

## M) L'éditorial

An editorial is a type of newspaper / magazine article. It is usually published at the **beginning** of the magazine (*first or 2<sup>nd</sup> page*) and is written by the "rédacteur / rédactrice en chef" of the magazine, or a representative figure who will be the **voice of the magazine's views** about a particular issue. If you open any French magazine (*see suggested list in the "References" page*) you will probably find an editorial page. So be proactive. Go and find some French magazines in your school library and have a look at a few to get an idea of format and content! However, you can also find examples of "éditoriaux" on the web on magazines and newspapers websites...so you really have no excuse at all not to find one!

So what exactly is an editorial?

- An editorial is an article in which the journalist **discusses / gives his or her opinion, expresses his or her views** about a specific topic. It could be about an event that has happened the previous week or month. It could be about an important issue (*politics / environment / education / etc.*). As I mentioned above, the personal opinion of the "rédacteur / rédactrice en chef" can be very strongly expressed about the issue raised, but sometimes, the opposite views will also be mentioned / acknowledged in some ways in order to give a slightly more balanced outlook to the editorial or, at least, the issue will have been considered in a wider / more global perspective. It is also important to bear in mind that whatever opinion is being expressed, it is never an unfair or unreasonable one. So don't get carried away... after all, it is the magazine's reputation which is also at stake!
- It is also probably useful to mention that, often to conclude the editorial, you may find a summary of what is being published in this month's magazine / issue.
- As an editorial is about expressing clear opinions, your editorial will have to be well **STRUCTURED**. Use linking devices.
- You will need to give **arguments** to convey your views and of course, you will need to explain / detail / illustrate these arguments with examples / statistics /etc. Your editorial will need to be **CONVINCING**. Remember that the prime aim of an editorial is to raise awareness of a specific issue amongst its readers / convince them of the importance of an issue / challenge their way of thinking about a specific issue. Use some of the techniques used in a speech (*repetitions / rhetorical questions / address your audience directly if appropriate / involve yourself / punctuation / etc.*)
- Don't forget to use a wide range of grammatical structures and vocabulary items.

- Réflexion Mag -

- juillet 2008-

### ÉDITORIAL

*Le Mot du Rédacteur en chef ...* Stéphane Dupuis-

#### **La Guerre ne prend pas de vacances !**

*Au moment où vous lisez ces lignes, la Guerre continue de faire rage aux quatre coins de la planète...en Irak, en Afghanistan... Qu'elle soit civile, idéologique ou religieuse, la Guerre continue de faire des victimes innocentes, de détruire et anéantir... un prix très cher payé !! Naît de la différence, du malentendu ou de l'ignorance ou encore de la haine, elle continue à engendrer... la Haine. Y pensez-vous ? Alors que les congés sont enfin là, qu'il est enfin possible de mettre en parenthèse la routine du train-train quotidien pour partir se reposer au soleil et en famille... Pensez-vous à ces familles déchirées par le conflit ? Car la Guerre, elle, ne part pas en vacances. Pas de répit pour les populations touchées par ce fléau ! Pas la peine de culpabiliser, vous n'êtes pas responsable, mais où que vous alliez cet été, ne les oubliez pas, ne l'oubliez pas ! Ainsi, lorsque fatigué du retour de la plage, vous sentez la dispute doucement s'immiscer pour une futilité, rappelez-vous que finalement, ça n'en vaut sûrement pas la peine !*

*Au sommaire de notre numéro ce mois-ci (...)*