

## Chapter 6

### STORY ANALYSIS OF HEADLINES

In this chapter, the researcher tried to study in details the stories of few striking headlines from each of the three national newspapers for 2002, 2003, 2010 & 2011.

#### 6.1. The Times of India, 2002

*1. African debutants stun defending champions in World Cup opener; Unlucky France denied twice by the post, Senegooooooooooooooooooooooooooooo  
aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa  
aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa*

Here ‘senegooooooooooooooooooooooooooooalllll’ shows a direct influence from TV commentary. The writer of the headline seems to ignite the passion of the fans with words such as ‘shock upset defeat’ and how the loss will ‘go down in history as one of the most famous upsets in world cup history’. The writer uses violent word such as ‘menacing’ to describe Senegal’s Diouf presence in France area, besides other words such as ‘whipped in’ to describe a shot and how it ‘cannoned’ into the wall.

*2. Dessert warriors not overawed by Germany*

The writer describes the German team as ‘shrouded in pessimism’ and ‘cast in the unfamiliar role of world cup also-rans’ drawing from their poor form and injury list ahead of the world cup. The tone in the introduction suggests a deliberate attempt to ignite emotions in the mind of readers. ‘Desert warriors’ is a metonymic usage, which refers to the Saudi Arabia team. The writer also uses idiomatic expressions such as ‘get off to a flying start’ in the text. Interestingly, the copy is written focusing on the German team but the headline suggests otherwise.

*3. Japan plan to ambush Russia in midfield*

The writer uses the term ‘ambush’ in the headline. The word was used by Japanese goalkeeper Takayuki Suzuki while describing their plan against Russia. The writer used the term to draw the attention of the readers. The writer also draws Alessandro Santos’ words ‘battle in midfield’ in the copy and draws from it to write a sensational headline. The writer also describes how Japan showed ‘rare attacking spirit’ and how Russia’s training sessions was drawn ‘in a veil of secrecy’.

#### **4. Croatia clip Azzuri wings**

The writer describes how a controversial disallowed goal from Croatia ‘rocked’ Italy and they ‘crashed’ to a ‘upset’ defeat. Expressions such as ‘cheers turned to disbelief’ and how Croatia ‘snatched victory from jaws of defeat’ are exaggerated usages. There were other idiomatic usages such as Croatia were ‘written off as a spent force’ and ‘broke deadlock’ by the writer.

#### **5. Danes leave French black and blue**

The writer uses alliteration in ‘black and blue’ in the headline to grab attention. In the story the writer describes how French were ‘dramatically dumped out’ and how they went ‘spinning to a defeat’. The writer describes it a ‘disastrous campaign’ and ‘humiliating exit’ and ‘worst record’ for any defending champions. The tone of the first paragraph itself seems to ignite some sort of emotions among the readers. The writer also describes this loss as ‘bringing an end to an unprecedented era of success for Les Bleus’. Here, *Les Bleus* is a metonymic usage which referred to the France team. There were other expressions such as ‘French challenge was snuffed out’ and Denmark ‘smothered life out’ of opponents, which are hyperboles.

#### **6. Koreans set to attack aristocratic Halieans**

The writer describes the match as ‘the most important game in the co-hosts history’ and how it will be ‘11 of Italy against 47 million of South Korea’. It suggests a deliberate attempt to sensationalize. The copy has a bias towards Korea as it describes how it can ‘fluster the aristocratic Azzuri’. Hyperbolic Expressions such as ‘ruffled the feathers of Portugal’ and how ‘Hyundai-backed Koreans will look to outstrip the Ferraris of Italy’ gives it a different connotation as mentioning the names of the companies was not required in the copy. It shows commercialization of sports. The writer also says how Korea will ‘erect a wall of noise’ and turn the stadium into a ‘sea of red’. The copy also mentions how Italy will remember ‘happenings of 1966’, referring to the ‘red-tomato reception’ which Italy received after losing 0-1 to North Korea in 1966.

### **7. *Samba flair battles English reserve***

Here the writer uses Brazil's dance form '*samba*' to describe the team in the headline and copy. The writer compares the movement of samba dance with English upper lips while describing the match between Brazil and England. English players Owen and Heskey are described as '*snipers*' while the crosses from flanks are compared to '*flying cannon balls*' like in '*medieval battles*'. The Brazil team has been described as '*flamboyant*' and '*flashy*'. The writer also uses alliteration in '*Bechkam boys*' to describe the England team.

### **8. *Ballack missile, Kahn floor US***

The match was described as '*tense and fiercely fought*' and Ballack's goal was referred to as '*missile*' and '*strike*', a military word best used in a war field. Usages such as '*Fired*', '*dangerous on counterattack*', further shows how sports was described as a war by the writer.

### **9. *Its pain in Spain as Korea win shootout***

The writer uses hyperbolic expressions such as '*went into raptures*' to describe the euphoria of the South Korean fans after their national team beat Spain. The writer goes on to describe how Korea '*defied all expectations*' and uses '*blasted home*' to describe the goal scored. Red Devils, a metonymy usage, referring to the fan club of Korea was also used in the copy. There were other expressions such as '*feeding frenzy of national pride*' which was '*heightened by the elimination of co-hosts Japan*'. It draws from the political history between the two countries. There were many Idioms used like '*lady luck shone*' on Korea and how they had to '*fight tooth and nail*'.

### **10. *Ronaldo toe terminates Turkey***

The writer describes how Ronaldo '*fired*' Brazil into final and '*shattered turkey's dreams of glory*'. The writer uses alliteration and hyperbole in the expressions '*toe terminates*' in the headline. Expressions such as Kleberson should have '*killed off the Turks*' and words like '*counter-attack*' shows military usage. There were other idioms such as '*burst into life*' used in the copy.

## 6.2. The Times of India, 2010

### 1. *Gladiators in a deadlock: Drogha, Cristiano fail to inspire their teams to victory*

The writer describes the players of the two teams as ‘gladiators’ and the match as a ‘face-off’. There were many metaphorical usages such as ‘retreated into shells’, ‘heat of battle’, ‘galloped in’ and ‘cursed with debacle’ during the course of the match report by the writer to appeal to the readers.

### 2. *No Rossi picture this*

The writer uses military terminology such as ‘exploding’, ‘blow’, ‘forced’ and ‘snatch’ in the copy besides using expressions such as ‘pulling off shock’ and ‘fear of the holders’ to grab attention to the readers.

### 3. *Swiss knife at work: Euro champs Spain show the skills but underdogs make the decisive cut*

The expression ‘Swiss knife at work’ in the headline shows the attempt by the writer to straight away raise the interest of the readers. The writer describes Switzerland as ‘underdogs’ and uses war-inspired terms such as ‘shock’, ‘jolted’, ‘formidable’ in the copy. There were other expressions such as ‘burst into tears’, ‘blubbery and chocked’, ‘ballooned off its leash’ and ‘chasing shadows’ to grab attention.

### 4. *Serb & volley stun Germany. Jovanovic nets winner after Klose sees red in 1st half*

Here ‘serb & volley’ in the headline is the first literary device used by the writer to grab eyeballs. ‘Serve and volley’ is a style of play in tennis but here the writer replaces ‘serve’ with ‘serb’ to create a pun. The writer uses terms such as ‘squandering’, ‘shocking’ and ‘upset’ to describe Germany’s loss to Serbia. There were other idiomatic expressions such as ‘pulled off’, ‘paid the price’ and ‘turned on its head’ which were used by the writer in the match report.

### 5. *Oranje army on prowl: Dutch unlikely to field Robben against Japan*

Here ‘Oranje’ is a metonymic usage referring to The Netherland team. The writer uses hyperbolic expression ‘Oranje army on prowl’ right at the start of the headline, comparing the Dutch players as ‘army’ which is looking for its prey Japan. The

exaggerated expression is clearly aimed at appealing to the readers. The writer also uses other words such as 'shock' and 'lynchpin', besides using expressions like 'free-flowing contest' and 'ended in a miserable run'.

**6. *It's a Slo death for Italy. Defending champs knocked out. Slovakia, Paraguay advance; Vittek scores twice to end Azzurris' miserable run.***

The writer here puns with the name of Slovakia as he describes their win over Italy as 'slo death' for the team. The writer uses expressions such as 'bunch of impostors', 'true to their grain', 'load the gun' and 'shot themselves on the foot' in the match report to increase readership.

**7. *Tevez lights up Argentina's night, Scores twice to set up QF clash with Germany***

The writer uses a hyperbolic expression when he describes Tevez's goal as 'Tevez lights up Argentina's night' in the headline. The writer uses metaphor while saying how Mexico found 'wind from their sails disappearing' and Argentina 'stamped their indelible authority' and won the match in 'spectacular fashion' by putting 'a dagger in Mexico's heart'. The writer also uses other expressions such as 'blow for blow', 'thick in the heat of battle', 'snuffed out', 'withered away', besides words like 'shocked', 'robbed' and 'pounce' in the copy which hints at attempts to sensationalize.

**8. *Dutch's the way to history; Sneijder, Robben help Holland edge past Uruguay to enter final after 32 years***

The writer describes the match as 'deadlocked contest' where Holland 'survived a late onslaught' and termed the performance of Sneijder, Robben as 'stuff of legend'. The writer says Uruguay 'gave flashes of their brilliance' and uses many expressions such as 'beginning of the end' and 'stamp his class' in the report.

**9. *Argentina on all fours: Maradona's dreams shattered as team drubbed by Germany***

The writer uses a metaphor such as 'banged in the final nail' and 'hounded down' while describing Germany's dominance in the match. Here in the headline, the writer uses idioms 'on all fours' and 'dreams shattered' to describe Argentina's loss and

ignite emotions among the fans. There were other uses such as *'hollow and shorn of substance'*, *'wrestled control'* and *'put a finger on'* in the report.

### ***10. Ole! Spain reigns Beat 10-Man Dutch 1-0 in extra time; Euro to World: March of the Red Army***

The writer uses Spanish word *'Ole'* to connect to the fans, describing their journey from European championship to World Cup win as *'March of the Red Army'*. Here red army is a metonymic usage. The writer uses adjectives such as *'classic'* and *'stunning'*, besides military words like *'battle'*, *'threat'*, *'bruising'* and *'rescue'* in the copy. The plethora of expressions such as *'squeeze all the creativity'*, *'lost his appetite'*, *'killer-like persona'*, *'by the skin of his teeth'*, *'etch his name into immortality'*, *'most audacious gatecrash'* and *'bruising blur of final'* shows the change in language in sport text to enhance readership.

## **6.3. The Hindustan Times, 2002**

### **1. *Argentina v England: At war on the football field as well***

In this report, the writer draws on the past history between the two teams, describing the reasons behind the rivalry of the two teams. The writer quotes Roberto Perfumo in the intro to drive home the rivalry and then gives references to the Falklands war, Diego Maradona's hand of god goal in 1986 world cup and Argentina's colonial past. The writer describes the Argentina's England match as *'the only true serious intercontinental rivalry in world football'*. He also talks about the 1966 and 1977 match between the two teams.

### **2. *New Sun rises over Japan***

The writer describes how the stadium which was converted into a *'formidable forest of deep blue'*, *'erupted with excitement'* with fans *'chanting and clapping'* after Japan beat Russia. It shows the deliberate dramatization by the writer to ignite the emotions of the readers. The victory was compared with a *'new sun rising'* over Japan which is known as the land of rising sun. So the pun is also evident here.

### **3. *Korea-US tie could be volatile affair***

The writer describes the match as a '*father of all matches*' and how '*South Korea transformed from chaotic to classy*' and will play US in a '*showdown with pride, prestige and passport for next round at stake*'. The writer uses alliteration in the expression. The writer also describes it a '*life and death struggle*'.

### **4. *Lethargic England survive to fight another day***

The writer here describes England as lethargic in the field and their performance against Nigeria as not the '*prettiest or most fluent*' and goes on to say that they won't be '*overwhelming favorite*'. He goes on to describe how they were '*sporadically inventive*' but was not '*gun-slinging Argentina-slaying Colossi*'. There were alliteration used such as '*venomous volley*' and idioms '*put out the fire*'. The writer ends with how England were happy to '*make a non-aggressive pact*' with Nigeria. The tone was how England's performance despite winning didn't satisfy the fans who expected them to brush aside Nigeria.

### **5. *World Champions France bite the dust***

The writer describes how French could do little in this World Cup and draws a comparison with Senegal, their former colony. The writer describes how France is exiting the event while Senegal is still there. The writer also gives account of the last team Greece who had lost without scoring a single goal. The writer ends with how '*after this failure there will be a lot of page turning on this glorious generation of French soccer that wilted so quickly.*' The tone of the copy was rather expressing sadness, suggesting the end of French soccer and how they disappointed the fans.

### **6. *Fired-up England douse Danish flame***

The writer mocks at Denmark team at the start the copy, describing how it was supposed to be a '*suffocating, tight and finger-biting tense*' match but '*unfortunately no one told Danish defence*' and how their '*comical*' defending '*gifted*' the match to England. The writer says that Denmark was '*nervous during the national anthem*' and used metaphor when he wrote '*such butterflies dissipate at opening whistle*' but rather it intensified. There were other expressions such as how if the Denmark team had not missed the chances they could have '*bolted upright instead of groping to the floor*' and how they were '*killed off*' by Emile Heskey's goal.

### **7. Ireland out to dent Spain's reputation**

Here the writer starts with how *'little guys should be armed with sling and stone'* referring to Ireland. Then he goes on to describe how Ireland are *'never afraid of bigger talents and bigger reputations'* but ends with how *'barring a collapse of humiliating proportion'*, Ireland are *'guaranteed a grand welcome in Dublin'*. The writer also uses idioms such as *'On the threshold of'* to connect with the readers.

### **8. Nightmare returns to haunt Italy**

The writer mocks and uses a deriding tone when he says *'poor old Italy'* in the first line itself and then goes on to say that it had taken Italy *'36 years to complete a full hand of humiliating world cup defeats by Korean teams'*. The writer then gives instance of Italy's defeat in 1966 world cup to North Korea, which cost then coach Fabbri his job and how three players never played again for the team. Mentioning the defeat to North Korea 36 years ago shows a deliberate attempt by the writer to ignite the feeling of hurt once again among fans.

### **9. Beckham or Ronaldo: Who'll bury ghosts of 98?**

The writer describes how Ronaldo and Beckham face the *'ghosts that plagued them in France in 1998'* and how it was a chance to *'exorcise their respective ghosts'*. The writer describes the match a clash between the two players and goes on to describe their childhood and style of play, which suggests a deliberate attempt to dish out what the fans would expect. The writer compares and contrasts Beckham's *'devastating first touch'* with Ronaldo's *'kill you with last'* and goes on to describe the style and strength of each player. The writer also talked about the star power of the players and how Ronaldo could have been a big brand if he could have scored in the finals against France in 1998. The writer uses a metaphor when he says *'Ronaldo played the final like a jellyfish with a shadow hanging over it'* and how his head probably *'imploded under the weight of expectation'* ahead of the match. The writer also describes Beckham's failure in 2002 group stage match against Argentina and how he *'suffered metaphorically equivalent of public stoning'* after his failure. In the end, the writer describes how only one man can *'exorcise the ghost'* but *'exchanging their shirts'* after the match like Pele and Bobby Moore did in 1970, they can prove that modern football is not a *'zero sum game'*.



### **10. Samba gets a new beat -- Ronaldinho!!**

The writer describes how England had 'no answers' to Brazil's 'pragmatic game' and how the 'old nightmares came back to haunt' England goalkeeper David Seaman. He further goes ahead to say that the ghosts of Paul Gascoigne and Nayim manifested themselves again in Ronaldinho's free kick. The writer also used terms such as 'lethal' left foot and metaphor like Gilberto Silva kept 'the engine room humming' as the match settled into 'battle of midfield supremacy'.

## **6.4. The Hindustan Times, 2010**

### **1. Fired by Forlan, Uruguay dark horses to win?**

The writer describes Uruguay as 'dark horse' and how they will look to 'erase their more ignominious recent past' if not 'evoke their golden past' by winning the World Cup. The writer says Uruguay has a 'puncher's chance' of reaching the semifinals and how their performances can make 'the little girl with the little curl seem like equilibrium incarnate'. The writer says there is always 'fatalism is in the air' when Uruguay is at the World Cup. The writer also uses adjectives like 'indomitable', 'emphatic' and expression 'batting past' in the report.

### **2. Oriental passion meets occidental precision**

The writer uses a metaphor when he says how South Korea and Greece 'dip their toes into world cup waters' to describe their first match. The writer describes the match as 'intriguing clash of styles' and how Korea 'tore up formbook' by qualifying in World Cup. The writer says there will be 'cranking up of expectations' from Greece fans. The writer uses alliteration in 'glamour games' and 'calling cards' and expressions like 'by no means', 'in store', 'fortunes plummeted', 'turned on its head' and 'waltz off' in the copy.

### **3. Green hands US draw. Costly Miss: Americans grab a point after the England goalkeeper lets an easy one go past him**

The writer starts with 'Hand theory' and how USA are 'spooked by soccer' because they understand games involving use of hands. The writer describes America and England team as 'hands nation' and 'no-hands nation'. The writer describes America's goalkeeper Tim Howard as 'one who can dunk a basketball'. The writer uses the word

'acquitted' to describe how USA drew after the match with 'mother England loomed portentously' for months. The writer says how US was 'as composed as the land that invented footy'. Goalkeeper Robert Green's mistake was describes as 'ghastly flub' and how he played like 'an alternate choice'.

The writer uses informal or colloquial terms such as 'Yanks' and 'Footy' to describe Americans and football respectively in the copy. There were also other usages such as 'infiltration', 'smothered a screamer' and 'punched' in the report.

#### ***4. Old Azzurri up against Latin heat. Test Begins: Coach Lippi's ageing squad could face a tough opening challenge in their title defence against a confident Paraguay***

The writer starts with how Italy were 'written off at home as no-hopers' and they are 'in danger of being caught napping' by Paraguay. The writer describes how their performance against Switzerland and Mexico in warm-up 'added fuel to fire' and there is a 'real fear' of being 'caught out'. The writer says how Azzurri (Italy team) seems to be 'putting their faith in past pedigree rather than current talent'. The writer describes Italy captain Fabio Cannavaro as 'looking past his sell-by date'. The writer uses 'carry the strike threat' and 'ice-cool' in the report.

#### ***5. Orange squash Danes Self goal and a Kuyt strike help Holland overcome Danish dynamites***

Here 'Orange squash' is a pun and 'Danish dynamites' is metonymic usage. The writer starts with how Holland and Denmark 'looked like neighbours even on the football park' and describes Denmark as 'a solid, no-nonsense mostly-tousured team' and perhaps doesn't go with the 'we are red, we are white, we are the Danish dynamite' anymore.

Terming Holland as 'orange shirts', the writer used expressions like 'showed more flashes of individual ability' and 'Glimpses of Dutch class' in the match. There were other usages like 'million-dollar pass' and 'insurance goal' in the copy.

**6. *High on Higuain trick Destructive : With a little help from Messi, the striker dazzles***

The writer uses alliteration in '*High on Higuain*' in the headline. The writer reasons Nigeria's loss to '*intimidating reputation*' of Argentina and how they '*nearly paid for their fear to tackle Lionel Messi*'. The writer says '*the flea buzzed*' and how Messi '*snaked past*' South Korea who were left to '*chase a crooked shadow*'. The writer says Argentina '*radiates far and wide*' and how rest players were '*overshadowed by one man's magic*'.

'*Outwitted and outplayed*' and '*stream rolled by a symphony of skills*' were used to describe Nigeria's loss to Argentina. There were words such as '*clinical*', '*dazzled*', '*wizard*', '*fired*' and '*exploited*' used in the report.

**7. *Mexico block Diego's march***

***Latin Heat: Mexico face Argentina in the pre-quarters in a repeat of Germany 2006, looking to avenge their 1-2 defeat***

The writer uses '*Latin Heat*' to describe the match between Mexico and Argentina and also refers to the 2006 World Cup and says how Mexico will look to '*avenge*' their defeat. In the report, the writer says how Mexico will try to '*pull something special out of the bag*' and '*create an upset*' to '*avenge their defeat*' against their '*illustrious opponents*'.

The writer uses alliteration in the expression '*frontline firepower*' and uses phrases such as '*prove a bridge too far*', '*prized scalp*' and '*attacking prowess*' in the copy, besides words like '*stunning*', '*sealed*', '*danger man*' and '*talisman*'.

**8. *Oranje samba on Friday***

***Calculating Brazil show South American compatriots Chile the door, face Holland in the quarterfinals***

'*Show the door*' is the idiom used in the headline here. While the expression '*Oranje Samba*' was used to describe the quarterfinal match between The Netherlands and Brazil. The writer used many emotive words like '*dismantled*', '*cruise*', '*havoc*', '*fired*', '*showboating*' in the copy.

The writer describes the match as '*lip-smacking tie*', where Brazil '*mesmerized their way*' with '*calculating and ruthless*' football and how '*smart teams pick their fights*'. The writer uses alliteration in phrases like '*samba soccer*', '*profligate among parsimonious*' and '*jumped with joy*'

#### **9. *The haves & the have nots***

***3rd time lucky: Two-time winners Uruguay, play two-time finalists, Holland, in first semifinal***

The writer uses idioms '*haves & has nots*' and '*3rd time lucky*' as key expressions in the headline. The writer says how the quarterfinal result could decide if performance of the teams are '*satisfactory and superlative*'. The writer says how Uruguay will look to end '*22-year final pang*' after '*surviving a night of incredible emotions*' against Ghana. The writer uses words such as '*lionise*' and '*smacked*' for the England team.

#### **10. *Shooting stars: Forlan powers Uruguay's dreams***

The writer uses '*shooting stars*', an alliteration usage to describe Diego Forlan in the headline. Expressions such as '*a rare star who twinkled*', '*the most famous Diego*' was used to describe Forlan and how he '*stamped his presence among all-time greats*' with '*best shots on the planet*' that '*punctured hope*' of the rivals. There were other phrases such as '*walk into a football sunset*', '*striker with flowing golden locks*', '*living in the shadow*' and '*a natural leader*' used by the writer.

#### **11. *German guns have future in their sights***

***Gen Next: Going by current performance, Germany's young Turks are better than the best***

The writer uses alliteration in '*German guns*' in the headline, besides '*Gen Next*' to describe the German team. The writer uses expressions such as '*charge of youngsters*' and '*a new generation of stars*' to describe the team, who '*proved their mettle*'. The writer describes German footballer Thomas Mueller as '*composed and technically gifted attacking midfielder*', who '*continued on his rich vein of form*'. There are also few military words such as '*demolition*' and '*clash*' used in the copy.

**12. Puyol ecstasy: Spain to go Dutch on Sunday second semifinal. Spain outdo Germany with masterful planning and tight defence**

'Puyol ecstasy' and 'go Dutch' are the key phrases here in the headline. The writer uses phrases such as 'The curse of Argentina continues', 'Attacked into submission', 'rare blemish' and 'head bowed' in the report.

**13. Vamos Espana! The Last Men Standing: Iniesta's extra time goal seals it for Spain in a battle devoid of flair**

The writer describes the match as a 'battle devoid of flair' and uses metaphor 'the Last Men Standing' for the Spain team. The writer also uses Spanish expression 'Vamos Espana' which roughly translates into 'let's go Spain'.

In the report, the writer describes the match as 'scrappy contest' and hyperboles and metaphors like 'bruising cold bleary like the night', 'feeling like an island now', 'feeling like they have chewed a lemon', 'celebration of attacking intent', 'at his mercy', 'deserve their moment of glory' and 'most telling contribution'.

**6.5. The Indian Express, 2002**

- 1. Zidane-less France look to opening blues. Opening match: Old wounds are likely to be ripped open as the reigning champions launch their title defence against Senegal**
- 2. Biggest upset: Defending champions lose face in a sensational start against their former colony. The Empire's strike leaves France reeling.**

The above mentioned headlines are the preview and match report of the game between France and Senegal. Here the researcher analysed the above headlines (No. 1 and 2) together to understand the context.

A closer look at these headlines reveals several layers as it seems the text used in the headline took into consideration the political history of the two nations rather than just providing information. It is interesting to note that Senegal had one of the oldest and most complicated relationships with France. Senegal was France's oldest colony in black Africa, before the former earned its independence On April 4, 1960.

The sports journalists writing the headline draws from this colonial past of the two countries as he mentions '*Old wounds are likely to be ripped open*'.

Here '*Zidane-less*' is a pun used in the headline, besides '*blues*' which gives a feeling of sadness and also refers to the France team which is known as '*les blues*'. There were other emotive words such as '*battle*', '*snatching*' and '*talisman*' used in the copy.

France, the defending champions had come into the 2002 World Cup with a lot of hope of winning back-to-back crowns but their loss to Senegal, a nation ranked over 40 places below them, saw them draw a lot of flak.

The Indian Express, hence, described the loss as the '*Biggest upset*' where the Defending champions '*lose face*' against their '*former colony*'. It is quite clear that the idea of such usage was to trigger an emotional response from the fan base of the teams.

### ***3. Saudis have plans to blow up***

The play of words in this headline suggests that the headline writer possibly considered the political situation that was prevalent during 2002 just after the infamous 9/11 twin tower attack on US. It was found that the hijackers in the September 11 attacks were 19 men affiliated with al-Qaeda, and 15 of the 19 were citizens of Saudi Arabia. So probably the headline writer had drawn from the then perception of Saudi Arabia which has been known to be a receiver of huge arms deal from Germany starting from 1998. So it seems '*blow up*' was a deliberate attempt to sensationalize.

### ***4. Hired soldiers on the battle field***

In this headline, the sport journalist talks about the foreign players who decided to play for a different nation despite the fact that their own country of birth was also competing in the World Cup. Here the headline writer compares those players with soldiers and the football ground as battlefield.

### **5. Robbie- the last action hero**

The writer uses hyperboles while describing the match day as an 'intoxicating day of drama' and uses expressions such as '*fighting*' Irish '*battled with every ounce of energy*' which include military terms. The writer describes Robbie Keane's effort on the field as '*heroic endeavour*'. There were other words such as '*stunned*', '*nightmare*', '*shocks*' which were used to dramatize the match.

### **6. A revenge duel on the cards**

The writer starts with how Spain will look to make Paraguay pay as they are '*nursing a grudge*' for their defeat in 1998 World Cup. The writer also uses military term '*encounter*', idioms '*crest of wave*' and expression '*quirk of fate*' as literary tools in the copy, besides the use of '*revenge duel*' in the headline to grab the attention.

### **7. Beckham finds nirvana on its trip to the east**

The writer here compares David Beckham's goal against Argentina to '*shedding the weight*' which he was carrying after seeing England lose in 1998 to the same team. He compares the feeling to '*nirvana*' in the headline and refers to hosts Japan as '*trip to the east*'. The writer also uses words such as '*clash*' and '*smacked*' and idioms '*sparked into life*' and '*nothing to write home*'.

### **8. Ahn Koreans live the day**

Here, in the headline, the writer compares drawing the match to '*live the day*' after Ahn Jung-Hwan scored the goal against United States. The writer uses some interesting expressions when he says how Korea are '*riding a wave of patriotic support*' and Ahn helped to '*save the blushes*'. There are other usages such as '*slicing through*', '*striking power*' and '*fired*' which show how violent terminology has become a part of sports.

### **9. Heavyweights take off kid gloves in round two**

The writer here refers to England as '*heavy weights*' and mocks at Denmark referring to them as '*kids*'. The hyperbole '*take off kids glove*' meaning England defeating Denmark. There were other idioms and expressions used in the copy such as '*rode their luck*', '*defied all odds*', '*keep their wits*' and '*Flair and creativity*' to describe

England's efforts on the field. The copy suggests, the writer seems to have a bias towards England.

#### ***10. Black magic: The dark continent's golden hour***

The writer compares Senegal's success with '*fairy-tale journey*' and '*black magic*'. Their win was described as '*golden hour*' for the '*dark continent*'. The writer makes emotive usages such as '*spirited Senegal*', '*pulsating minutes*', '*stadium exploded*' in the copy. There were other expressions such as '*Senegal blows the horn, cacophony for Swedes*' and '*heaved a sigh of relief*' which clearly shows the intention to dramatize.

#### ***11. Suspense steams at the cusp of the Cup***

The writer describes the final between Brazil and Germany as a '*gladiator duel*' and '*clash of styles*'. The reference to the team sponsors -- Nike vs Adidas and their slogans also suggests commercialization of sports. The writer also goes on to say that Brazil are '*custodian of the game*' who have '*cast their spell*' on Japan and how they '*lifted them out of gloom*'.

The writer uses many idioms in this preview copy of the final with expressions such as '*it all boils down to*', '*throw the form books away*', '*skin of their teeth*', and uses metaphors such as '*Brazil take the field with paint brush, Germany with set-squares and six-inch rule*'. There was also alliteration usage in '*moment of magic*'. In short, the writer used maximum use of literary tools to dramatize and appeal to the readers.

### **6.6. The Indian Express, 2010**

#### ***1. Old foes Maradona and huh renew battle***

In this headline, the writer is trying to pitch the match between Argentina and South Korea as a renewed battle between the two respective coaches Maradona and Huh Jung-moo who had once faced-off during the opening match of the 1986 World Cup in Mexico. Here '*old foes*' and '*renew battle*' are the key words with the name of the two coaches thrown in between giving it a sense of war between two stalwarts.



## **2. *Mutiny in the air as world cup bounty frays nerves***

Here ‘*mutiny in the air*’ and ‘*bounty*’ are the key words. The first refers to the infighting within teams of South Africa, France, England and Cameroon, while the second refers to the dream of every footballer to reach pinnacle in the World Cup. The third key part is ‘*fraying nerves*’ which basically underlines the tremendous pressure which is mounting on this players and how they are crumbling under the great strain.

## **3. *Mexico eye revenge against imperious Argentina***

The headline refers to the history of rivalry between Mexico and Argentina. At the 2006 World Cup, Argentina had defeated Mexico at the pre-quarterfinals and the two sides meet again at the round of 16 at the 2010 edition which gave it an epic proportion. Word such as ‘*eye revenge*’ and ‘*imperious*’ tries to pitch it as a grudge match between the two teams. The headline is written with a bias towards Mexico with Argentina being defined as *arrogant* and *domineering*.

## **4. *Argentina, Germany re unite old rivalry***

Like the first example, here, also the headline writer is harping on the history of matches between the two teams Argentina and Germany, who have met twice in the past at the World Cup. In 1986, Argentina had defeated Germany 3-2, in a memorable match where Maradona stole all the thunder. In 1990, Germans beat Argentina 1-0. Here ‘*reunite*’ and ‘*old rivalry*’ are the key words which is used by the writer to touch the hearts of the fans and pursued them to the story.

## **5. *Germany seek revenge for euro 2008***

Here once again, the headline writer plays with the emotion of hurt and pain to describe the match as an opportunity to get back to Spain, who had beaten them in the 2008 Euro final. The writer describes the match as a ‘*thrilling encounter*’, ‘*exciting clash*’ and ‘*battle*’ where Germany will be ‘*looking for revenge*’. The writer also writes how Germany ‘*crushed*’ Argentina and describes David Villa as ‘*deadly*’.

#### **6. Italy held to shock draw by New Zealand**

The writer describes the 1-1 result as ‘*embarrassing*’ for Italy and terms New Zealand as ‘*under dogs*’. There were alliteration used such as ‘*deal with the danger*’, besides other expressions like ‘*increased the tempo*’ and ‘*fierce shot*’ and ‘*darkness fell*’.

#### **7. Giant killers Slovakia see Oranje next**

The writer describes Slovakia as ‘*Giant-killers*’ while the metonymy Orange is used to describe The Netherlands. The writer uses alliteration while saying how Netherland has been more ‘*substance than style*’ and uses expressions such as ‘*gratefully buried his goal*’, besides terms like ‘*dangerous*’ and ‘*attacking*’ in the copy.

#### **8. Uruguay beat brave Ghana after shootout**

The writer describes the match as a ‘*thrilling contest*’ in which Uruguay ‘*escaped by the skin of their teeth*’ and ‘*ended Ghana's dream*’. Expressions such as ‘*surrendered the ball*’ and ‘*blasting the ball*’, ‘*keep his cool*’ were used to describe the moment of the match, besides using alliteration such as ‘*speculative strike*’ and ‘*piled on the pressure*’. There were also metaphors such as ‘*suffered a blow*’ and ‘*break the deadlock*’ in the copy to spice up the copy and appeal to the readers.

#### **9. Flying Dutchmen face never-say-die Uruguay**

The writer says how the Holland and Uruguay will be ‘*fighting it out*’ in the match and then digs up the history of the teams, saying how Uruguay's ‘*national identity draws heavily on their victories of 1930 and 1950*’ and then semifinal results in 1954 and 1970 showed it was ‘*not flash in the pan*’. The writer refers to history to raise the level of expectations for the team among the fans. Similarly, the writer also gives references from Dutch soccer history, saying how each player operates ‘*under long shadows*’ of the past players and how they were ‘*cast as chief bridesmaid*’ in 1974 and 1978 where they lost against West Germany and Argentina. The writer further ups the expectation saying how Netherland is likely to ‘*leave egg on the face of those writing them off*’ and how after ‘*weathering an early onslaught*’ against Brazil, they are fearless now. There were idioms such as ‘*pulling the string*’ used to describe Wesley Sneijder's role and how Arjen Robben is a ‘*key weapon*’. The writer uses ‘*terrorizing*’ to describe Uruguay player Luis Suarez's dominance on Holland.

## **12. *Spain on top of the world***

The writer says how Spain ‘stunned’ Netherlands in ‘sensational fashion’ when they ‘fired home’ a goal and how the result brought ‘agony’ in Netherlands and cities there became ‘deadly silent’, while it was ‘ecstasy in Madrid’. The match was described as a ‘bruising encounter’ where Netherlands were ‘ferociously physical’.

## **6.7. The Hindu, 2002**

### **1. *It's payback time for England***

The writer describes how David Beckham 'ended 16 years of World Cup misery' for England against Argentina and how this match added to the list of earlier 'action-packed confrontation between two teams who have fought out epic games in World Cup history'. There was alliteration use in 'turn to triumph'. The writer also used expressions such as 'flurry of attacks', besides other words such as 'rattled', 'battled' and 'blasted'.

### **2. *England gears to fight complacency***

The writer describes how complacency will be England's 'biggest enemy' and how Nigeria 'could be a banana skin'. There were alliterations such as 'spirits soaring' and 'combative Chilavert'. The writer describes Argentina, against whom England had won, as 'arch-rivals'. There were other expressions such as 'out of their hands' and 'have the last word'.

### **3. *Senegal snaps Sweden's stay***

The writer in the story describes how 'Lightning-quick Henri Camara bedazzled Sweden'. The writer describes Senegal as 'tiny' and their 2-1 goal as 'golden goal' which helped them 'stretch its storybook rookie run' into the World Cup quarter finals.

### **4. *Brazil and England revive rivalry***

The writer describes the match between Brazil and England as 'strictly a battle of barracudas' and how their rivalry is 'steeped in tradition'. The writer further describes Brazil and England as 'the nation that invented soccer against its most decorated team'. The writer uses alliteration in 'World Cup of upsets and upstarts'. The writer

describes David Beckham as 'field general' who along with Michael Owen has given an additional ground game to it's traditionally 'competent air attack'.

**5. *Brazilian magic spells England's doom***

The writer describes how Rivaldo kept up his 'incredible record' of a goal in every game.

There were words such as 'pouncing', 'fierce', 'coolly waited', 'clash' used in the copy.

**6. *Mansiz serves up a Turkish delight***

The writer describes how 'Lightning-quick Senegal finally ran out of steam' as 'hardworking' Turkey marched into its first World Cup semifinal. The writer says how Senegal lacked 'swagger and sudden bursts of creativity that proved so lethal in Senegal's stunning march into the quarterfinals'. The writer describes how Senegal looked tired and predictable'.

**7. *Asian exuberance vs Teutonic resilience***

Here the writer describes South Korea and Germany with expressions such as 'Asian exuberance' and 'Teutonic resilience' respectively. The writer uses intertextual reference to a film called 'usual suspects', which is a 1995 American neo-noir crime thriller film directed by Bryan Singer, when he writes Germans belong to the ranks of the 'usual suspects', drawing from their past World Cup record. There were expressions such as 'ace up their sleeve' and 'lady luck'.

**8. *Germany erupts with joy.***

The writer creates an environment with his words in the story with expressions such as 'Fireworks exploded', 'classes were closed', 'people went on strike', 'the mail was delivered early and free beer flowed' as Germany beat South Korea and reach a record seventh World Cup final.

**9. *Brazil is the 'penatcampeao'***

The writer uses hyperboles like 'It was the game soccer had waited 50 years to see' in the story and how Ronaldo and Rivaldo combined 'to melt a steely German defence', which helped Brazil to win a fifth World Cup. Here in the writer uses the word 'Penatcampeao' referring them as 'five time champion to raise curiosity.

## **6.8. The Hindu, 2010**

### ***1. South Africa and Mexico share spoils in World Cup opener***

The writer describes the match as 'breathless' and how South Africa was 'rattled' initially. Idioms such as 'lively customer', 'bad book' and 'fought their way back', 'burst into life' and 'share of the spoils' were also used. The writer describes The Vela and Dos Santos as 'little two of Mexico'. There were few military words such as 'blasts', 'blazes', 'erupts' in the copy.

### ***2. Ghana edge past Serbia thanks to Asamoah Gyan penalty***

The writer uses metonymic terms such as 'Black Stars' and 'White Eagles' to describe Ghana and Serbia. The writer also says how Ghana was under the 'weight of expectation' and Serbia were the 'potential dark horses'. The writer describes how Gyan was 'lithe and dangerous' in the match. There were hyperboles like 'Serbian players sunk the turf' and 'Famous rugby stadium to shake' and idioms such as 'mountain to climb' in the copy.

### ***3. Honda strike helps Japan upset Cameroon***

The writer says how 'Japanese organization prevailed over African goodwill' in the match as Japan defeated Cameroon 1-0. There were metonymic terms such as 'mighty Netherlands' and 'indomitable lions'. The writer describes how the goal should have 'woken Cameroon from their torpor'. There were expressions like 'flashes of genius' in the copy.

### ***4. Netherlands powers past Denmark***

The writer describes Denmark's defending as 'calamitous' and how 'a comedy own goal' by Denmark saw them lose the match. The writer describes how Netherlands 'kept the Danes at bay' and how there were 'flash of Dutch magic'. There was alliteration use in 'huge helping hand'

### ***5. Klose helps Germany ease past Australia***

The writer describes how Germany 'are immune to the nerves' after they scored their sixth straight win in opening match. The writer describes the first goal as 'classy in its creation and clinical in its execution'. The writer describes how Germany came

tantalisingly close to opening the scoring before most of their opponents even had a 'scuff of dirt on their kit'. There were words such as 'floundering', 'fired', 'ruthless' used by the writer.

#### ***6. David Villa raises the roof as Spain push past Portugal***

Here 'raises the roof' uses alliteration. The writer describes how Spain's record in the World Cup can feel like a 'national embarrassment' given they have never reached a semi final. The writer describes how Portugal did not show enough 'wit and adventure' in a match that brought 'world's more implausibly gifted footballers' together. The writer talks about the 'exhilarating drama served up' when these sides met in Euro 2004. There were words such as 'vanquished', 'smacked', 'killer pass', 'whopped', 'punched', 'crushed', 'unleashed' and 'hounding' used by the writer to make the copy more attractive.

#### ***7. Ruthless Argentina sends Mexico packing***

The writer describes the two teams as World Cup 'heavyweights' and uses expressions such as 'fuel added to the fire', 'dust had settled on eventful encounter' and 'exploded into controversy', besides words like 'bamboozle' in the copy.

### **6.9. The Times of India, 2003**

#### ***1. New Zealand, Lanka set for a 'cerebrawl'***

Here the writer describes the match as a '*cerebrawl*' where the two teams will '*pit their brains*' and gives references to the 1992 and 1996 World Cup when Martin Crowe '*unleashed a series of innovations*' and Arjuna Ranatunga took the '*same concept one step further and laughed all way to champions throne*'. The writer describes how kiwi is '*cerebral*' and Sri Lanka has '*a hint of killer instinct*' and both are '*robotic in exploiting*' weakness. The writer used expressions such as '*dismantled with ruthless efficiency*' and '*laser sharpness*' to describe New Zealand bowling attack and '*deadly and frightening*' to describe Shane Bond. There were alliterations such as '*exciting and excitable speedsters*'.

## **2. *Enter Namibia, to sound of fury***

The writer here describes Namibia as minnows and says they have to endure a World Cup ‘*baptism of fire and fear*’ when they play Zimbabwe and how they can find themselves in ‘*the eye of a storm*’, the reason being the debate of whether Zimbabwe should be hosting a World Cup game or not.

## **3. *Symonds ko’s Pak in the bull ring***

The writer uses the short form of ‘knock out’ in the headline and describes the match as a ‘*bull ring*’. The writer used idiom ‘*morning shows the day*’ and goes on to describe how the absence of Shane Warne didn’t have any ‘*moral shattering*’ effect on Australia’s match as they ‘*clinically butchered*’ Pakistan and how the Asian team could ‘*take the fight to enemy camp*’. The writer used expressions such as ‘*turned the game on its head*’ and showed ‘*audacious display of power*’ while describing Andrew Symonds contribution.

## **4. *Joy-Asuriya is Sri Lanka’s pride, Styris century in vain for New Zealand***

The writer here uses pun in the headline by hyphenating Jayasuriya’s name into joy-asuriya. In the story, the writer describes how Sri Lanka ‘*tore elaborate tactics and ambitions plans*’ of New Zealand ‘*to pieces*’. Jayasuriya’s innings was described as a ‘*blitzkrieg*’ as boundaries ‘*cascade out of his blade*’. Expressions such as ‘*license to kill*’, ‘*plug the holes*’ and ‘*typhoon*’ were used by the writer to spice up the report.

## **5. *Dizzy has ‘em in a tizzy. Jason Gillespie is the hero for Australia as Ganguly and co lose by nine wickets***

The writer describes how India ‘*crashed to their lowest championship total*’ and how Australia pace ‘*assaulted*’ India. Harbhajan’s late inning was described as ‘*bhangra cricket heroics*’. Expressions such as ‘*all at sea*’, ‘*need of the hour*’ and ‘*stamped his class*’ were used by the writer. The writer says it was ‘*shameful*’ batting from India and also criticizes Ganguly for ‘*outrageous*’ application against ‘*formidable*’ Australians.

## **6. *Way to go, India!***

The writer describes how Zimbabwe ‘*sunk deeper and deeper into a hole-of-no-hope*’, while India ‘*standing shoulder to shoulder*’ could have sung the national anthem, which clearly hints at playing to the gallery to ignite patriotic feeling among Indian fans. The writer further says how India can now go back to South Africa with ‘*hope in their heart and smile on their faces*’. By using expressions such as ‘*come on Pakistan*’ and ‘*come on England*’ in reference to India’s next matches, the writer tried to connect with the nationalistic feeling of Indian fans, who were left disappointed after their last game loss. The writer used expressions such as ‘*threaten to shatter world cup dreams*’ and described Tendulkar and Sehwag as ‘*the master and his adoring blaster*’ and how Ganguly provided the ‘*killer blow*’ and how India were now ‘*racing in top gear*’. The writer also used many idioms such as ‘*in unison*’, ‘*lost their way*’, ‘*gatecrash into the party*’ and ‘*set the ball rolling*’ in the copy to grab attention.

## **7. *‘Spell of life’ dooms Sri Lanka***

The writer describes Kenya’s win as ‘*Shock*’ victory over Sri Lanka and says how bowler Collins Obuya ‘*Stole the limelight*’ from Muttiah Muralitharan with a ‘*spell of life*’ where he took five wickets for 24 runs. Kenya’s total was ‘*less-than convincing*’ but their ‘*shock triumph*’ brought back memories of 1996 world cup where they had beaten West Indies. The writer describes how Obuya ‘*rip out the heart*’ of Sri Lankan innings.

## **8. *Battle Royale at bouncy Kingsmead***

The writer uses alliteration in expressions ‘*Pregnant with possibilities*’ when he talks about the India and England match, describing it as ‘*watershed*’ for the two teams and how the recent poor record against England will ‘*pale into insignificance*’. The writer also describes England’s win over Pakistan as an ‘*elixir*’.

## **9. *Well begun, well finished***

### ***Dravid brings up the rear to complement Tendulkar’s blistering start***

The writer describes the innings by Rahul Dravid as ‘*Fighting*’ half century and how Yuvraj Singh gave ‘*sloppy Indians a lifeline*’ after Indian tail ‘*collapsed in a heap*’. The writer uses different military terms such as ‘*slammed*’, ‘*smacked*’, ‘*blasted*’. The



writer went on to say that Tendulkar '*showed a savage demonstration of power and grace*' and how he '*feasted on the gifts*' by bowlers with '*skill and abandon*' and left Naseer Hussian '*at wits end*'. The writer said Andrew Flintoff broke into a '*tarzan-like-celebration*' after dismissing Virender Sehwag.

#### **10. *Super Sunday at Supersport park***

The writer uses alliteration in the headline to grab the attention early on. In the copy, the writer starts with hyperboles such as Indian team must have '*drunk down a relish of adrenaline and testosterone*' and served a '*heady mix of brutal power, terrifying speed and raw emotion*', and describes the match as an '*stomach churning epic thriller*' and '*titanic struggle*' and how Indian and Pakistan team were the '*Athens and Sparta of world cricket*'. The writer says that India put Pakistan '*out of misery*' and continued their '*strange hold on old rivals*'. He uses hyperbolic expressions saying how it was an '*electric atmosphere*' which could '*charge every device on the ground*'.

The writer uses another hyperbole '*hunter became the hunted*' to describe how Akhtar's pre-match announcement of targeting Tendulkar backfired as he scored with '*such ferocity that it begged for intervention*'. The writer goes on to say that Tendulkar '*smashed around the park*' and batted with '*so sublimely that sporting divinities must have nodded in approval*' and how for Akhtar '*regimental duty in Kargil could have been more pleasant*'.

Talking about Yuvraj's innings, the writer says that Yuvraj was '*growing from boy to man on world biggest stage*' and how Indian team will '*party until the cows come home*'. There were other expressions such as '*India's familiar nemesis*'-- which was used to describe Saeed Anwar, '*jangling nerves*', '*see-sawed and made you giddy*' and '*claw back*' in the copy.

#### **12. *Sachinnnn....sachinnnn***

Here the headline shows a direct influence of TV commentary. The writer uses many hyperbole and metaphor starting with '*Sun stopped momentarily to soak in the carnival atmosphere*' while describing the atmosphere at the stadium and how it had '*reached boiling point*' and uses another hyperbole when he says '*Sachin and Sehwag stepped out of the cauldron*'.

The writer uses alliteration describing Sachin and Sehwag as '*dynamic duo*' and describes how the two batsmen were '*helpless gladiators trapped inside with 11 hungry lions*' and the match was a '*fight of their lives on their hands*' as they face '*deadly triumvirate of Akram, Akhtar and Younis*'. The writer goes on to define the match as '*mission virtually impossible*' for Pakistan and how they were '*speechless with stunning assault*' and '*lost their voice*'. The writer describes Anwar as '*battle-scarred*' and says how for Shoaib it was '*time for big test for big clash*'. There were other idiomatic expressions such as '*go all the way*', '*in the blink of an eye*' and '*got rid of*' in the copy.

### **13. *Indians falter at final hurdle***

Here '*falter at final*' is an alliteration use. In the report, the writer describes India as '*men in blue*' who '*ran into a blizzard of Oz*' as their '*dream run in world cup faltered*', while Australia '*smashed their way to a record*'. The writer describes Australians as '*supermen from planet krypton*', while how Indians were playing like '*mere mortals*'.

The wicket was described as '*dead as a dodo track*', while how the Indian team looked '*sapped, trapped and zapped*' and it was a '*body blow for India*'. There were many emotive expressions used by the writer in the copy such as '*rescue from the massacre*', '*back in demolition business after rain*', '*blunder of his life*' '*ended in mayhem*' and '*climbing Mount Everest could have been easier*'. There were other words such as '*astonishing*', '*audacious*', '*belligerent*', '*profligate*' and '*slaughter*' used in the report by the writer.

## **6.10. The Times of India, 2011**

### **1. *In the line of Ire: Indian team not taking chances after Ireland's sensational upset of England***

The writer here grabs attention early on with the expression '*in the line of Ire*' in the headline. It is a pun where the expression '*in the line of fire*' has been twisted. The writer describes Ireland as '*dark horses*' who '*took the wind out of*' England during their last match labeling it as an '*upset victory*'. The writer uses expressions such as '*take stock*', '*placid pitch*', '*shout of anguish*', '*on a rampage*' and '*keep the spirits going*' to appeal to the readers in the report.

**2. Afridi takes Pak out of jail: Skipper takes 5-23 as Pakistan survive Canada scare**

Here 'jail' is the key word in the headline. The writer compares Pakistan's match situation when Pakistan was lagging behind with a jail like situation and says how they were 'staring at embarrassment' and Shahid Afridi 'bailed out' the team. The writer describes Pakistan team as 'green brigade' and uses expressions such as 'fire-ring', 'with a virtuoso', 'tricky and sluggish', 'rattling spree' and 'plagued by' in the copy.

**3. All over in just ninety minutes! Shocker: Bangladesh skittle out for 58, WI win by 9 wickets**

Here 'ninety minutes' is the key phrase as it ignites emotions among the fan who are straight away informed about the abject failure of Bangladesh. The writer uses hyperbole when he says how West Indies 'knocked the daylight out' of Bangladesh, who 'fell to the pits' and were 'stunned into silence'. The writer says there were 'demons in the track' and how it was a 'national disgrace' for Bangladesh team who were the co-host of the world cup. The writer uses alliteration in 'curtain call' and 'cricket-crazy', besides terms like 'tumble' and 'scalped'.

**4. Clash of might riders: Lanka take on Aussies in Heavyweight contest**

The writer describes Sri Lanka and Australia as 'might riders' in the headline and how it will be a 'heavyweight contest'. The writer tries to ignite nationalistic emotions in fans by digging out past controversies between the two teams, mentioning about the 1995 issue between umpire Darrell Hair and Muttiah Muralitharan and 1996 World Cup when Australia didn't travel to Sri Lanka. The writer goes on to say that it will be a 'chance for redemption' for Sri Lankan and how they will be 'immortalized' if they beat Australia.

The writer says how Sri Lanka can 'puff their chests out' as their 'perennial tormentors' in Australian team have all retired, where as they have a lot of experienced players in their team and describes it as a 'problem of plenty'. The writer describes the Australian bowling attack as 'explosive and potent'.

**5. *Proteas choke on chase: Anderson, Broad script incredible fight back to keep England afloat***

The writer once again use the word ‘choke’ to describe how South Africa could not score the runs posted by England. The writer describes it as ‘incredible win’ and how England were ‘high on confidence’ and took the ‘driver’s seat’ after putting ‘excellent exhibition’ pushing South Africa to the ‘threshold of disaster’ and how they were ‘dead and buried’. There were other expressions such as ‘glimmer of hope’, ‘feel the heat’, ‘fencing their chances’ which were used by the writer in the report.

**6. *Taylor-made for NZ: Birthday Boy Ross batters Pakistan into submission***

Here in the headline, ‘Taylor-made’ and ‘batters into submission’ are the key expressions. While the former is a pun where *tailor* was replaced by *Taylor*, while the latter gives a war-like connotation, which is an obvious attempt to ignite emotions among the readers.

The writer uses many emotive words such as ‘exhilarating’ and ‘explosive’ to describe Ross Taylor’s innings as he ‘smashed’ and ‘tore into shreds’ the Pakistan bowlers during the match which he calls an ‘encounter’. The writer describes Taylor’s innings as ‘unforgettable bash’ and Pakistan’s time in the field as a ‘sorry performance’. The writer uses other emotive words such as ‘berserk’, ‘daunting’, ‘plundering’, ‘blundering’ and ‘perished’ in the copy.

**7. *Oranje's squash on India's menu: MSD & Co eye big win to top table and gain 'easy' access to the quarters***

The Netherland team in the last decade have been described as ‘Oranje’ due to the colour of their jersey in both football and cricket tournaments and the expression ‘oranje squash’ is used more often in headlines as a pun to connect to the readers. Orange squash is a drink and hence the writer says ‘Oranje's squash on India's menu’ to create humour.

The writer describes The Netherland team as ‘underdogs’ and uses alliteration in ‘big battles’ and ‘firmly fixed’. The writer uses various expressions such as ‘hammer out’, ‘order of the day’, ‘formidable opponents’, ‘form and pedigree’, ‘nip in the bud’, ‘point of interest’ and ‘miserly customer’ in the report.

**8. *Sweet win after sour chase: India make heavy weather of modest Dutch target on way to quarters***

The writer describes India's chase as '*sour*' and win as '*sweet*' in the headline. The writer uses hyperboles such as '*tore into modest attack*' while describing Sachin Tendulkar and Virender Sehwag's innings and then goes on to say how the chase became a '*painful lurch*' after India lost wickets. The writer uses expressions such as '*sanity was restored*' to describe the successful chase and how '*doubters would still be shouting from the roof tops*'. The writer described Yuvraj's performance as '*remarkably saviour-like*' and how Indian spinners '*suffocated the life out of Dutch batsmen*' as Holland '*huffed and puffed*'. There were many idioms such as '*make hay in the sun*' and '*flash in the pan*' in the copy.

**9. *The choke is on India: Hosts lose way with bat, let SA off the hook to lose thriller in Nagpur***

Here '*joke is on India*' has been written as '*choke is on India*', an obvious play of words to grab attention. The writer describes how India '*shot themselves in the foot*' and became a '*victim of impatience*' in a match that went '*down to the wire*'. The writer uses terms such as '*mayhem*', '*cracking*' and '*plummeted*', besides idioms and expressions such as '*fought all the way*', '*flying start*' and '*saving grace and sizzling lesson*' in the report.

**10. *England alive & kicking: pushed to the wall, Strauss & Co eke out 18-run victory***

The writer describes the match as a '*ding-dong battle*' where England '*blow-hot, blow-cold*' before showing '*great resilience*' and scaled the '*uphill task*' by '*throwing caution to the wind*'. The writer uses words such as '*alive*', '*hammered*', '*plucked*', '*classy*', besides phrases like '*put a doubt in mind*' and '*bigger culprits*' in the report.

**11. *No Need to be aus-struck: India are better off facing world champs than Lanka at Motera***

Here the writer once again uses pun in the headline with '*aus-struck*' which was derived from *awestruck*. The writer describes it as a '*daunting mission*' and an '*equal battle*' and how Australia has a '*menacing attack*'. The writer uses various phrases

like ‘*Mysterious ring*’, ‘*egg on their face*’, ‘*on their guard*’, ‘*jumping off a cliff*’, ‘*run-machine*’, and ‘*claw out of squishy hole*’ in the copy. There were other emotive terms such as ‘*humiliation*’, ‘*demise*’, ‘*dispirited*’, ‘*quibbling*’, ‘*towering*’ and ‘*busted*’ in the report.

### ***12. An Awesome victory! India end Australia's cup reign with inspired team performance***

The writer describes how the India and Australia match was ‘*billed as blockbuster*’ and ‘*explosive clash*’ between ‘*arch-rivals*’ and how it ‘*lived up to expectations*’. The writer goes on to describe the Indian players as ‘*knight in shining armour*’ who ‘*rising to the challenge*’ ‘*turned on the screws*’ on the Australia by ‘*fighting fire with fire*’. The writer uses emotive expressions such as ‘*intense drama*’, ‘*point of no return*’, ‘*down the throat*’ and ‘*set the stage*’. The writer uses words such as ‘*venom*’, ‘*gutsy*’, ‘*slammed*’, ‘*dashed*’ and ‘*thundering*’ in the copy.

### ***13. Mohali serves up Mumbai masala: Indian halt Pak charge on road to final against Lanka***

The writer uses alliteration in the expression ‘*Mohali serves up Mumbai masala*’ to grab attention. For a match between two neighboring nations who have been at war in the past, the writer using the expression ‘*Indian halt Pak charge on road*’ seems an attempt to connect with the history of the two countries.

The writer describes the match as ‘*high-intensity*’ and how ‘*stakes are high*’ and how even the ‘*bravest go weak in knee*’. The writer uses idiomatic expressions such as ‘*lost the plot*’, ‘*kept their poise*’, ‘*brain freeze*’, ‘*rose like phoenix*’, ‘*raise the bar*’, ‘*blur of euphoria*’ and ‘*frenzy of celebration*’ in the report to appeal to the readers, besides using words such as ‘*imploded*’.

### ***14. Fitting Finale: World's greatest batsman vs greatest bowler Sachin takes on Murali in the last World Cup match for both legends***

Here ‘*Fitting Finale*’ is an alliteration usage. The writer here describes the match as a game between ‘*World's greatest batsman*’ and ‘*greatest bowler*’ referring to Sachin Tendulkar and Muttiah Muralitharan.

The writer uses terms such as '*maverick*', '*gods*', '*maestro*', '*magician*' to describe the two players and how it is a '*battle for eternity*'. The match has been described as '*biggest stage cauldron-like*' and '*engrossing*'. The writer also uses emotive expressions like '*pure thrill*', '*political drama*', '*gut-wrenching*', '*triumphs and tribulations*', '*armoury of exploits*', '*unleashing his charm offensive*' and '*midst of storm*' in the report.

#### **15. *A Nation holds its breath, A legend bats for ultimate glory on home ground***

The writer uses hyperbole such as '*waiting with abated breath*' to describe the euphoria surrounding Tendulkar as he will be playing in the final against Sri Lanka. The writer says how it will be an '*emotionally-charged*' match and how Tendulkar looks like '*man in prime form*' and how India will be '*going for the kill*' as he looks to '*craft ultimate fairytale*'.

The writer uses many emotive expressions such as '*racing down memory lane*', '*hint of fragility*', '*touch of unpredictability*', '*destiny in his hands*', '*round the corner*', '*hit the roof*', '*dropping anchor*' in the report to appeal to the readers.

#### **16. *Menace of the three Ms looms large***

The writer describes how Sri Lanka will '*desire to dial M for India's murder*'. Here the expression draws from the Alfred Hitchcock film '*Dial M for Murder*'. '*India's murder*' will ignite some patriotic emotions among the fans. The writer uses hyperbole to describe how some Sri Lankan player's field '*like tigers*' and can '*choke the Indians*'. Muralitharan was described as '*a wily master*' and goes on to talk about Ajantha Mendis, who '*terrorize*' Indians and how Sehwag will look for a '*Gul-like assault*' on Mendis.

### **6.11. The Hindustan Times, 2003**

#### **1. *It's now or never for the host***

The writer uses an idiom '*it's now or never*' in the headline. The writer says how Jayasuriya will aim to '*crush*' South Africa's dream and '*eliminate the hosts*'. The writer describes the match as '*clashes*' and '*encounter*' and goes on to describe how Sri Lanka have bowling to '*make inroads*' into South Africa. The writer uses other expressions such as '*come to the fore*' and '*yet to spark*' in the report.

## **2. *Bichels 7, Bevans 74 leave Eng praying***

There was scope for alliteration usage in the name of the players -- '*Andy Bichel*' and '*Michael Bevan*' -- who contributed most in Australia's win over England and the writer uses that in the headline along with their figures to grab attention early on. The writer uses the word '*destroyed*' to describe Bichel's bowling against England and then mocks at England saying they seemed to be '*in tearing rush*', to '*go and have a beer in the hotel*'.

The writer says how Gilchrist started his '*characteristic blast*' and went '*clobbering*' and how Hayden's effort '*ended in disaster*' and how Australia were left with '*big repairing job*'. The writer also pokes fun at Michael Vaughan saying how he '*made a circus act out of the dodgy sleepers to catch*'. The writer describes Andrew Symonds as '*dangerous*' and says '*Bevan had a pulse rate like Bjorn Borg, nothing ever rattle him*' and how Bichel and Bevan were not in '*a mode to surrender*'.

## **3. *It's finally here: India vs Pakistan***

The writer describes the match as a '*contest of a lifetime*', which fans will expected to be an '*enthraling, dramatic contest*' and how a defeat will mean '*end of the world*'. The writer talks about how the past matches between India and Pakistan in the world cup '*never lived up to their grandiose build-up*' though it had '*dramatic, tense and joyful moments*' and how it has been '*a war minus the shooting*'.

The writer says Pakistan look like a side '*fighting self-created inner demons*' and describes them as '*greatest under-achiever*'. The writer also uses words such as '*fight*', '*clash*', '*wrath*', '*fire*', '*crumble*' in the report.

## **4. *We did it. Now for the Cup***

### ***Sachin blitz wrecks Pakistan***

Here '*blitz*' and '*wreck*' are the key words in the headlines which the writer used to appeal to the readers. The writer uses many hyperboles and metaphors in the report such as '*could have asked for moon and Tendulkar would have obliged*' while describing Tendulkar's innings and how '*the little master orchestrated a tense, seven-hour drama of skill and nerves*' with '*stunning stroke play and intriguing twist*'.



The writer goes on to describe how the match *'hung in suspense'* even as Tendulkar *'played one of the riveting counter-attacking innings ever seen in World Cup history'* and how he *'stunned Pakistanis by smashing relentless attack'*.

Expressions like *'expression of genius'*, *'wielded the baton with panache'* were used to describe Tendulkar. The writer also uses expressions like *'nerves of steel'*, *'stood like a rock'*, *'played with grace and power'* to describe Mohammad Kaif, Rahul Dravid and Yuvraj Singh's innings respectively.

#### **5. *Super Aussies make superb start in Super Six***

The writer uses alliteration in the headline to grab attention using *Super*, *superb start* and *super six*. In the report, the writer describes how during his *'blistering'* innings, Aravinda de Silva *'destroyed'* Brett Lee and how no Lanka batsmen could *'set the stadium ablaze'* and also how Adam Gilchrist *'tortured'* and *'hammered'* Lankan bowling. There were many emotive words such as *'scalped'*, *'devastating'*, *'disastrous'*, *'ruthless'* and *'departed'* used during the report.

#### **6. *India smash Lanka, enter semis***

The writer mocks at Sri Lanka saying they *'looked as confused as penguins might have been during apartheid'* and how were *'laying a run buffet'* for India.

#### **7. *No contest: India feast on Lanka***

*'Destroyed'* and *'clinical dismantling'* were the expressions used by the writer to describe India's dominance in the match. The writer says fast bowler Chaminda Vaas was not at his *'devastating best'*. The writer also use hyperbole such *'God was an Indian'* in reference to Sehwag's luck and how Ganguly *'conquered his own demons'*. There were words like *'brutal'* and *'slash'* used in the copy.

#### **8. *It's a day- India shocked and awed***

The writer describes how India's *'dream completely soured'* and the final match became *'a nightmare'* for India after Australia put up *'ruthless'* display to *'pulverize India into submission'*. The writer compares it with boxing saying *'it was a knockout with the floored man not having the energy to even ask for a mandatory count'*. Expression such as *'smacked one brutal cut'*, *'began with a storm and ended with a*

*hurricane* and *'India had no place to hide'* were used in reference to Australia's innings.

## **6.12. The Hindustan Times , 2011**

### **1. *So near, much too far***

***Oops! Almost there: Dutch push England to the brink but don't know how to wrap it up***

Here the writer twists the idiom *'so near and yet so far'* into the expression *'so near, much too far'* in the headline. The writer uses *'oops'* which is a colloquial usage, besides *'almost there'*, which is a song written by Randy Newman for Walt Disney Pictures' 49th animated feature film *The Princess and the Frog* (2009).

The writer describes The Netherlands as *'men in orange'* and uses phrases like *'sheer brilliance'*, and *'smacking their lips'* for the team. There were some emotive expressions such as *'waging a grim battle'*, *'up for a fight'*, *'tore the script'*, *'avoid the ignominy'* and *'cut loose'* in the copy. There were also idioms like *'came to the party'* and *'walk down the park'*. The writer also uses words like *'fight'*, *'powered'*, *'intimidate'*, *'escaped'*, *'dismal'*, *'wobble'*, *'dominated'* and *'attack'* in the report.

### **2. *Dead Heat: India, England script 4th tied game in World Cup history***

***338: England = India, Cliffhanger: After the Tendulkar show, Andrew Strauss anchors his side to a thrilling tie***

Here the writer uses *'Dead Heat'*, *'cliffhanger'* and *'thrilling tie'* in the headline to grab attention, besides the unique *'338: England = India'*.

The writer describes the atmosphere at the stadium as *'cauldron of emotions and colours'*, and how Indian bowlers *'ripped the heart out of English chase'*. The writer used hyperboles like *'Tendulkar was burning bright'* and *'master wearing many hats'*, while described Zaheer Khan as *'Zak the ripper'*, a reference drawn from *'jack the ripper'*, the name given to an unidentified serial killer.

There were other expressions such as *'top guns'*, *'moments of explosion'* and *'kept their nerves'* used by the writer in the report, besides words like *'impregnable'*, *'scintillating'*, *'spirited'*, *'dramatic'* and *'disdain'*.

### 3. *Irish eyes are smiling*

***Oh Brien! Kevin hits the fastest century in history of World Cup as Ireland drub England***

Here the writer uses '*Irish Eyes Are Smiling*' in the headline which refers to the light-hearted song written by Chauncey Olcott and George Graff, Jr.

In the report, the writer used the expression '*Dial O'Brien for bail out*' at start of the report, which draws reference from the film '*Dial M for Murder*' by Alfred Hitchcock.

The writer describes how Kevin '*played a blinder*' with had '*clean and bold hitting*' and how his '*incredible assault*' '*injected life into*' the match as England had '*lost stomach for fight*'. The writer also compares Ireland's dominance in the match with '*underdogs biting*'. There were many emotive words like '*dead*', '*mounting*', '*ferocity*', '*scorching*', '*sailing*', '*plundered*', '*polished*' and '*blizzard*' in the report.

### 4. *With fifty & five, Singh is on a song*

***All-Round Show: Yuvraj Singh takes five wickets and then scores a patient half-century to take India to a hard-fought victory over giant killers Ireland***

The writer uses alliteration in headline with '*fifty & five*' and '*Singh is on a song*'.

The writer describes the India and Ireland match as like '*taking a penalty kick*' and how it could be '*bouquets*' and '*brickbats*' depending on the result. The writer also mentions about the '*wives and girlfriends of the Irish players*' in the report.

The writer describes how Ireland had kept the Indian batsmen '*on a leash*' and uses the expression '*uncharacteristic display of patience and maturity*' while writing about Yuvraj's innings and how the all rounder '*ended the resistance*' of Ireland by taking five wickets. The writer describes Yusuf Pathan's scores as '*monstrous blows*' and how he turned a '*painstaking chase into a cruise*'.

5. *Afridi shows new zeal*

***On a roll: The Pakistan skipper has lead by example and eyes another strong outing against NZ***

The writer uses idiom 'on a roll' in the headline. Pakistan team is referred as 'men in green', who 'came out with flying colours'. The writer makes reference to poet Walt Whitman's famous 1865 metaphor poem 'O Captain! My Captain!' using lines 'the ship has weathered every rack' in the report. The writer also uses words such as 'encounter', 'troops', 'maverick' in the copy.

6. *Double trouble*

***Twice as Nice: record stand between openers Dilshan and Tharanga sets up SL win***

The writer uses rhyming in the headline with expressions 'double trouble' and 'twice as Nice' to grab eyeballs early on. There were emotive words like 'mauling', 'onslaught', 'latched' and 'stuttering' in the copy. The write describes Dilshan's innings as 'vent his anger on mediocre attack' and how Zimbabwe 'fell like nine pins'. There were other idioms such as 'with a bang' and 'high on confidence' used by the writer in the report.

7. *Choke's on us*

***India crumble: From 267-1, India lost nine wickets for 29 runs to manage only 296; South Africa seemed to be headed for another close defeat till Nehra conceded 16 runs in the last over***

The writer uses 'Choke's on us', twisting the expression 'joke on us', referring to the history of South Africa cricket in World Cup where they have always lost from winning positions. The writer uses war-inspired words such as 'firepower', 'capitulation', 'hammering', 'attack' and 'assault' in the match report.

The writer describes how the match was full of 'dramatic twists and turns' and how the 'batting firepower' of India and its 'fragility come to the fore' in the match. The writer describes how India were 'hammering the attack' and 'brought the bowlers almost down on their knees' and were 'set for final assault' before they lost wicket

which the writer terms as '*capitulation*'. The writer also says how the fans were '*waiting to go berserk expecting fireworks*'.

The writer also uses expressions like '*sanity to be restored*', '*fragility come to the fore*', '*shocking collapse*' in the copy, besides using alliterations in '*lessons to be learnt*' and '*passage of play*' to appeal to the readers.

## **8. *Canada crumble under Oz heat***

### ***Fighting: Not before Hiral Patel blitz unsettles new-ball attack***

Here '*Canada crumble*' and '*blitz*' in the headline are the key usages, the former being an alliteration and latter a military term. The writer describes how Australia's '*feared pace attack looked amateurish*' against Canada and terms Shaun Tait's ball as '*thunderbolt*'. The writer describes the innings played by Australian openers as '*late charge*' which was '*as savage as it could get*'.

The writer also uses emotive words such as '*stunned*', '*plundering*', '*smashing*', '*entertaining*', '*fearless*', '*imposing*', '*cruising*', '*perished*', '*battery*', '*ferocious*' and '*departed*' to appeal to the readers.

## **9. *England keep India hanging***

### ***Staying Alive: Beat West Indies by 18 runs in a thriller to stay in the hunt; leave the sub-continent giants on tenterhooks***

The writer uses many idioms in the headlines such as '*staying alive*', '*stay in the hunt*' and '*on tenterhooks*' to grab attention. The Indian team was described as '*sub-continent giants*' and the match as a '*thriller*'.

The writer describes how England '*kept hopes afloat*' after they '*dashed the hopes of*' West Indies and how it was a '*catastrophic defeat*' for the African nation. The writer uses expressions such as '*sealed the deal*', '*beating the heat out of the attack*' and '*courageous rescue act*' while describing England's batting.

The writer describes how the '*dramatic twists and turns*' of the match will be '*embedded in the heart*' of some people. The writer also uses idiomatic expressions like '*up for grabs*', '*to have the last laugh*', '*keep an eye on*' and '*keeping the race alive*' in the report. The writer also uses alliteration in '*twists and turns*' and

'*captivating contest*', besides using words like '*dramatic*', '*thriller*', '*smashing*', '*blows*', '*mounting*', '*promising*', '*bold*', '*choked*' and '*stunning*'.

#### **10. *India get by with a little help from neighbours***

This is a match report of the game between Bangladesh and South Africa. Here the writer talks about how Bangladesh's '*abject surrender*' helped India to confirm their knockout berths. The writer compares Bangladesh with '*local divisional team*' after they '*collapsed*' against South Africa and then goes on to say that '*ghosts of their humiliation against West Indies returned to haunt them*'. The writer uses the word '*shot out*' while describing Bangladesh's dismissal of innings and describes the journey of the team in the tournament as a '*rollercoaster ride*', an alliteration usage. The writer also uses words like '*walloped*', '*thrashing*' and '*capitulation*' in the report.

#### **11. *Y for Yuvi, V for Vendetta***

##### ***Sweet revenge: India knocks the defending champions out, avenge the 2003 final loss***

The writer uses alliteration and reference to a popular novel in the headline to grab the attention. Here V for Vendetta is a graphic novel written by Alan Moore and illustrated by David Lloyd, which was made into a political thriller film in 2005 directed by James Mc Teigue. The writer describes the match as '*sweet revenge*' and how it '*avenged the 2003 final loss*'. The usage of the words '*revenge*' and '*avenge*' in the headline, hints an attempt by the writer to hammer down the point.

The writer describes the match as a '*test of nerve and character*' for the Indian team and how Yuvraj had a '*heart of steel*' and how after the win, the crowd '*erupted in waves of ecstasy*'.

The writer uses expressions such as '*characteristic flamboyance*' and '*exhibition of resolute batting*', '*blazing bat*' and '*countered fire with fire*' while describing Indian batting, specially Yuvraj's innings.

There were also some military expressions such as '*sniffed blood*' and '*launching a final assault*' used by the writer to sensationalize. The writer uses many phrases such as '*faint-hearted*', '*inglorious exit*', '*unwarranted gallantry*', '*keep alive a billion dreams*', '*not-so-intimidating*' in the copy.

## **12. *Field of dreams at Wankheda***

***On the Money: Criticized for being too slow on the field, India saved their best for the biggest game of their lives***

Here 'Field of dreams' is a metaphoric expression drawn from the fantasy-drama film directed by Phil Alden Robinson with the same name. The writer uses the idiomatic expression '*On the Money*' in the headline to portray how India made it count in the '*biggest game of their lives*'. '*On the Money*' also alludes to a winning bet in horse racing, which gives it a different connotation specially at a time when a lot of betting and spot-fixing incidents have surfaced in world cricket, including India.

The writer describes the environment at the stadium as '*absolutely electric*' and used various expressions such as '*faced the ignominy*', '*men in blue*', '*paid the price for their profligacy*', '*rolled back a few years*', '*quicksilver reflexes*', '*bubbling with energy*', '*set the tempo*' in the copy.

### **6.13. The Indian Express, 2003**

#### **1. *Lanka down Kiwis in mid-flight***

The writer uses words such as '*blasted*', '*resistance*' and '*collapsed*' in the copy, besides using adjectives like '*swashbuckling*' and '*sparkling*' to describe Sanath Jayasuriya's century and '*daunting*' total and '*disastrous*' start in the match report.

#### **2. *Aussie bowlers blow Indian challenge away***

At the start, the writer describes how '*India avoided complete humiliation*' despite posting their '*worst-ever world cup performance*' as they went down without a '*semblance of a fight*'. The writer uses alliteration while mocking at Indian team describing them '*Boys in Blue*' and labelled the match as '*centurion shame*'.

The writer also describes their next match against Zimbabwe as '*salvage operation*' to '*revive battered 2003 world cup dreams*'. The loss to Australia was interpreted by the writer as India team having '*no longer interest in this world cup*'. There were other phrases such as '*business as usual*', no '*backbone to offer*', '*matter of survival*' and '*shame-faced*' and words like '*fight*', '*attack*' and '*onslaught*', which were used by the writer.

### ***3. Sri Lanka aim to crush SA dream***

The writer uses the word '*crush*' in the headline to ignite a nationalistic sentiment in Sri Lanka as they play South Africa. The writer describes the match as '*do-or-die encounter*' and uses words such as '*clash*', '*eliminate*' and phrase '*to make inroads*' in the copy.

### ***4. Nehra's six puts India on Cloud Nine***

The writer describes India's win over England as '*emphatic*' and '*crushing*' and how Indian pacers '*send shivers down the spines*' of batsmen, while Mohammad Kaif did a '*jonty-esque*' fielding. The writer also uses metaphor such as Sehwag '*whetted the appetite with a tasty*' opening stand with Tendulkar and how the '*main course was served*' by Yuvraj and Dravid, who '*changed gears with all the expertise of a Formula 1 driver*'.

The writer goes on to use more expressions such as '*on the trot*' and '*firing all cylinders*' and words such as '*chaotic*', '*vaunted*', '*strike force*', '*departed*', '*shattered*', '*explosive*' and '*dramatic*' in the match report to appeal to the readers.

### ***5. India squeeze home after a few gasps***

In the headline here, the writer uses two key words '*squeeze*' and '*gasps*' describing how India managed to beat Kenya. The writer describes how India came up with '*helpless and hapless*' bowling, an alliteration usage. Harbhajan Singh's misfielding was described as '*chasing an errant chicken*'.

The writer used many expressions, including idioms, such as '*off the hook*', '*silver lining*', '*dropped their guard*', '*brimming with confidence*', '*made to eat their words*', '*step on the pedal*' and '*With enemies like these who needs friends*', besides war-inspired term '*butchered*' in the match report.

### ***6. Advantage India, but beware of complacency***

The writer describes the India-Pakistan match as '*gladiatorial contest*' and how pressure will '*fire up*' Pakistan. Fast bowlers were described as '*speed batteries*' and how Shoaib Akhtar had announced in '*WWF-style*' his intentions against India.



The writer also uses many idioms such as *'on a high'*, *'shooting off his mouth'*, *'Achilles heel'* and *'it boils down to'*, besides military terms like *'tormented'*, *'haunted'*, *'rocked'*, *'rescue'*, *'battle'*, *'destructive'* and *'attack'* in the preview copy.

#### **7. Aussies win with Bichel's double role**

Here *'double role'* refers to the twin role of batting and bowling played by Bichel with his performance during the match. The writer describes how Bichel *'removed the heart'* of England's middle order and uses words and phrases like *'enthraling'* and *'ebbed and flowed'*.

#### **8. Fireworks likely in bullring blockbuster**

The writer describes how India and Sri Lanka have batting line up *'to drool over'* and *'fireworks'* could be expected in the *'high-non shootout'* match. The writer describes Aravinda de Silva as *'old warhorse'* and Chaminda Vaas as *'spearhead'* and Muttiah Muralitharan as *'potential threat'*, who will be *'licking his lips'*. The writer ends with how *'full body armour'* will be required to watch the match.

#### **9. Windies end campaign on high note**

The writer describes the West Indies' win as *'emphatic'* and how it *'made a mockery'* of Kenya. The writer uses words such as *'smashed'*, *'demolished'* and *'miserable'* in the report and goes on to say how Kenya were *'hopelessly unequipped to deal with the ferocity'* of West Indies fast bowlers.

#### **10. Surprise! Aussies are first past the post**

The writer describes how Australia *'blitz Sri Lanka into early submission'* and provided a *'crushing blow to the islanders'*. The writer then compares Sri Lanka's journey to the knockout stage as a *'battle'* which *'took on a climb as steep as the steps leading to the summit of the munificent ancient fortress Sigiriya in the centre of the island'*. The writer used the expression *'battle for survival'* and words such as *'rescue'* and *'terminated'* in the report.

## 6.14. The Indian Express 2011

### 1. *Fired-up India seek revenge against Bangladesh in Cup opener*

The match between India and Bangladesh was described as a ‘*revenge*’ match by the Indian express. Considering the fact that India had lost to Bangladesh during the 2007 World Cup, the paper used words such as ‘*fire-up*’, ‘*favourites*’ to describe the Indian team. The batting line up was described as ‘*talented*’, ‘*asset*’, ‘*explosive*’, while skipper MS Dhoni as someone who ‘*marshalled*’ the team.

The writer describes India as a ‘*title aspirants*’ who has ‘*revenge on their mind*’ and how any ‘*slip-up*’ will ‘*prove costly*’. It goes on to warn the team of an ‘*early exit*’. The writer uses alliterations such as ‘*settle score*’ and ‘*problem of plenty*’. The usage clearly shows the deliberate attempt by the writer to spark emotions in the Indian fans and grab their attention to the story.

### 2. *England vs The Netherlands: Expect a big bang*

The England and Holland match was described by the author as a ‘*mismatched battle*’ but the English cricketers need to make a ‘*flying start*’ to be ready for ‘*bigger battles*’. The writer compares England with ‘*Goliath*’ and Holland with ‘*David*’ and goes on to say that they have to ensure they don’t get ‘*rude shock*’ and the match doesn’t end up where ‘*David manages to down the Goliath*’. The writer also makes hyperbolic expressions, describing how England batsman Kevin Pietersen might prove to be a ‘*worst nightmare*’ for the bowlers.

The writer also uses idioms such as ‘*out of sync*’ and ‘*in their element*’ while describing how England lost to Canada in their first warm-up game but had a better outing against Pakistan. The author uses the term ‘*blew away*’ for describing Stuart Broad’s domination against Pakistan.

### 3. *Bangladesh squeezes past Ireland in World Cup match*

The writer describes Bangladesh’s win over Ireland as ‘*avenging*’ their loss and says their performance was ‘*clinical*’. The writer uses idioms such as ‘*came a cropper*’, ‘*in dire straits*’, ‘*put paid to hopes*’, ‘*reap dividends*’ and ‘*caught in the web*’ in the match report to grab the attention of the readers.

#### **4. *Old foes cross swords once again***

Here ‘*old foes*’ refer to Australia and Sri Lanka. The writer brings reference from the past results of the two teams and uses many emotive words and phrases to appeal to the emotions of the fans of the two sides. The writer describes Aravinda De Silva as ‘*Mad Max*’ (a fictitious Australian character of the dystopian film *Mad Max*) who had brought the ‘*downfall*’ of the Australians. The writer uses expressions such as ‘*genuine needle*’ and ‘*intense animosity*’ to describe the team’s rivalry.

#### **5. *India cross swords with Australia in epic battle***

The preview of the match between India and Australia thrives on hyperbole, jingoism and metaphor as the writer uses words such as ‘*blows*’, ‘*clash*’, ‘*spearhead*’, ‘*scalps*’, ‘*fight*’, ‘*encounter*’, describing the match as a ‘*high-voltage epic battle*’ between ‘*arch-rivals*’ and how it will have ‘*jangled nerves*’ and ‘*pressure-cooker situation*’ as India look to end the ‘*ruthless dominance*’ of the Australians. The writer uses expressions such as Indian fans ‘*baying for*’ Australia ‘*blood*’ and India looking to end ‘*aura of invincibility*’ to create a sensational picture in the reader’s mind.

#### **6. *World Cup blockbuster: It's India vs Pakistan***

‘*Blockbuster*’ is used generally to describe an entertainment show which has great commercial value but the writer uses the word to describe the match between ‘*Arch foes*’ India and Pakistan match. Terms such as ‘*explosive clash*’, ‘*charged-up encounter*’, ‘*mother of all battles*’ and ‘*face off*’ were used by the writer to describe the match between the two teams who were playing for the first time since the 26/11 Mumbai attack. The report talks about the ‘*fascinating rivalry*’ and how India will have to ‘*soak in intensity*’ at the ‘*biggest stage*’.

#### **7. *The Final: Indian tigers chase history, Lankan lions in the way***

The final match between India and Sri Lanka was described by the writer as ‘*high-voltage clash*’ and ‘*nerve-wrecking battle for supremacy*’. There were hyperbolic expressions such as ‘*world beaters*’ and ‘*never-say-die spirit*’ to describe India and how Sri Lanka will look to ‘*spoil the party*’. The teams were termed as ‘*arch-rivals*’ and ‘*Asian giants*’. Words such as ‘*passionate*’, ‘*determined*’, ‘*incredible*’, ‘*formidable*’, ‘*flamboyant*’ and ‘*brilliant*’ were associated with the Indian team.

### **8. Dhoni strikes six to give India dramatic World Cup 2011 win**

The writer used powerful and emotive words such as *'terrific'*, *'enterprisingly'*, *'magnificent'*, *'brilliant'*, *'memorable'* and *'dramatic'* to describe India's performance and their win in the World Cup final against Sri Lanka. Expression such as *'shocked silence'* which described the mood after the loss of Virender Sehwag's wicket uses alliteration, while *'rescue operation'* was used to describe the partnership between Virat Kohli and Gautam Gambhir.

### **9. Dilshan, Tharanga crush England to set up semis date with NZ**

The writer uses the word *'crush'* and *'humiliated'* to describe Sri Lanka's win over England. The writer uses expressions such as *'put up a fight'*, *'recreate the magic'*, *'telling blows'* and *'punished with utter disdain'*, besides using words like *'rocked'*, *'battled'* and *'encounter'* in the copy.

### **10. Pak sink, drop by drop**

Here *'drop by drop'* refers to the misfields by Kamran Akmal. The writer here mocks at Akmal's *'comical'* missed chances describing how he gifted birthday boy Ross Taylor lives and what remained was *'personally bringing a cake to the middle and belt out a solo recital of the birthday song'*. The writer describes Taylor as *'aggressor'* and *'flamboyant'* who in a *'most brutal'* batting display scored *'a painstaking and highly fortuitous'* innings, before he *'sunk on his knees'*. The writer uses phrases such as *'spot of bother'* and words like *'danger man'*, *'shocker'*, *'assault'*, *'pounding'* and *'smash'*. There were alliterations used in *'rapturous roar'* by the writer as well.

## **6.15. The Hindu 2003**

### **1. Shaun Pollock's men seem set to deliver**

The writer describes how '210 players of disparate skill and star status' will have to 'gird their lions' and 'get ready to cross swords and display their mettle' to win the World Cup. There was alliteration usage in 'Cup and cash' and 'helping hand'.

The writer describes how it is the 'hour of carnival' in southern Africa, who came close to lift the Cup in 1992, 1996 and 1999 but were 'brutally unlucky' and uses the

idiom ‘so near yet so far’ to describe it. The writer reminds the readers of the ‘sorry episodes at Sydney, Leeds and Edgbaston’.

The writer describes how South Africa didn’t ‘prove to be a flash in the pan’ after their return to international cricket and ‘took giant strides’ ahead of the ‘rank and file’. The writer also describes West Indies as ‘sleeping giants’, who would ‘fancy its chances’ of winning the Cup for the third time.

## ***2. Lara flaunts his flair and fluency***

The writer uses alliteration in ‘flaunts his flair and fluency’. The writer describes how at the half way stage the match was developing into a ‘fairy-tale finish’ for the West Indies and ‘a nightmare’ for South Africa.

The writer says how The West Indies ‘turning the tables’ on the home team gained momentum after batsman Brian Lara ‘flaunted his flair and fluency’ and played a ‘priceless knock’ as West Indies prospered to post a ‘formidable’ total. The writer describes Lara as the ‘fulcrum’ on which the West Indies cricket had moved for almost a decade.

The writer also describes how ‘A wonderful show of genuine fast and seam bowling’ played havoc on the weak nerves’ of the West Indies openers and how Lara ‘stole the thunder’. The writer describes how Lara showed ‘sheer individual brilliance’ which was ‘never short of aggression, style and class’ to led the West Indies ‘out of troubled waters’ after Pollock ‘drew first blood’ dismissing Wavell Hinds.

## **3. Cracker of a contest expected**

The writer describes how Sri Lanka will ‘seek divine help’ and New Zealand too must have been ‘praying silently’ before their opening group B match. The writer describes how Sri Lankans are the ‘most exciting set of players’ standing out ‘for sheer artistry even in distress’ and how New Zealand whom he describes as ‘The Kiwis’ have always remained ‘dark horses’. The writer describes how New Zealand had reduced a strong Indian batting line-up recently to a ‘bunch of novices’ and it is a team capable of ‘stunning the opposition with its grit’.

There were other words such as ‘explosive’, ‘spearhead’, ‘encounter’, ‘destroy’ and ‘slams’ in the copy, besides expressions such as ‘thrown caution to the winds’, ‘pays

back in the same coin’, ‘batting giants’ and ‘balanced encounter’. There was alliteration usage in ‘A cracker of a contest on a cracker of a pitch’.

#### ***4. Baptism by fire for Namibia***

The writer describes Namibia as ‘minnows’ and ‘rank outsiders’, who must endure a World Cup ‘baptism by fire and fear’ as they play Zimbabwe. There were expressions such as ‘eye of a storm’, besides words like ‘Clash’ and ‘attack’. The writer also uses alliteration in ‘trials and tribulations’.

#### ***5. Jayasuriya takes the game away from the Kiwis***

The writer describes how a ‘fighting century’ from Scott Styris was ‘a token show of defiance amidst ruins around him’.

The writer describes how Kiwi batsmen became ‘victims of nerves’ and there was no one ‘to assume the role of a destroyer’ as the team just ‘collapsed’. The writer says Jayasuriya did not ‘go blazing after the bowlers’ nor Hashan Tillekeratne ‘lose his composure’. The writer describes Jayasuriya as a ‘wily fox’ and Kiwi fielding as ‘electric’. There were words such as ‘perished’, ‘resistance’, ‘Clash’, ‘survived’ and expressions like ‘writing was on the wall’ in the copy.

#### ***6. Tendulkar paves the way for India's celebration***

Here the writer uses pun when he writes ‘India did Pak them off!’ to ignite nationalistic emotions among Indian fans. The writer describes how the ‘war cries’ from fans motivated Sachin Tendulkar and his ‘swashbuckling’ innings earned India an ‘epic’ victory and ‘Eliminated’ Pakistan.

The writer describes Tendulkar as ‘the true icon of Indian cricket’ and how his ‘commitment stood out so glowingly’ and youngsters like Yuvraj Singh and Mohammad Kaif have ‘grown into men’. The writer describes how Indian batsman went ‘on a rampage’ and ‘launched an incredible assault that took the wind out of the Pakistani pace battery.’

There were alliteration used in ‘poetry in perfection’ and ‘big innings on big occasions’. There were other words such as ‘destroy’, ‘stunning’ and ‘slammed’ in the copy.

### ***7. Ganguly, Yuvraj script India's win***

The writer uses hyperboles in the first para itself while describing how 'Kenya lacked the power to tame a tiger as Sourav Ganguly broke his shackles to race to freedom'. The writer goes on to say how Ganguly 'played the perfect gladiator' and Yuvraj attacked to find 'a way out of the dark tunnel'. There were idioms like 'set the tone' and 'on the cards'.

### ***8. Srinath leaves Lankan lions wounded***

The writer describes how India achieved a 'menacing character' in its bid to win the World Cup after their 'clinical annihilation' of Sri Lanka, who were 'devastated' under a sensational piece of fast bowling. The writer describes the bowling of Javagal Srinath and Zaheer Khan as 'lethal blows', which put Sri Lankan innings 'in shambles'.

The writer describes how India 'made a mockery' of Sri Lanka and how Sachin Tendulkar 'exorcised' the 'devil' in the pitch as he 'punished' the bowlers, who 'wilted under calculated assault'.

There was alliteration usage in 'swashbuckling show'. The writer also describes how Sri Lanka's response was 'spineless and appallingly out of character'. There were expressions such as 'in a disarray', 'broke the back of the Sri Lankan resolve' and 'stood in tatters', besides 'foxed', 'slashing', 'slicing' in the story.

## **6.16. The Hindu, 2011**

### ***1. Jayawardene stars in Sri Lanka's crushing win***

The writer describes Canada as 'meek loser' after Sri Lanka, aided by 'quick-fire century' by Mahela Jayawardene beat Canada. There were words like 'Attack', 'departed' and 'rocket' used in the copy.

### ***2. Thumping 10-wicket win for New Zealand***

The writer describes how New Zealand 'exorcised some of its pre-World Cup demons' with a 'thumping' win over Kenya as they chased the target 'without much fuss'. There were words such as 'Damage', 'scythed', 'disaster' and 'scampered'.

### ***3. Afridi bowls Pakistan to a comfortable win***

The writer describes how Pakistan ‘put behind a string of controversies’ and ‘began its campaign to be taken seriously in the cricketing world for its on-field excellence’. The writer says Shoaib Akhtar ‘showed why he is still one of the most feared bowlers’. There were few words used such as ‘slash’, ‘agonising’ and ‘assault’. Also the writer used alliteration in ‘stumped smartly’.

### ***4. de Villiers century sets up South Africa's win***

The writer describes how A.B. de Villiers showed the way with a ‘calculated assault’. The writer also wrote how West Indies batsman Darren Bravo and Devon Smith took ‘the battle to the opposition’. There were few expressions such as ‘sprang a surprise’ and ‘reaped the harvest’.

### ***5. A perfect finish to a pulsating tie***

The writer describes how Strauss's ‘blood and guts’ innings was an ‘ideal riposte to Tendulkar's magical knock’. The writer describes Tendulkar’s innings as ‘master class’ and ‘ethereal’, while how Strauss’ innings was of ‘blood and guts’ as he ‘lived a dream in the cauldron’. The writer used expressions such as ‘Tendulkar's brush strokes painted the arena’ and ‘maestro's legerdemain’. The writer describes how the ‘humdinger hurtled to pulse-pounding conclusion’.

There were few idioms such as ‘lived dangerously’ and ‘go in vain’, besides words such as ‘blitzed’, ‘Blasted’, ‘scalped’, ‘Ruthlessly’, ‘attack’ in the story. The writer uses alliteration in ‘booming blows’.

### ***6. A chance for India to improve***

The writer describes India and Netherlands as ‘heavyweight’ and ‘lightweight’ respectively and how the former will look to put a ‘decisive punch’ in their World Cup Group B match ahead of the ‘death-or-glory knockout phase’.

Expressions such as ‘iron out the chinks’, ‘saved the blushes’ and ‘hold no devils’ were used to increase expressivity. There were words such as ‘scalped’ and ‘dangerous’ used in the copy.



### ***7. South Africa doesn't choke this time***

The writer describes the match between India and South Africa as an 'explosive climax', in which the former didn't did not 'choke' and 'nailed a sensational' win. The writer describes how Tendulkar played like 'assurance of a wizard'.

The writer also uses alliteration such as 'punished the pacemen', 'broad blade', 'pressure to produce' and 'conjured up a century'. There were many military words used such as 'collapsed', 'unleashing', 'departed', 'pierce', 'nemesis', 'succumbed', 'blitzed', besides expressions such as 'had the last laugh', 'came back from the brink', 'back in the hunt', 'wilted under pressure', 'called the shots', 'stepped on the gas'.

### ***8. Pakistan ends Australia's 34-match streak***

The writer describes how 'most unpredictable' Pakistan, kept its 'date with history' by handing out a 'humiliating' defeat to Australia. The writer uses phrases like 'reaped rich dividends', besides words such as 'dangerous' and 'threatened'. The writer uses alliteration when he writes Australia looked 'unsteady, unsure and unprepared' for early losses.

### ***9. India eyes a win in its final league game***

The writer describes how Chepauk stadium is waiting for Tendulkar's 'astonishing' 100th international hundred 'with bated breath'. The writer also writes how West Indies hinges on the 'destructive ability' of Gayle and Kieron Pollard. There were words such as 'explosive', 'attack', 'Firepower', 'dynamic' and 'threat' used in the story, besides idioms like 'back from the brink'.

### ***10. When Mohali roared, Islamabad fell silent***

The writer uses metonymic terms such as Mohali and Islamabad for India and Pakistan respectively in the headline. The writer says 'the semi-final encounter' was 'never a day for the faint-hearted' with the 'frequent swings in the fortunes' of the two teams. The writer describes how when Mohali 'erupted in a roar of elation' an 'eerie silence' would descend on the streets and homes of Pakistan. The writer describes how 'the federal capital's twin city resembled the war days of 1965 and 1971 in the early overs'. There were expressions such as 'going great guns' and 'bringing the curtains down' used in the copy.

### *11. India takes the World Cup in grand style*

The writer describes how India 'enhanced its reputation as a major force in world game' as Gautam Gambhir and Mahendra Singh Dhoni 'gifted India and the great Sachin Tendulkar the World Cup'. The writer describes Gambhir's innings as 'brave, intelligent batting under duress'.