

On the Characteristics and Technical Analysis of Radio and Television News Editing: Postprint

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Abstract

Broadcast television constitutes a primary channel through which the majority of the populace comprehends major news and current affairs in our nation, and serves as a medium for the Party and the state to disseminate significant policies and events. With the advent of the information age, individuals can access global events without leaving their residences and express their perspectives and public opinions anytime and anywhere, thereby precipitating substantial transformations in the modalities of public discourse. Confronted with online misinformation and emergent incidents, broadcast television news editing personnel shoulder the critical responsibility of providing timely clarification to the masses, fulfilling a pivotal role in guiding societal opinion, stabilizing domestic public sentiment, and preserving social stability. In this era of information explosion, where every individual functions as a self-media entity, the landscape of public opinion has undergone profound changes, presenting both a developmental opportunity and a formidable challenge for broadcast television news editors. This paper offers a concise analysis of the characteristics and associated technologies inherent to broadcast television news editing.

Full Text

Abstract

Radio and television represent primary channels through which the general public comprehends major news and current affairs in China, serving as critical media for the Party and state to disseminate significant policies and events. With the advent of the information age, people can now understand world events without leaving home and express their views and public opinions anytime, anywhere, fundamentally transforming the landscape of public discourse. In the face of online rumors and unexpected incidents, radio and television news editors bear the heavy responsibility of providing timely clarification for the masses, playing a vital role in guiding public opinion, maintaining social stability, and

preserving national composure. In this era of information explosion, where everyone functions as a self-media outlet, the transformation of public opinion presents both a developmental opportunity and a formidable challenge for radio and television news editors. This paper offers a brief analysis of the characteristics and related technologies of radio and television news editing work.

Keywords: Radio and television; News editing work; Technology and characteristics

1. Main Characteristics of Radio and Television News Editing Work

Modern society exists within an information explosion, with individuals encountering diverse messages daily. Broadcast news serves as a medium for government dissemination of critical information, shouldering the important mission of communicating major policies and promoting Party and state political construction. Radio and television news editing work exhibits numerous characteristics, which this paper analyzes primarily through the following aspects.

1.1 Stronger Timeliness and Wider Information Sources

Traditional news editing required a series of processes—information collection, analysis, integration, and layout—before content could be presented to the public. This process was not only complex but, more importantly, suffered from poor timeliness, making immediate reporting impossible. In the information age, however, communication channels have proliferated dramatically, with every individual acting as a self-media outlet, disseminating interesting occurrences from their immediate surroundings to stimulate discussion and participation. Simultaneously, various news applications have emerged, recommending relevant current affairs based on user preferences. To capture audience attention, radio and television news editors must select content of interest from this vast information pool, conduct in-depth interviews and excavation, organize their findings, and ultimately present them to viewers.

1.3 Guiding Public Opinion Topics and Maintaining Social Harmony and National Stability

In the digital era, radio and television are no longer the sole channels for news dissemination; increasingly diverse media outlets now share information transmission responsibilities. Moreover, the general public has become both disseminators and interactive participants in news. During the internet age, various news apps spread information while numerous “influencers” express their views on events, triggering extensive discussion among followers. These mainstream media outlets not only bear the heavy responsibility of presenting facts to the public through detailed reporting but must also guide public opinion and subtly promote the healthy development of Chinese government and society. This places higher demands on radio and television news editors, who must not only

present facts but also implicitly guide social discourse. During the editing process, they can interact with the audience to understand public perspectives on events, identify underlying concerns and needs, and subsequently provide comprehensive coverage from different angles. This requires editors to possess keen insight to guide the direction of social opinion and maintain social harmony and national stability.

1.4 Strict Control Over Various News Information

Journalist submissions generally cannot be published directly and must be processed by news editors before being presented to the public. Contemporary news publishing departments primarily utilize computer editing systems to receive submissions, requiring editors to verify and classify collected manuscripts and related information, forming initial drafts for the design and layout department. Throughout this process, editors must continuously enhance their professional competence, approaching news event editing from an objective standpoint. They must conduct further review and processing of the political tendencies, authenticity, accuracy, and originality of information contained in journalist submissions. Particularly in this era of explosive information growth, journalists encounter diverse messages daily, inevitably mixing personal subjective emotions into their coverage of certain events. News editors must therefore investigate the authenticity of these submissions to restore the truth of events.

2. Technical Research on Radio and Television News Editing Work

2.1 Editing of News Titles and Structure

In radio and television news reporting, editing work is critically important, as news events can only be presented to the public after proper layout and editing. In news editing, priority should be given to news structure and title design. A news title is equivalent to a person's "appearance," while its structural arrangement is like a person's "physique." As audiences encounter vast amounts of information daily, only novel titles can capture their attention and encourage continued viewing. Therefore, editors cannot simply rely on images and videos to attract audiences; more importantly, they must consider how to layout and edit content to attract viewers and enhance news value through editing techniques. This requires editors to possess keen observational skills and insight, understanding audience needs and presenting them through certain methods to increase news interest. Simultaneously, editors should consider the characteristic of short broadcast news durations, ensuring concise and clear presentation of events when editing.

2.2 Appropriate Use of Fuzzy Processing Techniques for News Manuscripts

The key to radio and television news lies in broadcasting real and relevant news events promptly. However, information involving state secrets, commercial confidentiality, or personal privacy requires fuzzy processing by news editors to protect privacy and related confidential information. Therefore, fuzzy processing of certain manuscripts is essential, but editors must master the appropriate degree of fuzziness without excessive processing that would affect the truthful communication of events. For instance, when filming relevant videos, mosaic filming may be employed; when reporting on disaster areas, only location and time may be specified; when real-time reporting requires cooperation from local personnel, consent must be obtained regarding whether to apply fuzzy processing. Reports involving such cases often concern the privacy of parties involved and become major topics of public discussion. To protect privacy, fuzzy processing and pseudonyms should be used. Notably, manuscripts involving state secrets or commercial confidentiality also require fuzzy processing to avoid information leakage, using relatively vague language without detailed elaboration.

2.3 Focusing on People's Livelihood and Connecting with Audience Interests

Radio and television serve as media for the Party and state to release major policies, as well as channels for the people to supervise governance. Moreover, radio and television audiences consist primarily of the general populace. From this perspective, radio and television news editors should focus on people's livelihood issues and actively promote state policies that benefit the people. By focusing on livelihood issues, editors can stimulate widespread public concern, representing an important method to attract audiences. In this regard, radio and television can not only improve people's livelihoods but also promote the further development of livelihood services, enabling social masses to feel the care and concern of the Party and state, thereby benefiting social stability. Notably, when editing content on livelihood issues, editors should delve into the root causes and explore underlying problems rather than simply reporting superficially. Simultaneously, when conducting actual editing work, they should thoroughly understand the general needs of the social masses and provide detailed coverage of specific issues through systematic reporting to maximize satisfaction of news information demands across all social strata, thereby increasing ratings and promoting the development of Chinese radio and television.

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

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