Job Title: Sports Journalist

Job Title: Sports Journalist	Sports journalists work as specialised news reporters who focus on covering sporting events and other sports-related topics. This 'Careers of the Fortnight' will also focus on how languages can help you to take this role outside of your home country. Why become a Sports Journalist? Watch the video in this link https://youtu.be/7BCG4VVTCcM https://youtu.be/5mhDSqanCl4 (Sports Journalism and language skills) https://youtu.be/2uHuoWHbGNE (Gary Lineker speaking Spanish) Want to learn more? Guillem Balagué - Wikipedia Read about Guillem Balague. He is Spanish. He works as both a journalist in Spain (and because of his English language skills also works in the UK). You may have heard him on Radio 5. How to become a sports journalist (Skills and definition) | Indeed.com UK
Entry requirements:	**University** You can take a degree course as a first step towards this career. Relevant subjects include: • English • Journalism • Media and Communications Some courses are accredited by the National Council for the Training of Journalists. Graduates of other subjects can do a postgraduate course in journalism, lasting 1 to 2 years. ****For international sports journalism, this would be linked to the completion of a languages degree before transferring to a postgraduate journalism course**** **Entry requirements** You'll usually need: • 3 A levels, or equivalent, for a degree • A degree in any subject for a postgraduate course **College** You could do a college course, which would teach you some of the skills and knowledge you need to get a trainee journalist position or to study at a higher level. Courses include: • journalism • multimedia journalism • creative digital media • creative writing • English

	Some colleges offer the Level 3 Certificate in Foundation Journalism and courses in shorthand, accredited by the National Council for the Training of Journalists (NCTJ). **Entry requirements** Entry requirements for these courses vary. **Apprenticeship** You could apply for a place on an apprenticeship with a media organisation, such as: • Journalist Level 5 Higher Apprenticeship • Senior Journalist Level 7 Professional Apprenticeship These usually take between 1 and 2 years to complete. **Entry requirements** Employers will set their own entry requirements. **Work** You could start as an office assistant or trainee reporter on a local or regional newspaper, or junior feature writer for a magazine. You'll need a minimum of five GCSE grades 9 to 4 including English, or equivalent qualifications. Many recruits have A levels or a degree. **Volunteering** There is strong competition for jobs, and you'll need to show you've got writing experience. You'll find it useful to keep examples of your published work, especially if these include your name as the author. To build up your writing experience you can: • volunteer for student and community newspapers, magazines and newsletters • write your own blog and create an online presence on social media • submit articles and reviews to local papers and websites • contact magazines about opportunities for work shadowing, internships and work experience **Other Routes** You can study for a number of professional qualifications in journalism at different levels, accredited by the National Council for the Training of Journalists (NCTJ). These can be done online, part-time or through fast-track training. The NCTJ also offer online and short courses like: • digital skills • media law • feature writing • freelancing You may be able to get help with funding for certain NCTJ courses through the Journalism Diversity Fund.
Skills required:	You'll need: • knowledge of English language • **knowledge of another language (i.e. French or Spanish) to work on reporting on Sporting Events in other countries** • knowledge of media production and communication • to be thorough and pay attention to detail • the ability to accept criticism and work well under pressure

	• excellent written communication skills • excellent verbal communication skills • thinking and reasoning skills • persistence and determination • to be able to use a computer and the main software packages competently
What you'll do:	**What does a sports journalist do?** A sports journalist writes and reports on various news and feature stories that focus on different sports and sporting events. They might specialise in a specific sport, such as football or rugby, or work as a generalist who covers all sporting events. Some of the main responsibilities of sports journalists include: • attending various sporting events to provide coverage in real-time or as recorded reporting • cultivating a network of industry and sports contacts to use as sources for stories • performing fact-checking and verification of stories and sources to ensure accuracy • creating content across different media formats, including written stories, radio, online and television • working within deadlines to ensure stories are ready for print or release • presenting unbiased views through their stories to provide a comprehensive view of the event • focusing on objectivity and removing as much bias from reporting as possible • working within a team of editors, photographers, videographers and sub-editors to create professionally crafted content across various media
What you'll earn:	• Starter – £24,000 • Experienced - £45,000 ***Average Salary - £30,000*** *These figures are a guide* **Those who work for large organisations such as the BBC or Sky can earn more.**
Working hours, patterns and environment:	You would work 37 to 42 hours per week (including evenings and weekends) You could work in an office, visit sites or from home. Your working environment may be emotionally demanding and you'll travel often.
Career path and progression:	With experience, you could: Become a chief sports reporter, features writer or sports editor at a newspaper, magazine or press agency. You could also work freelance. Sports journalism also have opportunities within TV and Radio.