

## **Focus on the Future!**

### **Career Path**

**First watch this film about BBC journalism. You will recognise some faces talking about their own career paths:**

**<https://youtu.be/Dd7J6l4CBuc>**



### **What does a journalist do?**

In this role you could:

- 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



## **What Qualifications do they have?**

You may find it useful to have a degree in a subject like journalism or English. This will help you develop the skills you'll need as a journalist.

You could also do a postgraduate course in journalism. Some of these are accredited by the [Professional Publishers Association](#).

### **Entry requirements**

You'll usually need:

- 2 to 3 A levels, or level 3 BTEC to get onto a degree course (written subjects could be most useful)
- You could do a degree in any subject followed by a postgraduate course

## **How to stand out from the crowd:**

Competition for jobs is strong, and you'll need to show you've got writing experience. You'll find it useful to have examples of your work in a portfolio.

To build up your experience you can:

- volunteer for student and community newspapers
- write your own blog and have a positive online presence on social media
- submit articles and reviews to local papers or websites

You can study a range of professional qualifications in journalism, accredited by the [National Council for the Training of Journalists](#) (NCTJ). These are available either online or part time at a training centre.



### **How much do they earn?**

Approximately, journalist can earn between £15,000 up to £50,000. This will depend on experience and who you are writing for.



### **Where to find out more**

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-profiles/newspaper-journalist>

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-profiles/broadcast-journalist>

<https://www.journalism.co.uk/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/careers/what-we-do/journalism>

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/journalism>

### **Other related careers to consider in the media industry:**

Media researcher, sports journalism, broadcast journalist, editor, advertising manager, social media manager, runner, producer, director.