive Ability**

A TV news journalist's adaptive ability decisively influences interview implementation, providing a foundation for effective execution. During interviews, the environment, timing, and subjects are all subject to change. Failure to address such changes can trigger various problems. In response, journalists can actively address challenges by enhancing their adaptive capabilities, breaking through limitations of traditional interview thinking, and grasping core interview points to support the realization of TV news value. Additionally, journalists' adaptive abilities affect the application of interview techniques. To obtain high-value information, interviewers must appropriately employ interview techniques based on the actual implementation of the interview work to ensure smooth progress.

## **2. Paths for Improving Adaptive Ability**

### **2.1 Appropriate Adjustment of Interview Direction**

When conducting interviews, journalists must carefully observe subjects' emotions and help them manage these feelings. Generally, news events occur accidentally and suddenly, causing subjects' emotions to fluctuate frequently. This requires TV news journalists to thoroughly study interview dynamics and make reasonable judgments based on specific circumstances. Typically, TV news journalists' weak adaptive capabilities can degrade interview quality, thereby compromising broadcast effectiveness. Consequently, journalists must adjust interview approaches according to specific situations and introduce appropriate techniques. Throughout the interview process, journalists should activate their adaptive capabilities, clearly understand subjects' emotional needs, correctly guide their emotions, grasp core event content, and reorient the interview direction as needed to ensure successful implementation.

### **2.2 Strengthening Observation and Understanding of Details**

Possessing keen observational skills is decisive for TV news journalists. During interviews, journalists must pay close attention to various news details to

prevent external factors from affecting interview effectiveness. After understanding the specific circumstances of external matters, journalists should accurately judge subjects' actions and demeanor during the interview to comprehend their underlying implications. Furthermore, the reasonable application of interview questioning techniques is crucial for implementation. TV news journalists can initiate in-depth discussions starting from topics that interest the interviewee, using these as entry points for better communication. This approach not only alleviates subjects' nervousness but also provides a favorable basis for interview implementation. Finally, during interviews, journalists must grasp subjects' psychological changes, adopt appropriate methods and tones to meet their emotional needs, enhance emotional resonance, and then appropriately guide subjects to obtain high-value news information within a limited timeframe.

### **2.3 Building an Integrated Relationship with Interview Subjects**

Generally, news interview activities lack fixed time, location, or targets, and the interviewees contacted have not established close relationships, resulting in strong psychological distance. Journalists must address this phenomenon actively by elevating interviewees' status, enabling them to grasp opportunities, seeking breakthrough points, and transforming both parties' roles to create resonance in communication, thereby ensuring the authenticity of interview information to a certain extent.

### **2.4 Increasing Emphasis on News Value**

TV news interview work possesses unique characteristics. During interviews, photographers generally work behind the scenes, while interview journalists must master the overall process, accurately judge and reflect on relevant content, adapt to changing circumstances, and provide support for enhancing news information value by employing interview techniques. For excellent TV news journalists, correctly seizing opportunities is essential. To acquire more information, they must capitalize on opportunities to pose questions to interviewees, thereby improving interview efficiency. Additionally, journalists must master the appropriate intensity of questioning, pay close attention to the local atmosphere, and handle situations according to actual on-site conditions. When interviews encounter obstacles, journalists can appropriately shift perspectives when asking questions to support the acquisition of high-value news information, thereby ensuring stable interview progress.

### **2.5 Conducting On-site Questioning Training**

News interviews are frequently affected by surrounding factors, requiring both a formal atmosphere and the creation of a favorable conversational environment. Journalists should conduct training for on-site questioning. Analysis reveals that on-site questioning generally includes two types: open-ended questions and closed-ended questions, addressing issues from multiple perspectives. In daily

practice, journalists must strengthen simulation training for on-site questioning, increase the frequency of simulated questions, and continuously summarize issues during improvement to facilitate stable implementation of subsequent work.

Currently, with the continuous development of network information technology, media and communication channels have undergone certain changes, presenting higher challenges for TV news journalists. Therefore, to achieve interview objectives, TV news journalists must enhance their adaptive abilities, adapt to changing circumstances during interviews, carefully observe various details, vigorously adjust interview direction, and thereby provide favorable support for TV news interview implementation.

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*Note: Figure translations are in progress. See original paper for figures.*

*Source: ChinaXiv –Machine translation. Verify with original.*