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Figures of speech in the discourse of British tabloids

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**Bachelor Paper** 

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| <u>Declaration</u> I declare that I have worked on the thesis "Figures of speech in the discourse of British tabloids" independently, using only the primary and secondary sources listed in the bibliography. |        |  |
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#### **Annotation**

The aim of this bachelor paper is to carry out a research that analyses the occurrence of figures of speech in the discourse of British tabloid press. The hypothesis based on the theoretical research form the ground for this research. The data required for the research are collected from many articles found in 4 different British tabloids. Five different types of figures of speech were chosen for the research and 100 different samples of them are collected and used for the analyses. The style of the language of newspaper is taken into account and explained throughout the work. After theoretical explanation of the problem, the practical part follows. In this part data obtained from the research through the means of quantitative analysis are introduced qualitatively.

#### **Abstrakt**

Cílem této bakalářské práce je provést výzkum zaměřený na výskyt básnických trop v diskursu novinových článků britského bulvárního tisku. Tento výzkum je založen na hypotéze vycházející z teoretického průzkumu dané oblasti. Konkrétní data nutná pro analýzu jsou získána z mnoha článků britského bulvárního tisku. V analýze se pracuje s pěti různými druhy básnických trop a nalezeno bylo celkem 100 různých příkladů, které byly následně použity pro analýzu. Styl jazyka, užitý v novinových článcích, je v průběhu práce brán v potaz a vysvětlen. Po teoretickém zkoumání problému následuje praktická část. V této části jsou zpracována data, získaná kvantitativní analýzou, kvalitativně interpretována.

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## Introduction

Language is an indivisible part of every culture. Both written and spoken parts are important. This bachelor paper focuses mainly on the written part of the discourse. The main aim is to carry out a research that analyzes figures of speech in the discourse of British tabloids.

Language can be studied from many different points of view. Given the space limitation of this work this research focuses mainly on the semantic perspective. The analysis itself will be based on the characteristics of several figures of speech. In this paper, the chosen figures are metaphor, simile, metonymy, hyperbole and litotes. This research studies the occurrence of each in the discourse of British tabloids.

The research is based on the presumption that newspaper's language has different characteristics needed for occurrence of figurative language. As it will be explained later in this work, four different tabloids were used in order to best suit this research topic. These include: The Sun, The Daily Mail, The Mirror and The Daily Star. All tabloids were chosen from the internet sources and the list of all articles is given in Appendix Three.

This thesis is divided into two main parts; theoretical and practical. In the theoretical part there are five main chapters. The first chapter focuses on the methodology of the research and primary sources used. The second chapter describes the language of newspapers with special attention given to the language of tabloids. The third chapter focuses on figurative language itself. It explains the characteristics and states the importance for the newspapers articles. In the fourth chapter, figures of speech are described. For each figure given, there is a semantic explanation of the form and function, accompanied by an illustration of importance. In the last chapter the hypothesis is stated and provides an example of final theoretical explanation.

The practical part of this work focuses on the research findings and states the obtained data which has been interpreted both quantitative and qualitative. For each figure examples in 100 figures of speech were found among 67 different articles. In the second chapter the occurrence of each figure is explained and illustrated about the given examples. The analysis specifically focuses on the semantic perspective and the importance of it in the discourse of British tabloids. Finally, in the conclusion, there is a

summary of all data obtained during the whole work. The table of the research can be found in Appendix One. The list of figures of speech discovered during the research is located in Appendix Two. Finally, the list of all articles read appears in Appendix Three.

## 1. Theoretical Part

## 1.1. Methodology and Primary sources

This bachelor paper focuses on the occurrence of the figures of speech in the discourse of British tabloids. The research examples from the primary sources were collected and analyzed from the semantic point of view.

Four different British tabloids were used in this research namely *The Daily Mail, The Mirror, The Daily Star* and *The Sun*. In addition, five different types of figures of speech were chosen. Those types are metaphor, simile, metonymy, hyperbole and litotes. During the research overall 100 examples of those figures of speech were found in the discourse and analyzed.

Before this work can continue to explain the research, it is necessary to state that this research does not solely rely on newspaper headlines. Though they are important, headlines are their own unique type of text. They have a range of functions that specifically dictate the shape, content and structure. The main purpose of headlines is to summarize the story with a brief highlight that attracts the readers buying the newspaper. This must be done so with a minimum amount of words. Headlines use creative language; for example ambiguity, alliteration and homophones or words that are short, attention-getting and effective in order to lure the reader in. Those types of words are rarely found inside the article. (Reah, 2002: 13-15) That is why headlines are not included in this type of research which focuses only on figurative language used within the article itself.

While searching tabloids, the main data about figures of speech are given. It will be also explained how to recognize each of them and why they are used in the discourse. It will be noted how many times each figure occurs in the discourse of British tabloids. The number of the occurrences will then be compared and analyzed. At the end, the research should show which kind of figures of speech are most-often used at the basis for the theoretical background and why. Prior to beginning the research, it is necessary to explain why tabloids are a perfect source of figurative language.

According to the function of newspaper reporting, which is to inform people, it is obvious that this reporting needs to be as much interesting as possible. It is commonly

known that readers prefer unpredictable and interesting reading as opposed to dry, boring, and topics that do not pertain to their interests. When using figurative language, writers change normal sentences into ones that awaken readers' imagination and are more vivid. It is very probable that figurative language is important in any type of newspaper; however tabloids are more suitable for our research. Overall, newspapers prefer a more serious and formal tone, and therefore it is more difficult to find figurative language. Figurative language plays with the words in order to make the story more interesting. In broadsheets, the actual message is more important than the interest of the reader. Therefore, the tabloids were chosen because they present articles based on individual interests chosen by the reader. In the following sections, the language of newspapers and the figurative language will be discussed even more.

## 1.2. Language of Newspapers

Before the focus of this work can be put mainly on figures of speech, the language of newspaper needs to be explained. According to Danuta Reah in *The Language of Newspapers*, who took the classification from Tunstall (1996), newspapers can be divided into three groups: the broadsheet newspapers, such as the Guardian or the Independent, the middle-range tabloids; the Express and the Daily Mail and the tabloids, such as the Sun or the Mirror. (Reah, Tunstall 2002: 2) Each of these three groups are designed for a different type of audience. Not only by the style of writing, but also by the content of articles. While broadsheets are seen as the serious and more reliable type of newspapers which focus on the political issues; tabloids tend to be more entertaining and less reliable, bringing the gossips and news from celebrities' lives.

Although tabloids and broadsheets differ in many aspects, in general, the language of newspapers can be called the journalese. Nevertheless, some linguists see this term as a pejorative criticism of a way of writing that people feel is in some way typical of press. However, this paper will try to define this type of English more precisely. Each newspaper is very eclectic from the stylistic point of view. In newspapers, we find not only news-items, but also comments, analysis, advertising and entertainment. Therefore, it seems to be impossible to define the language of newspaper as one term. (Crystal and Davy, 1969: 173) Consequently, Crystal says that the language in the press has its specific features shaped by the nature of the medium. The

communication and presentation of news is dominant and the newspapers maintain a certain image. The need for image exists because the press has to be sold and it will sell well only if the potential reader wants to buy it. (Crystal, 2002: 380) Another theory says that the language is often used in newspapers to form ideas and beliefs. Each journalist collects facts, reports them objectively, and then the newspapers present them fairly, without bias. The language of newspapers is designed to be unambiguous, undistorted and agreeable to all readers. (Fowler, 1991: 1) But what needs to be stated as well, is the fact that the language of newspapers needs to be interesting for readers. This is possible to do not only by the storyline, but also the style we use. In this work, we aim at figurative language, which is the method of writing to catch the reader's attention.

As it was previously stated, this section will focus on the language of tabloids, and not that of the newspaper in general. Tabloids are less formal and serious then broadsheets. For this reason, the language differs greatly. To describe the most fundamental differences between the broadsheets and the tabloids, Crystal and Davy in *Investigating English Style* introduce the main differences. For example, starting with the graphetic and graphological level, tabloids use a great variety of sizes, shapes or even colors of letters in their text. In tabloids, the headlines used are larger in size, fonts differ, and most often pictures can be found on the pages. Another difference is on the lexical and semantic level. In tabloids, writers use a plethora of vocabulary such as phrasal verbs or nonce-words, which are invented by the writers in order to make the article original. The last difference that Crystal and Davy highlight in their *Investigating English Style* is in the grammatical level. According to the research, broadsheets are closer to the academic style of writing, whereas tabloids are usually more informal. (Crystal and Davy, 1969: 173-191)

There may be no clear profile of a typical reader, however the papers themselves usually write as though such a person exists. In fact, there is always a group of people, who share belief and values and their defining features is the newspapers that they read. Readers who buy The Sun expect more gossips and entertainment, while "the Guardian readers" want stories that are serious and factual. This not only identifies and separates people, but also assists writers to choose their stylistic and lexical method of writing in order to make their readers feel satisfied with what they have just read. (Reah, 2002:

35-40) The writer must be aware of what readers desire to read and include those topics into the newspaper. In addition, it is imperative for the writer to make a judgment about what should be reported and exactly how much should be written about the topic, and lastly, how it should be written. (Crystal, 2002: 380)

The main function and principle of the newspapers is to inform the readers about recent events that have happened anywhere in the world. Readers of the newspapers naturally assume that the front page should consist of truthful reports of worldly events. At a certain level, this is true, the real events occur and are reported, however, they all go through a selection. Not all are really newsworthy, but only become news when selected for news reports. The greater number of events in fact is not reported, therefore only providing a partial view of the world. Several newspapers depend on their delivery of a story, and therefore separate some from others. For example, a particular kind of news is expected from the Guardian, as opposed to the Sun and vice versa. (Fowler, 1991: 11) This is also selected according to the type of reader the newspapers strives to target.

## 1.3. Figurative Language

Now this thesis will aim to the explanation of figurative language. Prior to particular figures of speech, the question of what is figurative language and why is it used needs to be answered. As we learned in the previous section, the language of newspapers needs to be interesting for the readers so that they read it until the end of the text. Figurative language is one method of promoting this to happen. It might be surprising for someone that figurative language is, in fact, already used in everyday speech. However it is unrecognizable. Figure of speech is the use of word in a transferred way. It loses its common, literal meaning and gains another one. (Corbett, 1983:94) Figurative language makes the text more dramatic and that is exactly what newspapers seek. Nevertheless when using figurative language, writers need to take precaution. Figures of speech always enliven the text and are more attractive for readers, however, using too many of them can cause confusion. Consequently, writers must sensitize themselves to language so that they can avoid both trite and mixed figures of speech (Corbett, 1983: 96 and 97)

Before using the figurative language, writers need to be aware of its forms and functions. The term figure refers to the general meaning to any device or pattern of language in which the original meaning is changed. There are two subcategories; Figure of words and figure of thoughts. Figure of words contains trope and scheme. Tropes express the use of a word to mean something other than its original meaning, such as a metaphor. Scheme is a figure in which words that preserve their literal meaning, but are rearranged, such as anastrophe. Figure of thought is a large-scale trope or scheme, for example allegory. (Lanham, 1969:116) For purpose of this work, we will focus mainly on figure of words – specifically then metaphor, metonymy, hyperbole and litotes and also on simile. (1.4.Figures of speech)

To illustrate the importance of the figurative language, some examples of sentences with and without the figures of speech can be illustrated. For example, "He married a lemon." the word lemon is obviously a figure of speech. It cannot be expected that someone actually married a piece of fruit. In place of lemon, one could replace the word with "acid and bitter women", and therefore the sentence would then be written as: "He married an acid and bitter woman." The second sentence is not as interesting as the first and does not ask readers to use imagination. Another example could be, "I've been working my fingers to the bone." This is a very imaginative way of saying that a person has been really busy. The phrase attempts to bring the visualization that a person has worked so diligently that his or her fingers are merely gone. If the sentence simply stated, "I've been working very hard." it would not be that powerful and readers would not be required to use their imagination, and therefore would be uninteresting to the reader.

## 1.4. Figures of speech

In the next section, each of five figures of speech, which were chosen for this research, will be explained closely. In this theoretical part, mainly forms and usage of each figure will be introduced. The question of why are these figures so important in the discourse of British tabloids, will be answered. Furthermore in the practical part, different examples of each figure will be provided and explained. Before looking closely to each figure, it is necessary to briefly define several figures of speech. As was previously mentioned, figurative language uses words which lose their ordinary

meaning and gain a new one. Figures of speech help authors to create an appealing and attractive text. There are many types of figures of speech, which may transfer words from one meaning to another, however, for this research the focus will be on the metaphor, simile, metonymy, hyperbole and litotes.

#### 1.4.1. Metaphor

The first term this chapter concentrates on is metaphor. A metaphor is closely connected to simile, which will be discussed later. It is, in fact, its shorter form. Unlike the simile, a metaphor does not use the words "like" and "as". It suggests a comparison between two things of different nature that have something in common. (Corbett, 1983: 97) Metaphors are used in every day speech. Every time the description of someone or something is said in detail, without typical usage of words, the metaphor is used. Instead of saying, "He has blue eyes," it can be said, "His eyes remind me of summer sky." This is however quite a poetic example. As it will be shown later, in the practical part of this work, a metaphor is not only central to poetry, but also embraces indeed a very large proportion of ordinary language usage. (Levinson, 1983:147) A typical dictionary definition of metaphor is; "The use of word or phrase to mean something different to the literal meaning (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary cited in Cruse, 2000: 202)

There are, in fact, three aspects of metaphor: *the vehicle*; which is the metaphorical item, *the tenor*; the metaphorical meaning of the vehicle and finally, *the ground*; the basis for the metaphorical extension. Cruse took this approach from I.A. Richards (1965). To illustrate this, an example can be chosen: "*The foot of the mountain*" in which *foot* is the vehicle, the tenor is something like "lower portion", that is the intended meaning and the ground is the parallel between the position of the foot relative to the human body and the lower parts of a mountain relative to the rest (Cruse, 2000: 202).

Lakoff has a similar approach. Metaphors are essential components of human's cognition. They involve a) a source domain, concrete or familiar; b) a target domain, abstract or less well structured and c) a set of mapping relations. For example: "*The argument is war*" uses notions drawn from the domain of war, such as the winning and losing, to express what happens during an argument. (Cruse, 2000: 203)

A metaphor, as was already mentioned, is very often used in poetic language. It might even be said that it is used mostly in figures of speech that are covered in this research. Poets use metaphor because it helps them to escape from an ordinary life and mundane stories into the world of dreams and even supernatural. For similar reasons a metaphor is used in the discourse of British tabloids. As stated before, the language of newspapers needs to be as captivating as possible. Usually, everyday life is not that interesting and journalists need to make the article readable. Metaphors help them to change a basic text to text which is unpredictable and thus interesting.

However, writers need to be aware of the rules for using metaphors as well as all figures of speech. It is always beneficial to use figurative language, but when used too often, the text no longer makes sense. The term for misuse of a metaphor is "mixed metaphor." This means the writer failed to keep a consistent image in mind. All metaphors are based on the perceived likeness between things that exist in different orders of being. For instance between mail and an avalanche ("The mail buried the staff under an avalanche of complaints"). Whenever any detail is incompatible with one of the terms of the analogy, the metaphor is said to be mixed. (Corbett, 1987: 78) To illustrate a mixed metaphor this example can be used; "Milking the temp workers for all they were worth, the manager barked orders at them" the first metaphor here suggests a picture of cows (milking the temp workers) while the other dogs (barked orders). That is one animal too many to use in one sentence. Confusion arises between the usage of two different species. When uncertainty in metaphors occurs, a mixed metaphor transpires. An additional issue with metaphors is that they often become overused - dead metaphors. This happens almost inevitably when metaphors are used so often that they become almost tiresome to our language. Speakers become so accustomed to the overuse that eventually we do not acknowledge them. An example could be word "fox" which refers to animal and in metaphorical way to a cunning person. (Leech, 1974: 227)

All authors need to know about those possible mistakes to avoid them and then use metaphors in order to create an interesting article. Changing the wording from a literal meaning to one that is similar but not properly applicable is a simple technique to catch the readers' attention. (Lanham, 1969: 66) To illustrate how important metaphors might be another example can be provided. Such as a sentence, "Her voice was music to

an ear." This is a sentence which works with an imagination. If the sentence was written without a metaphor, it could sound similar such as, "Her voice was really beautiful." This sentence is not powerful thus provoking less imagination for the reader to use. More examples will be introduced in the practical component (2.Practical Part – 2.1.Metaphor)

#### 1.4.2. Simile

The next term is simile. We use a simile when we liken one thing to another with the usage of "like" or "as". (Lanham, 1969: 93) As it was already said in the previous section(1.4.1. Metaphor), simile is very much like metaphor. They both compare two unlike things, however a metaphor does not use words "like" and "as". A simile can at times be confused with metonymy, which will be explained in the following part of this work(1.4.3. Metonymy). To focus on the simile itself, it is necessary to say that people use similes every day, as well as metaphors. Every time they compare something or describe someone in more powerful manner, the terms "like" or "as" are used.

As well as metaphor, a simile consists of vehicle and tenor too. Vehicle is the item that is linked to another object, and tenor conveys the metaphorical meaning of the vehicle. To illustrate this on an example; "She swims like a fish". In this sentence "she swims" is the vehicle and "like fish" is the tenor which bears the meaning of a fast and excellent swimmer.

There are many types of similes. According to the internet source Robert A. Harris, a simile can compare a noun to a noun, which is usually introduced by the word "like". For example, "The soul in the body is like a bird in a cage". In this sentence the noun "soul" is associated with a noun "bird". Another type of comparison is a verb or phrase compared to noun, which is introduced by "as". To illustrate, "They remained constantly attentive to their goal, as a sunflower always turns and stays focused on the sun." In this example, "they remained constantly attentive" is the vehicle compared to a sunflower. Very often a simile can be expressed just by a word or two, such as, "He is as big as house," expressing the appearance of a person. Sometimes a simile word can be used as an adjective, which can be seen in the next example; "This gear has a flower-like symmetry to it.", which describes what the gear looks like. Similes can often be negative, asserting that two things are unlike in one or more aspects, such as in: "Her

eyes are nothing like the sun." In this example, the message is very understandable. The last example this paper will touch upon is the usage of comparison, to create a simile. In this case, a simile is introduced by "than". For instance, "But this truth is more obvious than the sun." (Harris, 2009: Simile) Additional similes will be described later in the work (2.Practical Part – 2.2. Simile)

A simile is very often used in the poetic language, as well as metaphor. It is one of the main reasons why it can be also found in the discourse of British tabloids. As was already mentioned, newspapers language needs to be interesting and vivid. A simile helps to create this. In everyday life, a simile is used very often, but in professional discourse, writers need to be aware of mistakes that can happen when using similes. A common mistake is that the simile may not be clear to the reader, such as; "Fortune is like glass." It is not explained in what way fortune and glass similar to each other. To avoid this, writers need to explain further: "Fortune is like glass--the brighter the glitter, the more easily broken." Now, it is clear what is meant by this simile. (Harris, 2009: Simile) A simile can also be problematic when it becomes a cliché. Such as in the examples: "He is busy as a bee." Or "He is as dumb as post."

To illustrate the importance of a simile in the discourse of British tabloids the sentence: "He wandered lonely as a cloud." can be used as an example. The simile is used to express the loneliness of the person. It wants to awake readers' imagination, and produce the picture of a clear sky with just one cloud floating in it. If this sentence was used without a simile: "He walked alone." for example, it would not be as engaging.

#### **1.4.3. Metonymy**

The third term discussed in this work is metonymy. Metonymy can be sometimes confused with metaphor, but it actually differs greatly. A succinct statement of the difference between the two tropes was suggested by Jakobson and Halle (1956). Who said that metaphor was based on resemblance, whereas metonymy was based on "contiguity", which we can gloss without too much distortion as "association." (Jakobson, R. and Halle, M. cited in Cruse, 2000: 211)

A more thorough explanation is that while a metaphor works with two domains, in the simplest cases, metonymy relies on an actual association between two components within a single domain. For example this sentence commonly used in "café

language"; "The ham sandwich wants his coffee now." Here it is a metonymy, because it can be assumed that the person who wants his coffee does not actually look like a ham sandwich. Thus he is not likened to one, and therefore it is not a metaphor. What is understood by this sentence is that the man, who wants his coffee, ordered a ham sandwich before so it is easier for the waitress to recognize who wants what. (Cruse, 2000: 211) In fact, metonymy uses substitution of cause for effect or effect for cause. Proper name for one of its qualities and vice versa.(Lanham, 69: 130)

For further explanation, metonymy has primarily a referential function, that is, it allows us to use one entity to stand for another. But metonymy is not merely a referential device. It also serves the function of providing understanding. (Lakoff and Johnson, 2002: 50) It involves transportation between associated concepts and this usually results in transfer between the part and the whole. Those concepts all create different patterns in which metonymy can be used. For example, Cruse explained the most current in Meaning in language; First patter uses container for contained, such as Room 44 wants a bottle of champagne or the example used above, with the ham sandwich. In both the quality stated is a previous action; people who occupy room 44 or man who ordered a ham sandwich. Both pertain to whom is present in the conversation. The second pattern uses the possessor for the possessed; "Where are you parked?" meaning in fact where your possession (the car) is located. The third pattern uses represented entity for representative, such as "England won the World Cup in 1966." These cases state that a sport team which represents England won, not that all the people of England won. Next, two patterns used in either part of the whole or whole for part, as in: "I noticed several new faces tonight" and "Do you need to use the bathroom?" In the first sentence, the part face stands for people, in the second the whole bathroom stands actually for a toilet. And the last pattern, Cruse introduces, uses a place for institution as in, "The White House denies the allegation," where The White House represents the president of The United States of America. (Cruse, 2000: 212) Those are all patterns Cruse works with, however in the next paragraph other patterns will be introduced.

Other types of patterns are discussed in book *Metaphors We Live By*, written by Lakoff and Johnson. Main focal points include; product for producer, object used for user, controller for controlled, institution for people responsible or the place for an

event. To start with an explanation of the first; when the name of product is used for the producer, it means using the name of the famous person or well-known company for all the products this person or this company sells or offers. When object is used for the user, it means that an object takes place of a person who uses that object very often. For example bus driver can be substitute by bus. The next pattern is controller for controlled. This means when a name of some subject is used to express the whole object. Such as in the example of "Napoleon lost at Waterloo" Napoleon, the controller, stands for the whole army, the controlled. Another pattern, institution for people responsible is quite similar as the previously mentioned places for institutions. In this case, the name of the institution is used to substitute for the people who work there or decide something in its name. The final pattern Lakoff and Johnson use is the pattern in which event is used for naming the place. These cases are especially used when talking about some historical events such as battles or anniversaries. (Lakoff and Johnson, 2002: 50-53) Examples for all of these patterns will be given in the practical part of this work (3.Practical part – 3.3.Metonymy)

Metonymy is used, as well as other figures of speech, to make the text more interesting and also to extend the meaning. There are many cases where metonymic strategy of reference is preferred to a direct mode of reference. This section discusses the reasons. The biggest motivator for using metonymy is the economic factor. This means that by using metonymy the expression is shorter, faster and more effective. "Room 44 wants a bottle of champagne." is shorter thus faster to produce than a sentence without metonymy, "The guest in room 44 wants a bottle of champagne." There are also other reasons, such as the ease of access to referent, meaning it is easier for people to understand the sentence if using metonymy than without. But those motives are hard to be explained in an example and so this paper does not work with them. It is necessary to say that a lot of work needs to be done before it can be claimed that metonymy was well understood. (Cruse, 2000: 214) In the discourse of British tabloids metonymy is especially used for the reason of economic safe. Texts in articles need to be fast and effective and metonymy provides both.

#### 1.4.4. Hyperbole

The fourth term this paper focuses on is hyperbole or otherwise called overstatement. That is, in other words, exaggerated or extravagant term used for emphasis. (Lanham, 1969: 56) Overstatement is very often used for complaints or criticism, such as the example, "I have been waiting here for ages". In this case, the person wants to express the disappointment because he or she has been waiting for a long time. Of course it cannot be taken literally so "for ages" doesn't mean four or five years, but maybe an hour or two.

In many cases, justification for hyperbole is also politeness, as in the example "That was a delicious meal!" which is used for praising others. Almost all other examples make reference to an absurdly extreme position on a scale; "Her eyes nearly popped out of her head" refers to the highest conceivable point on a scale of surprise, or in other cases anger. (Leech, 1983:146) In the discourse of British tabloids, hyperbole is used for the same reason as other figures of speech; to make the article more attractive for readers and to awaken their imagination. It is commonly known that people enjoy articles which are unpredictable, and hence interesting, to those which are predictable and boring. (Leech, 1983:146)

A hyperbole can very often be confused with a simile or metaphor because it sometimes compares two things that are unlikely to be compared. The difference is that hyperbole is always exaggerating. For example if this sentence is used: "His feet were as big as a barge." we can understand it as a simile, because it compares the size of the feet to the barge. However, if the barge is imagined in this case it is obvious that the statement is exaggerated, because there is no such thing as feet of this size. A hyperbole is a figure of speech used when authors want their text to be effective, either in dramatic or a comedic way.

To illustrate the importance of a hyperbole, the sentence previously mentioned can be used. When reading the statement, "Her eyes nearly popped out of her head." readers might imagine a cartoon picture of a person with eyes coming out of the face. But if the author uses the sentence without hyperbole, it might be, "She was really surprised." which does not bring any pictures at all thus it does not provide readers with the right image.

#### **1.4.5.** Litotes

Litotes are closely connected with previously explained hyperbole. In addition to a hyperbole, litotes too expresses politeness and criticism. By saying "I wasn't over impressed by her speech." we want to criticize someone without actually stating that he or she was bad. Lanham in his A Handlist of Rhetorical Terms explains that litotes use the denial of the contrary. It can be explained as opposite of amplification or an understatement that intensifies. (Lanham, 1969:63) As in an example of a double negative; "It is not impossible," the real information states that, in fact, it is possible. It uses the figure of speech because it is more pleasant for the eye of a reader and thus it grabs the attention since the reader needs to somehow "translate" it into the reality. Other ways to express litotes is to state something which is obvious at first, but has the hidden message behind it. Such as in the case "I wasn't born yesterday." one would normally understand that the person saying this means he or she was born some other day than yesterday, because that is what the statement informs us about. However, this litotes states that the person is not a newborn and knows the world, so he or she is not naive.

From the semantic point of view litotes can be seen as a particular form of understatement that denies the opposite. It depends on the tone and context of the usage that the litotes can either retain the effect of understatement or become an intensifying expression. (Harris, 2009: Litotes) Understatement is also closely related to irony especially when it intentionally represents something to be less than it, in fact, is. Litotes can especially be found in the English speaking countries, such as British humor.

And finally, to illustrate this importance, the original sentence is used, as in previous examples. For the purpose of newspaper language, we can choose a sentence which could be a part of a movie review. "It was not such bad acting." Of course the readers understand the message, but it is better to use litotes, than to be really harsh and say, "The acting was horrible." This sentence criticizes the acting of whom the author is writing about, who in fact is a possible reader as well. If criticized too much, then it is quite possible that the paper will not be bought a second time.

## 1.5. Hypothesis

The term figure of speech in its most general meaning refers to any device or pattern of language in which meaning is changed or enhanced. It is a language in which the ordinary, literal meaning is transferred to non-literal thus more interesting one. (Corbett, 1983:94) There are many figures of speech which can be used in every day conversation, radio or TV talk or in written text such as the newspapers. For purpose of this bachelor work the written discourse was chosen to be the most suitable source. From all types of figures of speech, five were chosen for the research. Those five are simile, metaphor, metonymy, hyperbole and litotes. All those can be found in the discourse of British tabloids especially with respect to their main function is to extend the meaning and make the text more interesting thus readable.

To start with simile, it suggests one thing to be likened to another by the use of "like", "as" and others. (Lanham, 1969: 93) It is easier for readers to understand the situation if it is likened to situation they can be all familiar with. That is exactly what a simile does. In everyday speech, people use similes very often without even realizing it, so it should occur quite often in the discourse of British tabloids. However, it will probably be less common than a metaphor. A metaphor indicates a comparison between two things of different nature that nevertheless have something in common. (Corbett, 1983: 97) As it is also said a metaphor is a shorter form of simile (Lanham, 1969: 66) and that is the main reason why both of them are used very often. But while in everyday speech people prefer a simile to a metaphor, in written text a metaphor is more likely to be preferred because it is a pleasure to read a text without constantly repeating "like" and "as". The next term, metonymy, should be found very often as well. Metonymy uses substitution of cause for effect or effect for cause; a proper name for one of its qualities and vice versa. (Lanham, 1969: 130) The usage of metonymy makes it easier for the writers to write an article without constantly repeating the whole statement when it can be substituted by, for example, a proper name. Especially in the sports section, instead of saying "the football team representing England won the World Cup" metonymy helps to reduce it just into "England won the World Cup." which is more economic and useful. The last two terms are quite different. Hyperbole which is exaggerated or extravagant terms used for emphasis (Lanham, 1969: 56) will be used quite often too, however it will be more difficult to find. Meaning that sometimes it will

be challenging to realize the point until which the statement is simply expressing the situation and from which point it has already become an overstatement. However, once the article is understood properly, hyperbole should be quite frequent. The last term, litotes, will be the hardest to find. Litotes or otherwise called an understatement and are either the opposite of amplification or denial of the contrary. (Lanham, 1969: 63) In the discourse it might be hard to find litotes especially because one form is the usage of double negative, which may be sometimes too confusing for readers to understand the real meaning. On the contrary, litotes can be used in movie reviews or similar articles, because instead of saying the sometimes hard truth, writers tend to express it politely and therefore an understatement can be used.

Figures of speech help us to express our opinion in more exciting and appealing way. (Corbett, 1983: 94) That is the reason why it should be easy to find most of them in the discourse of British tabloids. The main interest of journalists is to get readers' attention thus to make articles as interesting as possible not only by the content of the article, but also by the used language. Figurative language helps to create this.

## 2. Practical Part

The practical section of this bachelor work will focus on analyzing the discourse of British tabloids. The main focus of this work was on the figurative language and its usage in the discourse from the theoretical point of view and now will be explained in the practical part. This chapter will concentrate on how often each figure occurs in the discourse and will state why. The results are presented in the same order as the information given in the theoretical part above. A separate section is provided for each figure. The overall summary of the research is presented at the end of this chapter. Further details about research are shown later in this paper. The table containing the numbers is in Appendix one, all examples of figures of speech, found during the research, are in Appendix two and links to all articles, that were read during the research, are in Appendix three.

#### 2.1. Metaphor

The first term to be analyzed is metaphor. From all hundred terms, which were found during the research, 28 were metaphors. Thus after metonymy, a metaphor is the second most frequently used part of speech in the discourse of British tabloids.

At first the typical example of metaphor is shown in Excerpt 9:

Jacko's mum Katherine branded him a "monster" and dad Joe said the charge was "no more than a slap on the wrist". (Excerpt 9, Mirror text3)

In the practical part the concept of tenor and vehicle was introduced. It is necessary to demonstrate the usage through printed text. In this metaphor, the vehicle is "the charge" and tenor is "no more than a slap on the wrist." The tenor in this case evokes in readers the punishment suitable for small children. A slap on the wrist is used by parents to show that children have done something wrong, but it is not so hard to actually harm them. In this example, it conveys the same meaning, expressing that the charge is too soft and not suitable for the crime which was committed. It expresses that this is not what the parents of Jacko would expect. In this example, it can be also shown how closely a metaphor is connected to a simile, because this excerpt could be changed into a simile by saying "the charge was like a slap on the wrist."

As was mentioned in the theoretical part, all figures of speech are part of everyday life. This can be illustrated on metaphor in Excerpts 12 and 13:

One tribute read: 'To a precious little 'angel'. May your little soul be at peace. Sleep tight xxx' (Excerpt 12, Daily Mail text25)

Most of the cards were left anonymously. Another tribute said: 'Rest in peace sweet angel. Heaven is a richer place.' (Excerpt 13, Daily Mail text25)

These examples were taken from messages written by ordinary people for a young girl who has just been killed. People, feeling sorry for the deceased girl, left those notes for her parents on pieces of paper. Journalists then copied it, providing the readers with everyday usage of a metaphor. It is also important to explain the metaphor itself. When an expression "angel" is used in connection with children, it usually means that the child is, or in our case was, very beautiful and cute. It also very often evokes the idea of a blond, chubby child however this is not always the case. Other than the physical appearance it expresses that the child was very kind, sweet and obedient. Another example of a metaphor explains in more details the concept of tenor and vehicle, together with a ground as was explained in previous chapter (2.4. Figures of speech: 2.4.2. Metaphor) In the Excerpt 20:

But as he warned of a 'bumps in the road ahead', he insisted voters should trust him to return Britain to prosperity rather than Mr. Cameron. (Excerpt 20, Daily Mail text44) In this example, we understand bumps to be the vehicle, the tenor is something "uneasy to cross over" and the ground is a parallel between the future which lies ahead of people and will be possibly hard and the highway full of bumps, which is hard to drive through. Another definition says that metaphors need source domain and targeted domain and also set of relations. Excerpt 19 can be used for illustration:

Mrs Fergus said the days after learning of Venables' return to jail had been a 'massive rollercoaster'. (Excerpt 19, Daily Mail text43)

Here it uses notions drawn from the vehicle 'massive rollercoaster', for example ups and downs, upside-downs or even sickness from the ride, to express what happened to this person during the last few days.

As was already mentioned in the previous chapter, metaphors are used in order to get away from boring everyday life by using something interesting and are also used to get people's attention. Also it is supposed to help readers understand the article and everything described in it without seeing a picture. In excerpts 1, 10 and 16 some of those examples are shown.

While the precise nature of the relationship between Irving and Ms. Antas is a mystery, Irving is keen to shower her with affection, telling her: 'You are pure Gold.' (Excerpt 1, Daily Mail text9)

Far from her being a distraction, the couple see their 'little stressball' as an integral part of Formula Ice, a privately funded unit within a British team put together with the precision of an F1 marque on a Yorkshire industrial estate by Bromley Technology. (Excerpt 10, Daily Mail text19)

DAVID JAMES last night told England boss Fabio Capello: I'm fit and ready to be your World Cup No.1. (Excerpt 16, Daily Star text7)

Excerpt 1 comes from an article about an unusual couple; an old historian and man, who admires Hitler, and a young singer, his assistant. The statement "You are pure Gold" helps readers to imagine the relationship between them. When a gem is used metaphorically it immediately provokes the idea of something precious, valuable, and perhaps beautiful and important. Those are the qualities that a person compared to gold has, however other qualities of gold such as the color, rigidity and coldness are not usually connected with such an expression. Also, the conception of tenor and vehicle can be shown here. The person "you" being the vehicle and "pure gold" being the tenor. In excerpt 10 uses the tenor stressball to evoke something pleasant to have around. The article is about a couple who both competed at the Winter Olympic games and they brought their two-year-old daughter along with them. The woman explains that knowing that her daughter is waiting for her and cheering for her at the finish is very

important and soothing. She (the daughter) takes the stress away that is why she is metaphorically compared to stressball, something soft, pleasant and peaceful. The daughter here is the vehicle and "little stressball" is the tenor, carrying the meaning. Finally excerpt 16 wants to bring the picture of a fit, healthy player, who is self-confident and good at his job by using the vehicle (he) and tenor "World Cup No.1". When a player David James tells his boss that he is ready to be his World Cup No.1 he obviously wants the boss to believe that he is in a perfect condition for the World Cup. Instead of naming all the qualities he has as a player, he uses this metaphor, because it immediately illustrates the real meaning of the message. Thus it is more powerful, faster and space saving. Sometimes the metaphor is used incorrectly or is already so well-known that it becomes a cliché or fixed idiom. In excerpt 7, fixed idiom is shown:

Tearful John Terry **poured out his heart** to his mum – as he vowed to save his marriage. (Excerpt 7, Mirror text2)

This would normally be called a metaphor but because it is so commonly used, it is now seen as a fixed idiom, however it is still expressed in a metaphorical way, stating that John Terry told his mum everything that bothered him. He told her all secrets and things that were hard for him to bear by himself.

As a conclusion for the analysis of a metaphor it is necessary to say that a metaphor is most often used in the discourse of British tabloids for its descriptive function. Instead of describing some things with literal words authors use metaphors, mostly one or two words. It not only gains the attention and attractiveness, but it also is economical, because it saves space.

#### **2.2. Simile**

The second section of this analyses focuses on simile. A simile was found quite often in the discourse of British tabloids. In addition to a metaphor, a simile is used for its describing function. During this research 22 different similes were found, some of which will be provided in this section as an illustration. To start with the typical example, excerpt 31 can be used:

AA president Edmund King said: 'Many minor roads are treacherous - they're like ice rinks - with numerous shunts and cars stuck in ditches. (Excerpt31, Daily Mail text2)

In this example roads are likened to ice rinks to express how slippery and dangerous they can be. The theoretical component spoke of a simile consisting of tenor and vehicle it is necessary to show it on real examples. In this case "they're (minor roads)" is the vehicle and "ice rinks" is the tenor carrying the meaning. It is connected together by the usage of "like" which is a characteristic of a simile. This excerpt can also prove how a simile is similar to metaphor. If the word "like" is left out saying "they're ice rinks" it would still make perfect sense and give the same message as the simile. However in the excerpt 29 it is shown that this change is not always possible.

"Olive Jones, 54, said she had been **made to feel like a criminal**, and claimed that Christians were being persecuted due to 'political correctness'. " (Excerpt29, Daily Mail text1)

The simile here expresses Mrs. Jones's feelings after she was accused of a crime she did not, in fact, commit. If the "like" would be left out it would not make sense; "she had been made to feel a criminal" would not give the right message and it would be grammatically incorrect. In this excerpt she is the vehicle and "criminal" is the tenor. The tenor in this case carries the meaning of a person who committed a crime, and thus should be punished and ashamed. Usually people around you look at you differently when you are pronounced a criminal. Neighbors do not trust you and watch each of your steps closely to see if you are doing something wrong. This is a very bad situation for you especially if you are not a real criminal. As was mentioned in the theoretical part, (1.Theoretical part - 1.4.2. Simile) there are many types of similes. For example, when a noun is compared to a noun with the usage of "as" which can be seen in the excerpt 34:

Tobin was described as 'pure evil' as he was given a whole-life sentence yesterday, adding to the 30-year term he received last year for Vicky's murder. (Excerpt34, Daily Mail text7)

This simile gives a description of a person who committed a horrible crime of a murder. The vehicle Tobin is compared to the tenor "pure evil" carrying the meaning of a nasty person. However this description is not as physical as it is psychical. When someone is described to be as pure evil, he or she usually did something really wrong, such as murder in this case. Another type of simile is shown in the next excerpt 46:

Mrs Fergus, 42, added: 'The Government just don't know how to handle this now. Because this is so big again, the Government are just treating it like a football, kicking it to one another.' (Excerpt 46, Daily Mail text41)

This simile also shows the necessity to sometimes explain the statement in more words. It will be also shown in a later example, which will be more conclusive. However, what is important about this simile is its comparison of verb or phrase to noun, with the introducer "like". In this example the verb phrase "treating it" is the vehicle compared to the tenor "football", also followed by a more complex description. When someone is treating something like a football it usually means that the person does not care about the thing. It is, in fact, just a game for him or her, as the football is used for playing. Since this article talks about the Government of the Great Britain, it is obvious that this is a simile which is supposed to criticize the situation by likening a problem solving to a football game. The follow-up description "kicking it to one another" brings another explanation of this simile. When you kick your problem to someone else you express that you are giving the problem away to other person. You do not want to solve this problem so you pass it to other "player" to deal with it. It is always easier to pass the problem than to solve it by yourself. That is also why this simile is used as the criticism of the Government of the Great Britain. Next example can is shown in excerpt 44:

The body of the huge 55ft fin whale — as big as a double decker bus — was spotted floating several miles out to sea off the coast of Cornwall. (Excerpt44, The Sun text6)

This excerpt is an example of a simile that uses just few words to provide the message, which is, in this case, a description of a huge animal. The vehicle in this case is the body of a whale which is as huge as the tenor double-decker bus. Almost everyone, especially those living in The Great Britain (as this simile was found in the British tabloids), knows what a double-decker bus looks like, and thus it is very easy for the readers to understand and imagine how big the animal was. Other examples that were explained in the theoretical part were not found during the research, however, there were many other

examples that show perfect examples of simile. In the few following excerpts some of these will be shown. Such as in excerpt 38:

I accepted this was the way it was - like a broken record playing quietly in the background: a little annoying, but easy enough to ignore. (Excerpt 38, Daily Mail text16)

This extract provides a better example of a simile which needs to be explained more, in order to be understood. The vehicle "it" is compared to tenor "like a broken record playing quietly in the background" with a more complex description. If it was said only with the tenor it would not be clearly understood. That is why it needs and explanation as well. Excerpt 47 was chosen to show how even fairy-tales can help authors to write a good article.

When they met, she thought 16-year-old Christopher looked 'like a blond prince' and he said that he had a 'crush' on her - but both insist they never acted on their mutual attraction. (Excerpt47, Daily Mail text48)

When the tenor "like a blond prince" is used almost every person has some immediate image in mind. This is mainly because in fairy-tales there are always handsome princes, usually blond, that are strong and brave. This is probably how Christopher from this story appeared to the woman, who is speaking in the article. Therefore, this simile works with something commonly known and established.

Many other examples of a simile could be chosen from the research. They are very common in the discourse of British tabloids because they help the authors to express their ideas exactly in the way they want and still make it more interesting than just using an ordinary language. A simile works a lot with people's imagination which readers like. When they skip through the article, they can have their own images of these people or places they read about and it makes it more attractive for them to read the whole story carefully.

### 2.3. Metonymy

The third term to be analyzed is metonymy. Metonymy was not hard to find as well as simile and metaphor. From the hundred terms, 31 were metonymies. This shows

that metonymy is one of the most used figures of speech in the discourse of British tabloids.

The most known example of metonymy is illustrated for example in excerpt 71:

But **Downing Street** was also struggling to contain the damage as union bosses claimed bullying was 'rife' across Whitehall - and official figures suggested several staff working for Mr. Brown have been disciplined for harassment. (Excerpt 71, Daily Mail text32) This excerpt expresses the struggle of the people living and working in Downing Street, in this case, of course, the prime minister of Great Britain and his team. Thus, it is the pattern which uses place for institution. As well as in excerpt 62:

'We suggest that over the next 50 years or so, and with action films likely leading the way, **Hollywood** film will evolve toward a shot structure that more generally matches the patterns. (Excerpt 62, Daily Mail text26)

This excerpt represents the sixth pattern explained in this paper, in which metonymy uses the place for an institution. Now, this following text will focus on the rest. The first pattern which uses container for contained, can be seen in excerpt 61:

Collis, 43, was driving to a two-vehicle crash involving two children on the A32 at Mislingford, Hants, when he saw a **Renault Clio in front of him indicating to turn right** into a lane. (Excerpt 61, Daily Mail text23)

In this case, car Renault Clio is about to turn right. In fact, the metonymy car stands for the driver who drives the car. If this sentence is used without metonymy it would have to be something like this: "... when he saw a man, driving a Renault Clio, in front of him indicating to turn right into a lane." This example would be more complicated and it also covers more space that is why metonymy is used. The example of a possessor used for the possessed can be seen in excerpt 53:

He said he had felt railroaded into going on holiday with him. He explained: "Derrick used to sit in my cab when we were both parked up and wed chat about all sort of stuff. (Excerpt 53, Daily Mail text8)

A similar example as this one was already used in the theoretical part. In here, the statement "when we were both parked up" means when they both had parked their cars. Without metonymy, it would again be more complicated and longer statement: "...when we both parked our cars up" The third pattern is shown in excerpt 55:

England will face Mexico at Wembley in their penultimate friendly before heading to the World Cup in South Africa. (Excerpt 55, Daily Mail text13)

In this example England and Mexico are represented entities used for representatives. In this case metonymy is used because of its economical advantage. It is easier to say, "The football team of Great Britain will face the football team of Mexico..." which is not only longer but also more complicated.

The next example which has not yet been shown in this work is the one in which part stands for whole. This can be seen in excerpt 51:

Although the marriages are not legally binding, Mr Sharp, who never uses contraception, believes the women become his wives when they sleep with him. He describes his lifestyle as a 'religious calling' but admits that it can be tough with so many mouths to feed. (Excerpt51, Daily Mail text3)

This metonymy "mouths" in fact represent children. Here the metonymy is not actually used to save the space, because without metonymy, the sentence is still of the same length: "...with so many children to feed." The metonymy here is used in order to emphasize the statement and to gain readers' attention. It awakens their imagination more than the word "children"

The next section of this work will focus on metonymy patterns explained by Lakoff and Johnson in *Metaphors we live by*. The first pattern which was introduced, is shown in the excerpt 81:

A newly authenticated Van Gogh has gone on display 35 years after a discredited art collector bought it in Paris, convinced it was painted by the famed Dutch master but never able to prove it. (Excerpt81, Daily Mail text55)

This pattern works with producer which stands for product. The expression "Van Gogh" means some artistic work made by Van Gogh, not, of course, the artist himself. This

type of metonymy is used because it is easier for writers to express it, instead of saying "A newly authenticated piece of work done by Van Gogh…" for example. A metonymy like this is possible to use only with very famous artists, such as Picasso, Beethoven, Mozart and others. The next pattern is when an object is used to substitute the user such as in excerpt 77:

More than 10,000 employees will walk out across London for 24 hours on June 19, causing huge disruption to services. It follows a 48-hour **Tube strike** this week, raising fears of a 'summer of chaos'. (Excerpt77, Daily Mail text52)

In this example, the Tube is a name of a subway train which goes in London. It is used to express that people who work in London's Tube were on strike. The problem with this metonymy is that some people, who do not live in the Great Britain, might not understand it, because they do not know what Tube is. But because this work focuses on the discourse of British tabloids, it is assumed that readers will mostly be from the Great Britain thus they will understand it correctly. The following example shows another pattern of metonymy, in which a controller subject is used instead of controlled object, such as in excerpt 78:

But it was Napoleon's defeat at Waterloo that really tied the bairns in knots. One 15-year- old thought Wellington's triumph was in the Falklands. Another lad suggested it was in Iraq. Still another pupil insisted Napoleon had fought the Vikings, while a 17-year-old wondered if Waterloo was part of the American Civil War. (Excerpt78, Daily Mail53)

In this excerpt there are two metonymies of the same pattern. The controller "Napoleon" here stands for the whole Napoleon's army. This type of metonymy is used especially to save the space in the newspapers. The final example shows the metonymy in which institution stands for people responsible and it is shown in excerpt 69:

**The Sun** understands a draft statement on the divorce plan has already been drawn up. (Excerpt69, The Sun text7)

The institution "The Sun" represents people who work in the redaction of the Sun, such as redactor, reporters, editor and so on. It is much easier and space-saving than naming all the people. The last pattern is illustrated in the excerpt 80:

"It was a shock. It was quite frightening really because you hear of something like **Chernobyl** happening all that distance away and you never think that it will affect you personally. (Excerpt80, Daily Mail text54)

This example illustrates when the specific place stands for an event. In here, Chernobyl stands for the nuclear accident which happened in Chernobyl. Almost every time when some other nuclear accident happens, people always remember the Chernobyl, because it is one of the most famous and worst accidents. It is again easier to use just the name that expressing the whole "something like nuclear accident, which happened in Chernobyl, happening ..."

To conclude the metonymy section, it is necessary to say that a metonymy is very often used in order to save some space. Also when using metonymy, authors assume that readers have some kind of basic knowledge about the world and are able to understand it. A metonymy is, as well as metaphor and simile, used very often in the discourse of British tabloids.

#### 2.4. Hyperbole

The fourth term works with a hyperbole or also called overstatement. Unlike metonymy and metaphor, hyperbole was not that easy to find. All together the research found only 15 hyperboles. This might be because of the reason for usage. The main reasons are politeness, emphasizes, effectiveness or complaints. However usage of hyperbole can sometimes confuse the readers for the stories are very often effective on their own without hyperbole. When used with exaggeration stories can become unbelievable and that is something that newspapers do not seek for. Even though newspapers want to be as effective as possible, they also need to be understandable and trustful for all people, so sometimes, when a hyperbole is not suitable, simple and ordinary language is used instead. But this section will now focus on examples which were found in the discourse of British tabloids. In excerpt 82:

'I'll be doubling now, definitely. I am going to run the 100 in Beijing,' said Bolt yesterday. In only his fifth attempt at the Olympic's shortest sprint, he had dumped Powell's mark in history's dustbin and made the majestic Gay look like a selling plater 13-hundredths of a second behind him. (Excerpt82, Daily Mail text29)

This is seen as a hyperbole because the adjective "majestic" by itself is an exaggeration. When someone is said to be majestic he or she is understood to be perfect, magnificent and grandiose. This adjective is also used for addressing a king by saying "Your majesty", thus it is clear that it is supposed to be someone really special. When talking about a sportsmen Gay, who is described as majestic, it brings the idea of the best athlete in the world. The next Excerpt 85 is the example of emphasis on one's performance:

He said: "Was Drogba the difference? No, Cech was. He made two really outstanding saves just at a time when we were going well. (Excerpt85, Daily Star text10)

By using the adjectives "really" and "outstanding" the writer wants to emphasize how well Cech played in the game. Two glorifying adjectives as those two are very powerful and always catch readers' attention. Similar case can be seen in next excerpt 87:

She stumbled forwards and then tried to protect herself from falling. She somersaulted and hit her head on the last step. There was **an almighty crack**.' (Excerpt87, Daily Mail text36)

The adjective almighty expresses something huge and even supernatural, in the connection with crack, it expresses really loud noise. The writer in this case wanted the readers to "feel" the pain of the almighty crack. In the next excerpt 93 it is shown how simile and metaphor are similar to hyperbole.

However, Jag Chana - consultant plastic surgeon at the Royal Free Hospital, North London, and Spire Bushey Hospital, North London --advises caution.

'Women who choose to have this operation are guinea pigs,' he says. 'There will almost certainly be some reabsorption which could cause asymmetry in the breasts. More importantly, there is the issue of breast cancer. (Excerpt93, Daily Mail text51)

This hyperbole can be easily confused with a metaphor. The fact, that it likens one thing to another, is clear however it is not supposed to bring an idea of women looking like a small, furry animal, so it cannot be metaphor. This statement wants to provoke the thought of people who do experiments on themselves. It is done by the usage of guinea pigs, animals that are understood to be used in the laboratories. This is an exaggerated statement because those women, mentioned in the article, are not parts of untested experiments. They are not just animals used to prove if something is helpful or not. They do undergo an operation which is new and dangerous, however what medical treatment is really safe? The last example of a hyperbole which will be used in this paper is an excerpt 86:

Senior management consultant Linda Buchanan warned Ionel Rapisca against smoking at the station, telling him: 'I don't like the smell of cancer,' jurors were told. (Excerpt86, Daily Mail text34)

This example is a perfect sample of a hyperbole. The article talks about woman waiting at a train station and a man who smokes there, standing close to her. It expresses the situation where non-smokers are affected by the smoking people. Of course that you cannot smell cancer, but in this situation the real meaning is that when you are close to someone who smokes the effect of it comes to your health as well. The woman wanted to express that she does not like the man smoking there, because it can affect hear health too.

To conclude this section it is necessary to say that a hyperbole is not used as frequently as a metaphor, a simile and especially a metonymy. Some stories in the newspaper are already so powerful and strong by the storyline itself that they do not need more exaggeration. Hyperbole could make them too unbelievable and readers do not want to read something which is obviously too artificial. As was already said journalists want their stories to be powerful enough to be also trustful. When there is too much hyperbole in the article readers become suspicious whether the story really happened as it is said it did.

#### 2.5. Litotes

Finally, the last term this practical part focuses on, is litotes or usually called an understatement. Only 4 different understatements were found in the discourse of British tabloids. Because of the small number, it is possible to look at all of them. To start with the first, excerpt 97:

He added: "It is unusual but not impossible. He was quite dehydrated and he was wasted, so there are certain things that suggest that it's true." (Excerpt97, The Sun text3)

This is a perfect example of a double negative expressed by "not" and prefix "im-", stating that it is possible. The double negative in this case makes it more powerful thus for the readers interesting to read. Next two examples, excerpt 98 and 99 are, in fact, the same types of double negative as the previous example.

Bromley said: 'The probability is against it because for each of us it is a tall order. But it's not unrealistic because we have both shown we can win medals.' (Excerpt98, Daily Mail text19)

'It was **not unthinkable** that in some circumstances they would reveal the truth. No historian has questioned the guilt of Catherine Howard, Henry VIII's fifth wife, who was convicted of adultery a few years later. Why should the charges against Anne not be taken equally seriously?' (Excerpt99, Daily Mail text33)

In excerpt 98 not unrealistic in fact means realistic and in excerpt 99 not unthinkable means thinkable. In both cases the usage of double negative is again more powerful and interesting. The necessity of "translation" is very useful for writers. When readers read a newspaper, they sometimes just quickly skip through the article and when there is something uncommon, such as double negative, they need to stop and think about it for a while, which slows them down and they then read the article more carefully. The last example of litotes is not a typical example, as seen in excerpt 100:

She said she had first met Chapman when Miss Littler invited her round for tea. 'To say that I found him creepy was an understatement,' she said. 'But Dyanne was with him

so I couldn't speak my mind. They seemed to have a volatile relationship, always arguing, but they lived together so I figured there had to be some sort of connection. (Excerpt100, Daily Mail text38)

In this case, the term understatement is used in the sentence to express that the statement could be even harder. When the woman says that term "creepy" is an understatement, she in fact means, that the man, who she talks about, is even more horrible than just a creepy. The woman wanted to make sure everyone will understand the real message so she used the understatement term.

As a conclusion to this section it is necessary to think about the reason why litotes are used so little. This might be because of its characteristics. As was said in the previous chapter, (1.Theoretical part – 1.4.5. Litotes) litotes are very specific for English speaking countries, especially in the British humor. This is not something newspapers usually seek for. Journalists should not use slang or dialect, they should not use language which is specific for a particular type of person. It could cost them readers who might not be able to understand its real meaning. Even though, in examples found during the research, the understanding is perfectly clear, this is not always the case. Of course, writers want the readers to read carefully and slowly, as was said previously, but readers still need to understand the message which might be sometimes hard to achieve with litotes.

## **Conclusion**

The last chapter of this work is designed to confront the hypothesis stated above with findings of analyses. The aim of this bachelor work was to find out the occurrence of figures of speech in the discourse of British tabloids. Five different types of figures of speech were chosen for the research and 100 different samples of them were collected from primary sources - four different British tabloids newspapers. Those tabloids are namely *The Daily Mail, The Mirror, The Daily Star* and *The Sun*. All articles with the links to the internet pages can be found in Appendix three. The practical part was grounded on previously stated theoretical research based on the secondary sources which were all put into the bibliography.

The research confirms that figurative language is used very frequently in the discourse of British tabloids. This is especially because figurative language makes the text more interesting. It uses words in a transferred way. Ordinary words then lose their literal meaning and gain a new one, usually more vivid and powerful. Writers of British tabloids often care more about the style in which text is written than about the message itself. They want the text to be as interesting and powerful as possible because they know that it attracts readers. In the broadsheet newspapers, such as the Guardian, authors care more about the message than attractiveness of the writing. Their style of writing is more formal than that of the tabloids. That is the reason why tabloids were chosen, because their language is usually more interesting and vivid. The research also focused on the number of occurrences of each figure in the discourse of British tabloids and some conclusion was deduced from it. These numbers can be seen in the table in Appendix one.

As it was already mentioned five different types of figures were collected from the discourse in a total number of 100 samples. The most frequently used figure of speech seems to be metonymy which was found 31 times in the discourse, covering 31 % of the research. This was rather surprising as it was supposed that metaphor or simile would be the most frequent. However as it was proved, a metonymy is very useful. Firstly, it saves the space, because it is shorter than if the language was used ordinarily. It is easier, for example, to substitute a proper name for one of its qualities than to write it all down. Secondly, it is faster for the readers to understand the given meaning, because they do not have to read the whole sentence but sometimes only one or two

words. And thirdly, it is much more interesting and even challenging for readers, as they have to have some basic knowledge to understand the metonymy sometimes, for example when some event's name or artist's name is used. This all makes the article more attractive for the readers so they are willing to read the whole thing carefully rather than just quickly skip through.

The second most often used figure of speech is a metaphor. A metaphor was found 28 times, covering 28 % of the whole research. The third figure of speech is the simile, which was found 22 times, covering 22 % of the research. Those two figures of speech can be put together as they are very similar to each other. They both compare two things that are unlikely to be compared. If they were both put together they would cover almost half of the research which is understandable. Both a metaphor and simile make it easier for authors to write down their ideas. A simile is even better because it is more accurate and it enables authors to express their ideas as precisely as possible. A metaphor and simile also make the article more interesting. When comparing two things it awakens readers' imagination as they should picture the situation in their own minds. At least it is what authors want them to do. Finally, as well as with metonymy, a metaphor and simile both make the article easier to write. It is better to compare two things in order to describe them or express something, than to illustrate the situation by using ordinary, literal words. The usage of a metaphor and simile is easier, more interesting and sometimes even space-saving.

The next figure of speech, hyperbole, was found quite often in the discourse of British tabloids. It was collected 15 times, covering 15 % of the research. As it was assumed in the hypothesis, a hyperbole occurred quite often but it was at times harder to identify. A hyperbole is very similar to metaphor however is more exaggerated than a metaphor. Sometimes it is so extravagant that it might be harder for the readers to believe the story. However when hyperbole is used correctly, it is very powerful and interesting way of using language.

The last figure which was used in this paper is litotes, or also called understatement. As it was assumed in hypothesis, an understatement was found very rarely. Four different litotes were found, covering 4 % of the research. This is mainly because this figure is very specific for English speaking countries. And even though the research focused on the British tabloids, still the language of newspapers prefers to be

understandable for the readers from all over the world. That is why slang or dialect is usually not used as well as litotes. Another reason for the lack of litotes is that it might be sometimes harder to understand the real message.

To conclude this research, it is necessary to say that the hypothesis in all important aspects met the research. Each figure occurred approximately as often as it was assumed. As it was explained in theoretical component and later proved in the practical component, figurative language is an inevitable part of the discourse of British tabloids, although people do not realize it.

### Resumé

Cílem této bakalářské práce je provést výzkum výskytu básnickým trop v diskursu Britského bulvárního tisku.

Tato bakalářská práce se dělí na dvě části - teoretickou a praktickou. Teoretická část práce se zaměřuje především na rozbor jazyka novinových článků, ze kterého poté přechází na rozbor jazyka figurativního, neboli básnického, a jeho využití v textu. Posléze dojde na podrobný rozbor jednotlivých vybraných básnický trop, zmiňovaných v úvodu tohoto textu. V neposlední řadě je vyslovena hypotéza o výskytu a využití jednotlivých trop, která je použita jako základ pro část praktickou. Konkrétní výzkum, použitý v praktické části, byl získán průzkumem 79 článků ve čtyřech různých britských bulvárních novinách. Celkově bylo nalezeno 100 básnických trop.

První kapitola praktické části se zabývá metodologií výzkumu a použitými zdroji. Básnický jazyk se dá zkoumat z několika různých pohledů, pro tuto práci byl zvolen pohled sémantický. Výzkum se zaměřil především na vyhledání pěti básnických trop, jmenovitě; metafora, přirovnání, metonymie, hyperbola (nebo nadsázka) a litotes (neboli understatement, opak nadsázky). Vyhledané tropy jsou později, v praktické části, zapsány kvantitativně i kvalitativně rozebrány. Tropy byly vyhledávány ve čtyřech různých britských bulvárních denících, jmenovitě; *The Daily Mail, The Sun, The Daily Star a The Mirror*. Veškeré články byly brány z internetových zdrojů, odkazy na ně jsou uloženy v Appendixu číslo tři na konci této práce. Dále je také důležité zmínit, že pro tento výzkum nebyly brány v potaz nadpisy článků. Nadpisy jsou způsobem jazyka i zobrazení něčím naprosto odlišným, co se nedá rozebírat ve stejném principu, jako zbytek článku, proto bylo rozhodnuto, že budou z analýzy vynechány.

Druhá kapitola této práce je zaměřena na rozbor jazyku novinových článků. Zpočátku se kapitola věnuje této problematice z obecného hlediska, postupně se zaměřuje na různé typy novin. Existují dva hlavní typy novin, bulvární plátky, tzv. "tabloids" a seriózní typ novin, tzv. "broadsheets". Oba tyto druhy novin píší různými typy jazyků. Zatímco seriózní noviny, jak již z názvu napovídá, píší formálnějším jazykem a vybírají si serióznější zprávy, bulvární plátky se zaměřují hlavně na obsahově zábavnější zprávy a píší jazykem méně formálním, dalo by se říci, že hravějším. Právě z tohoto důvodu byl bulvární typ novin vybrán pro tuto práci. Jazyk, který je hravější a živější, je také zajímavější pro čtenáře a především na čtenáře bulvární noviny spoléhají.

Jeden ze způsobů, jak vytvořit zajímavý způsob jazyka, je použití básnických trop. Díky nim se článek nejen lépe čte, ale některé tropy zároveň usnadňují práci autorům, kteří nemusí často zbytečně opakovat slova a používat krkolomné kombinace jen proto, aby pořádně osvětlily situaci. V závěru se kapitola věnuje i profilu čtenáře. Jak je vysvětleno, typický čtenář neexistuje, lze pouze předpokládat zájmy a požadavky okruhu lidí. Čtenáři, kteří kupují například "The Daily Mail" pravděpodobně očekávají hravější jazyk a více bulvárním zpráv ze života celebrit. Na druhé straně čtenáři "The Guardian" chtějí spíše zprávy seriózní, například z politického dění nebo z mezinárodní politiky, a právě takovéto zprávy "očekávají" formální způsob jazyka.

Třetí kapitola poté přímo navazuje na kapitolu předchozí. Je zde mnohem podrobněji rozebrán básnický jazyk. Hlavním tématem je pak především význam tohoto způsobu jazyka pro bulvární noviny. Proč se používá a jaký dopad má na čtenáře. Jak již bylo zmíněno, je používám především proto, aby z normálních, a tedy často nezábavných, vět vytvořil text, který zaujme čtenáře natolik, že budou ochotni si noviny koupit znovu. Dále je také vysvětleno, co vlastně básnický jazyk je a pro ukázku je také rozepsán příklad toho, jak text vypadá bez a s básnickým jazykem. Hlavním významem tohoto příkladu je dokázání toho, jak je básnický jazyk pro novinové články důležitý.

Ve čtvrté kapitole se text dostává k nejdůležitějšímu faktu celé této práce. K objasnění jednotlivých básnických tropů, které pro tento výzkum byly vybrány. Text je uspořádán tímto způsobem; nejdříve metafora, poté přirovnání a metonymie, jelikož všechny tyto tři tropy jsou si ze všech nejblíže. Nakonec se text zaměří na hyperbolu a litotes.

Metafora, porovnání dvou, na první pohled nesrovnatelných věcí, je rozebírána jako první. Toto je především proto, že z básnických trop je právě metafora nejznámější a nejčastěji vysvětlovanou figurou. V tomto textu je především vysvětleno, co to metafora je. Skládá se ve skutečnosti z dvou různých částí, ta část, která zastupuje metaforický prvek, se nazývá "vehicle" a část, která vysvětluje metaforický smysl, se nazývá "tenor". Hlavním cílem metafory je nalézt jistou podobnost mezi těmito dvěma částmi a předat je čtenáři. V této sekci se dále rozebírají chyby, kterých se nepozorný autor může dopustit, když používá metafory. Jde zde především o pojem "mixed" a "dead" metafora, neboli smíšená a mrtvá metafora. Smíšená metafora je ta, kde je v jedné části textu použito příliš mnoho různých metafor. Toto většinou způsobí, že je

text nesrozumitelný. Mrtvá metafora je metafora, která svým častým používáním již prakticky ztratila básnický výraz a je nyní brána jako normální součást mluvy. Závěr této sekce je věnován názornému příkladu toho, jak věta vypadá bez a s užitím metafory.

Přirovnání je vysvětlováno podobně jako metafora. Toto je možné především z toho důvodu, že tyto dvě tropy mají mnoho společného. Obě porovnávají dvě na první pohled nesourodé věci. Přirovnání k tomu, na rozdíl od metafory, používá pomocné slovíčko "jako". Stejně jako metafora i přirovnání se skládá z tenoru a tzv. nositele (vehicle). V anglickém jazyce jsou tři různé způsoby jak zformovat metaforu. Buď může být podstatné jméno připodobněno jinému podstatnému jménu, sloveso či fráze podstatnému jménu a poslední typ je porovnání, při kterém se místo "jako" používá "než". Pro ilustraci může být například použita věta; "*Je vyšší než dům*. " Přirovnání může být dále použito jako přídavné jméno, popřípadě i v negativním smyslu, kdy namísto přirovnání se zdůrazní, jak moc jsou dvě věci odlišné. V této sekci je dále rozebráno, proč je přirovnání často použito v britském tisku. A jako poslední část je opět názorně zobrazeno, jak věta vypadá s a bez použití přirovnání.

Dalším prvkem této práce je podrobné rozebrání metonymie. Jak se v průběhu zpracování tohoto textu ukázalo, metonymie se řadí mezi nejrozšířenější básnické tropy. Toto je dáno především faktem, kolik množství různých vzorů pro vytvoření metonymie existuje. Mezi hlavní můžeme zařadit například vzorce podle Lakoffa a Johnsona (*Metafory, kterými žijeme*); část zastupuje celek, používaný předmět uživatele, místo instituci nebo místo událost. Tyto a mnoho dalších vzorců je podrobně vysvětleno v teoretické části a také ukázáno v části praktické. Jak je dále vysvětleno, je metonymie použita především proto, že usnadňuje práci autorům, kteří nemusí, často složitě, vyhledávat slova, kterými popsat situaci. Zároveň je použití metonymie zajímavější pro čtenáře, kteří musí občas využít i své znalosti k tomu, aby sdělení pochopili. Samozřejmě, že by metonymie neměla být příliš složitá, aby bylo snadné jí porozumět, jinak by se čtenáři nechtělo příště si noviny kupovat.

Dva poslední termíny, které jsou v této práci vysvětleny, jsou hyperbola a litotes. Tyto dva prvky se dají velice snadno popisovat společně, jelikož hyperbola je v jistém smyslu vlastně opakem litotes. Proto je i způsob jejich užití podobný. V části s hyperbolou se rozebírá především její využití jak v novinovém textu, tak i v běžné

mluvě. Hyperbola může být taky velmi často pletena s metaforou a přirovnáním, jelikož v určitých formách přirovnává jednu věc ke druhé. Na rozdíl od dvou předchozích však hyperbola používá viditelně přehnaná až zveličená přirovnání. O litotes je toho řečeno podstatně méně než u předchozích trop. Toto odráží především i to, co se následně projevilo v praktické části, a to ne příliš častý výskyt litotes v praxi, tedy v diskursu novinového článku. Nicméně v teoretické části je litotes vysvětleno a ilustrativně ukázáno.

Poslední část teoretické kapitoly je věnovány hypotéze. V té je zmíněn především odhad výsledku praktické části. Podle principů užití básnických trop nastíněných v teoretické části, je předpoklad takový, že metafora, přirovnání a metonymie se budou v diskursu novinových článků vyskytovat nejčastěji. U hyperboly je naopak zmíněn předpokládaný problém s její identifikací v textu. Litotes, jak již bylo naznačeno, se podle hypotézy bude vyskytovat v textu nejméně.

Praktická část, která následuje po hypotéze, nastíněné předpoklady víceméně potvrzuje. Nejčastějším tropem nalezeným v diskursu je metonymie, následně metafora a nakonec přirovnání. Hyperbola byla překvapivě nalezena v celkem velkém množství, avšak jak bylo předesláno, někdy byla identifikace mírně komplikovaná. A nakonec litotes, která byla nalezena v opravdu malém množství, pouze potvrdila domněnku. Všechny nalezené tropy jsou umístěny v Apendixu číslo dvě, odkazy na jednotlivé články pak v Apendixu číslo tři. Kvantitativní analýza je také k nalezení, a to v Apendixu číslo jedna.

Jak z celé práce vyplývá, básnické tropy se v diskursu britského bulvárního tisku objevují velice často. Hlavním důvodem pak je především to, že autoři bulvárních textů potřebují, aby jejich články byli co nejzajímavější a nejlákavější pro čtenáře. Pokud by všechny články byly psány normální, skoro až nudným a jednolitým jazykem, kupovalo by si je jen velmi málo lidí. Praktická část toto potvrdila na příkladech, které byly vzaté přímo z textů, a které se vždy snažili zachytit situace neobyčejným způsobem popisu. Přesně toto je jasným znakem bulvárního způsobu psaní, pro které je způsob psaní mnohdy důležitější, než zpráva samotná.

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# **Appendix One**

| Figure of speech | Number of times it occurred in the British tabloids |
|------------------|---|
| Metaphor         | 28  |
| Simile           | 22  |
| Metonymy         | 31  |
| Hyperbole        | 15  |
| Litotes          | 4   |

| Figure of speech | Percentage of the occurrence (%) |
|------------------|----------------------------------|
| Metaphor         | 28                               |
| Simile           | 22                               |
| Metonymy         | 31                               |
| Hyperbole        | 15                               |
| Litotes          | 4                                |

# **Appendix Two**

#### **Metaphor:**

- 1. While the precise nature of the relationship between Irving and Ms. Antas is a mystery, Irving is keen to shower her with affection, telling her: 'You are pure Gold.' (Daily Mail text9)
- 2. If he's in the mood, he's a world-beater, but at other times he doesn't seem bothered if he gets beat. (Mirror text1)
- 3. Having been criticized in February for failing to prepare properly for snow, councils insisted they had been working 'round the clock' to keep traffic moving. (Daily Mail text10)
- 4. Drogba is an individual he is a different type compared to (Wayne) Rooney or (andrey) Arshavin. He has unbelievable physical strength, but he has great technique. He has the nose of a striker and is a great free-kick taker. (Daily Star text2)
- 5. The 'Tweethearts', from North Carolina, US, tied the knot in 1924 when Calvin Coolidge was President and America was enjoying the pre-Wall Street Crash economic boom. (The Sun text1)
- 6. The 'Tweethearts', from North Carolina, US, tied the knot in 1924 when Calvin Coolidge was President and America was enjoying the pre-Wall Street Crash economic boom. (The Sun text1)
- 7. Tearful John Terry **poured out his heart** to his mum as he vowed to save his marriage. (Mirror text2)
- 8. But he told her not to worry and that he was going to be fine and that he would battle his way through it. (Mirror text2)

- 9. Jacko's mum Katherine branded him a "monster" and dad Joe said the charge was "no more than a slap on the wrist". (Mirror text3)
- 10. Far from her being a distraction, the couple see their 'little stressball' as an integral part of Formula Ice, a privately funded unit within a British team put together with the precision of an F1 marque on a Yorkshire industrial estate by Bromley Technology. (Daily Mail text19)
- 11. A teenage soldier killed in a suspected 'friendly fire' incident told his girlfriend that he was 'really scared' just weeks before he was shot and killed. (Daily Mail text24)
- 12. One tribute read: 'To a precious little 'angel'. May your little soul be at peace. Sleep tight xxx' (Daily Mail text25)
- 13. Most of the cards were left anonymously. Another tribute said: 'Rest in peace sweet angel. Heaven is a richer place.' (Daily Mail text25)
- 14. 'We suggest that over the next 50 years or so, and with action films likely leading the way, Hollywood film will evolve toward a shot structure that more generally matches the patterns. (Daily Mail text26)
- 15. But the BBC1 soap's bosses have been so **tight-lipped** about the killer's identity that even the cast have no idea who the culprit is. (Daily Star text6)
- 16. DAVID JAMES last night told England boss Fabio Capello: I'm fit and ready to be your World Cup No.1. (Daily Star text7)
- 17. Even worse, according to Keeley, the organization had arranged for the two women to become the 'poster girls' for the programme. (Daily Mail text29)
- 18. Sue Higson said: 'Poppy you are an angel, hope you are resting in peace, and smiling down to your family and friends, who are missing you every day. (Daily Mail text42)
- 19. Mrs Fergus said the days after learning of Venables' return to jail had been a 'massive rollercoaster'. (Daily Mail text43)

- 20. But as he warned of a 'bumps in the road ahead', he insisted voters should trust him to return Britain to prosperity rather than Mr Cameron. (Daily Mail text44)
- 21. Critics dubbed him a champagne socialist and Michael 'Moneybags' Mansfield because of the money he earned. (Daily Mail text 45)
- 22. Critics dubbed him a **champagne** socialist and Michael 'Moneybags' Mansfield because of the money he earned. (Daily Mail text 45)
- 23. 'Feeding her twins Jake and Emily gorgeous little bundles smelling of baby powder in the Gloucester home she shares with her partner Andy Bottomley, she should be cock-a-hoop. But she's not. In fact, ever since her babies were born ten weeks prematurely, Melanie has been on an emotional roller-coaster. (Daily Mail text46)
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- 25. 'Feeding her twins Jake and Emily gorgeous little bundles smelling of baby powder in the Gloucester home she shares with her partner Andy Bottomley, she should be cock-a-hoop. But she's not. In fact, ever since her babies were born ten weeks prematurely, Melanie has been on an emotional roller-coaster. (Daily Mail text46)
- 26. He believes Jayne Torvill was Dean's 'ticket to gold' and that it was her astonishing ability which enabled them to reach such historic stardom. (Daily Mail text48)
- 27. But it was Napoleon's defeat at Waterloo that really tied the bairns in knots. One 15- year- old thought Wellington's triumph was in the Falklands. Another lad suggested it was in Iraq. Still another pupil insisted Napoleon had fought the Vikings, while a 17-year-old wondered if Waterloo was part of the American Civil War.(Daily Mail text53)

28. 'I'll be doubling now, definitely. I am going to run the 100 in Beijing,' said Bolt yesterday. In only his fifth attempt at the Olympic's shortest sprint, he had dumped Powell's mark in history's dustbin and made the majestic Gay look like a selling plater 13-hundredths of a second behind him.(Daily Mail text58)

### Simile:

- 29. "Olive Jones, 54, said she had been **made to feel like a criminal**, and claimed that Christians were being persecuted due to 'political correctness'. " (Daily Mail text1)
- 30. "Teaching was my dream from the age of 16. It is as if 20 years of my work, which I was passionate about, has gone. It is like a grief." (Daily Mail text1)
- 31. AA president Edmund King said: 'Many minor roads are treacherous they're like ice rinks with numerous shunts and cars stuck in ditches. (Daily Mail text2)
- 32. James Wade is a talented lad, but he's **a bit like Ronnie O'Sullivan** in snooker, it depends which character turns up (Mirror text1) není simile, najít jinou
- 33. "...describing himself as a 'social entrepreneur'." (Daily Mail text6)
- 34. Tobin was described as 'pure evil' as he was given a whole-life sentence yesterday, adding to the 30-year term he received last year for Vicky's murder. (Daily Mail text7)
- 35. A source said: "Toni sees Victoria as Queen of the WAGs, with maturity and compassion to impartially advise her over something deeply personal and upsetting.

  (The Sun text2)
- 36. The mother of two said: 'It was a relief to be in hospital as I knew it was a serious condition, but in the middle of the night I was transferred to a storeroom

- off the main ward because they hadn't got enough beds. It was like a broom cupboard.' (Daily Mail text14)
- 37. The youngster is being **described as a 'shoo-in'** for the semi-finals of the latest series, having been praised at audition as a 'little genius'. (Daily Mail text15)
- 38. I accepted this was the way it was like a broken record playing quietly in the background: a little annoying, but easy enough to ignore. (Daily Mail text16)
- 39. The news came **as a hammer blow** to Chelsea boss Carlo Ancelotti, who said:
  "We're very disappointed because Ashley is a very important player for us.
  (Mirror text5)
- 40. It ripped open her Volkswagen Golf GTi "like a tin can" but tiny Kelli, 26, walked away unscathed as the girder shot through her windscreen over her head. (The Sun text4)
- 41. It feels like I'm sinking. I'm afraid I want control of my life... this is supposed to be my life to do with what I like... but once again he has taken it away,' Miss Dugard wrote on July 5, 2004, when she was 24 years old. (Daily Mail text18)
- 42. Describing Phillip Garrido as a 'master manipulator', Vern Pierson, District Attorney for El Dorado County in California, filed documents seeking a 'protective order' to prohibit the Garridos getting in touch with Miss Dugard and her two children. (Daily Mail text18)
- 43. Kgn Dawson hailed **as a 'true Lion of England'** and a 'fighter extraordinaire' by friends and colleagues had been sending regular love letters to his girlfriend, Sadie Adams, since arriving in Afghanistan. (Daily Mail text24)
- 44. The body of the huge 55ft fin whale **as big as a double decker bus** was spotted floating several miles out to sea off the coast of Cornwall. (The Sun text6)
- 45. **Described as 'calculated and wicked'**, Chapman was jailed for a minimum of 35 years for Ashleigh's kidnap, rape and murder yesterday. (Daily Mail text38)

- 46. Mrs Fergus, 42, added: 'The Government just don't know how to handle this now. Because this is so big again, the Government are just treating it like a football, kicking it to one another.' (Daily Mail text41)
- 47. When they met, she thought 16-year-old **Christopher looked 'like a blond prince'** and he said that he had a 'crush' on her but both insist they never acted on their mutual attraction.(Daily Mail text48)
- 48. She wasn't blasé about malaria. She thought as did I that she was immune to it. What none of us realised was that she was every bit as vulnerable as a tiny baby.' (Daily Mail text56)
- 49. Yesterday Mrs Koupparis, a former merchandising head for British Home Stores, said: 'It's like a nightmare, it's like a living nightmare. That's the only way I can describe it, to be honest.(Daily Mail text57)
- 50. Mrs Koupparis, who also has a son, Max, four, said Lola 'looks dreadful'. She added: 'One side of her face is beautiful. **The other side is like something from a horror movie**. (Daily Mail text57)

### Metonymy:

- 51. Although the marriages are not legally binding, Mr Sharp, who never uses contraception, believes the women become his wives when they sleep with him. He describes his lifestyle as a 'religious calling' but admits that it can be tough with so many mouths to feed. (Daily Mail text3)
- 52. **The EU** may be planning an emergency rescue plan for Greece after a leading German politician warned the 'dangerous weakness' of some EU states could threaten the entire euro zone.(Daily Mail text5)
- 53. He said he had felt railroaded into going on holiday with him. He explained:

  "Derrick used to sit in my cab when we were both parked up and wed chat about all sort of stuff. (Daily Mail text8)

- 54. Arsenal have failed in their bid to land France striker Loic Remy as his club Nice hold out for a £13million fee for the promising 23-year-old. (Daily Mail text12)
- 55. **England will face Mexico** at Wembley in their penultimate friendly before heading to the World Cup in South Africa. (Daily Mail text13)
- 56. I thought that if he kept playing to the level that he was then he'd have been in the World Cup squad. Having seen the quality of players **England** have and they do have quality in that position then Gary wouldn't be out of place."

  (Daily Star text3)
- 57. Their middle-class family appears to have no way of paying a seven-figure ransom and the **UK government** has said it will not deal with the pirates on the grounds that it would encourage future kidnaps of Britons. (Daily Mail text17)
- 58. Together with her trusty set of wheels, the 10 Years Younger star embarked on the start of a two week-long Indigo Road Show which sees her touring the country offering free style workshops to shoppers in need of tips on how to wear the new collection. (Daily Mail20)
- 59. **The Foreign Office** this morning said it was 'seeking further information' and was hoping to put out a statement this afternoon. (Daily Mail text21)
- 60. **The Home Office** declined to comment, saying it was an ongoing investigation. (Daily Mail text21)
- 61. Collis, 43, was driving to a two-vehicle crash involving two children on the A32 at Mislingford, Hants, when he saw a Renault Clio in front of him indicating to turn right into a lane. (Daily Mail text23)
- 62. 'We suggest that over the next 50 years or so, and with action films likely leading the way, **Hollywood** film will evolve toward a shot structure that more generally matches the patterns. (Daily Mail text26)
- 63. Discussing the application of science to the world of movies, New Scientist states: 'Given the gargantuan cost of blockbusters like Avatar, it wouldn't be

- surprising if **Hollywood's** next step is to use brain scanners to get inside the head of movie-goers. (Daily Mail text26)
- 64. Fabianski had earlier pushed Silvestre Varela's cross into his own net, although the ball was going out for a goalkick. And after Sol Campbell equalised, the Pole blundered again, picking up a back pass from Campbell and then giving the ball back immediately to let Falcao score before Arsenal could react. (Daily Mail text27)
- 65. Meanwhile, the **FA** have asked **FIFA** to consider bending their rules and allow Pompey to sell players outside the transfer window to ease their financial crisis. (Daily Star text7)
- 66. Argentina, which still claims the isles, is furious over British oil firms' plans to drill for oil. (The Sun text5)
- 67. But **The Mail on Sunday** can now reveal that the two women are almost certainly not related at all. In a terrible and distressing mistake, UKDL brought two entirely unrelated women together and told them they were sisters. (Daily Mail text29)
- 68. 'At the time, **UKDL** was apparently sure enough of the significance of this statistic not only to tell the women, but to encourage them in 2006 to be interviewed by The Mail on Sunday as the first British example of donor half-siblings meeting face-to-face. (Daily Mail text29)
- 69. **The Sun** understands a draft statement on the divorce plan has already been drawn up. (The Sun text7)
- 70. The last straw for Cheryl came when **The Sun** told on Saturday how Ashley cheated on her with American government worker Ann Corbitt, 28.(The Sun text7)
- 71. But **Downing Street** was also struggling to contain the damage as union bosses claimed bullying was 'rife' across Whitehall and official figures suggested

- several staff working for Mr Brown have been disciplined for harassment.(Daily Mail text32)
- 72. But Downing Street was also struggling to contain the damage as union bosses claimed bullying was 'rife' across Whitehall and official figures suggested several staff working for Mr Brown have been disciplined for harassment.(Daily Mail text32)
- 73. **Lufthansa** said it was trying to rebook travelers on partner airlines or trains.

  Travelers unable to be rescheduled are being reimbursed for their tickets, it said.(Daily Mail text35)
- 74. In an interview with Catalan daily **El Periodico** published today, Mr Mansfield said British authorities opposed several aspects of Diana's private and public life. (Daily Mail text45)
- 75. Indeed, **England** could do with a decent role model given recent scandals. And if the national team are to stand any chance of lifting the World Cup in South Africa, Rooney will need to translate the kind of form that has so far brought him 30 goals for United this season to the biggest international stage. (Daily Mail text47)
- 76. Indeed, England could do with a decent role model given recent scandals. And if the national team are to stand any chance of **lifting the World Cup** in South Africa, Rooney will need to translate the kind of form that has so far brought him 30 goals for United this season to the biggest international stage. (Daily Mail text47)
- 77. More than 10,000 employees will walk out across London for 24 hours on June 19, causing huge disruption to services.
  - It follows a 48-hour **Tube strike** this week, raising fears of a 'summer of chaos'.(Daily Mail text52)

- 78. But it was Napoleon's defeat at Waterloo that really tied the bairns in knots. One 15- year- old thought Wellington's triumph was in the Falklands. Another lad suggested it was in Iraq. Still another pupil insisted Napoleon had fought the Vikings, while a 17-year-old wondered if Waterloo was part of the American Civil War.(Daily Mail text53)
- 79. But it was Napoleon's defeat at Waterloo that really tied the bairns in knots. One 15- year- old thought Wellington's triumph was in the Falklands. Another lad suggested it was in Iraq. Still another pupil insisted Napoleon had fought the Vikings, while a 17-year-old wondered if Waterloo was part of the American Civil War.(Daily Mail text53)
- 80. "It was a shock. It was quite frightening really because you hear of something like Chernobyl happening all that distance away and you never think that it will affect you personally. (Daily Mail text54)
- 81. A newly authenticated Van Gogh has gone on display 35 years after a discredited art collector bought it in Paris, convinced it was painted by the famed Dutch master but never able to prove it. (Daily Mail text55)

## *Hyperbole:*

- 82. 'I'll be doubling now, definitely. I am going to run the 100 in Beijing,' said Bolt yesterday. In only his fifth attempt at the Olympic's shortest sprint, he had dumped Powell's mark in history's dustbin and made the majestic Gay look like a selling plater 13-hundredths of a second behind him (Daily Mail text58)
- 83. 'I did have tears when I saw the scenes at my local pub. It really choked me up.'
  (Daily Mail text30)
- 84. Meanwhile the troubled beauty has been urged to quit Britain for the States by those close to her, including her bandmate Nadine Coyle. Sources say Cheryl has "poured her heart out" to pal Nadine, 24, and trusts her advice. (Daily Star text8)

- 85. He said: "Was Drogba the difference? No, Cech was. **He made two really outstanding saves** just at a time when we were going well. (Daily Star text10)
- 86. Senior management consultant Linda Buchanan warned Ionel Rapisca against smoking at the station, telling him: 'I don't like the smell of cancer,' jurors were told. (Daily Mail text34)
- 87. She stumbled forwards and then tried to protect herself from falling. She somersaulted and hit her head on the last step. **There was an almighty crack.'** (Daily Mail text36)
- 88. He said: 'She was incredibly intelligent and stunningly beautiful. Some would say she was too smart for her own good as she would often over-think things. 'She loved having a debate and could argue about anything. She was very popular and would speak to people from all walks of life. (Daily Mail text39)
- 89. One witness said Mrs Fabian's legs had been 'shredded' by the explosion, while others spoke of hearing a loud boom throughout the village. (Daily Mail text40)
- 90. Mother-of-three Mrs Fergus, of Kirkby, Merseyside, said: 'What about James? Dr Atkinson's first duty should be to stand up for innocent little children who are murdered by evil monsters whatever their age who set out to commit premeditated murder. (Daily Mail text49)
- 91. But today, he insisted it was not time to play 'footsie' with any other political party and repeatedly made jibes at both the Tories and Labour, saying both were in a state of 'confusion' if they thought they could rely on LibDem support.(Daily Mail text50)
- 92. Agony aunt and leading party supporter Claire Rayner last night warned him to stop 'flirting' with the Tories or risk destroying his party in post-Election chaos. (Daily Mail text50)
- 93. However, Jag Chana consultant plastic surgeon at the Royal Free Hospital, North London, and Spire Bushey Hospital, North London --advises caution.

  'Women who choose to have this operation are guinea pigs,' he says.

There will almost certainly be some reabsorption which could cause asymmetry in the breasts. More importantly, there is the issue of breast cancer. (Daily Mail text51)

- 94. 'It's always been there, and I think always will be. I'm even more hungry to win at Monaco and Silverstone again next year that's a positive thing for me.'

  (Daily Mail text59)
- 95. 'When I wrote that I hated my boss, I said it in the same way that you have probably said a million times that you could kill your wife,' says one Facebook victim. 'I didn't really mean it. Truth is, I actually like my boss; it's my job that I hate. (Daily Mail text60)
- 96. Gerry said later: "Madeleine was dead excited about going away with the rest of the kids. It was her first time to Portugal. (The Sun text8)

### Litotes:

- 97. He added: "It is unusual but not impossible. He was quite dehydrated and he was wasted, so there are certain things that suggest that it's true." (The Sun text3)
- 98. Bromley said: 'The probability is against it because for each of us it is a tall order. But it's not unrealistic because we have both shown we can win medals.'

  (Daily Mail text19)
- 99. 'It was **not unthinkable** that in some circumstances they would reveal the truth. No historian has questioned the guilt of Catherine Howard, Henry VIII's fifth wife, who was convicted of adultery a few years later. Why should the charges against Anne not be taken equally seriously?' (Daily Mail text33)
- 100. She said she had first met Chapman when Miss Littler invited her round for tea. 'To say that I found him creepy was an understatement,' she said. 'But Dyanne was with him so I couldn't speak my mind. They seemed to have a volatile relationship, always arguing, but they lived together so I figured there had to be some sort of connection. (Daily Mail text38)

# **Appendix Three**

#### DAILY MAIL

#### Daily Mail text 1:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1237204/Christian-teacher-lost-job-told-praying-sick-girl-bullying.html

#### Daily Mail text2:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1237246/More-snow-way-bookies-say-heading-white-Christmas-too.html

#### Daily Mail text3:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-1123147/I-wait-baby-No-11-says-rampant-rabbi.html

#### Daily Mail text5:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/worldnews/article-1246838/Dangerousweakness-EU-states-threaten-euro-zone-Germanys-economy-ministerwarns.html

#### Daily Mail text6:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1237283/Tony-Blair-Its-Britain-people-dont-like-me.html

#### Daily Mail text 7:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1236349/Peter-Tobin-convicted-murder-guilty-killing-teenager-Dinah-McNicol.html

#### Daily Mail text8:

http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/top-stories/2010/06/05/cumbria-gunman-derrick-bird-was-thrown-off-plane-after-drinking-17-mini-bottles-of-wine-115875-22312979/

Daily Mail text9:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1237263/David-Irvings-declaration-affection-young-American-leaked-internet.html

Daily Mail text10:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1236859/Flights-cancelled-trains-delayed-roads-closed--Britain-wakes-transport-chaos-heavy-snow-falls-overnight.html

Daily Mail text12:

<u>http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football/article-1246999/Arsenal-pull-race-Nice-striker-Loic-Remy-French-club-hold-firm-13m-price-tag.html</u>

Daily Mail text13:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football/article-1246926/England-face-Mexico-Wembley-heading-World-Cup-finals.html

Daily Mail text14:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1250079/Elderly-patient-abandoned-days-hospital-store-cupboard.html

*Daily Mail text15:* 

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-1250071/Kayim-Ali-Jaffer-Jackson-Junior-wows-Britains-Got-Talent-judges-exploited.html

Daily Mail text16:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-1250089/Oh-baby-Im-broody--shame-wife-isnt.html

Daily Mail text17:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1250361/Rachel-Chandler-My-rapeterror-hands-Somali-pirates.html Daily Mail text18:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/worldnews/article-1250447/I-feel-like-Im-sinking-Kidnap-victim-Jaycee-Lee-Dugards-heartbreaking-secret-diary.html

Daily Mail text 19:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/othersports/article-1250326/WINTER-OLYMPICS-2010-Ice-ice-baby--Kristan-Bromley-Shelley-Rudman-daughter-Ella-going-gold.html

Daily Mail text20:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-1210721/Myleene-Klass-battles-wind-rain-takes-new-M-S-Indigo-collection-road.html

Daily Mail text21:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/worldnews/article-1251260/Team-11-Europeans-killed-senior-Hamas-leader-claims-Dubai-police-chief.html

Daily Mail text23:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-490913/Ambulanceman-driving-dangerously-seriously-injured-teenager-car-crash.html

Daily Mail text24:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1251525/Im-really-scared-British-soldier-19-killed-friendly-Afghanistan-told-girlfriend-fears-just-weeks-death.html

Daily Mail text25:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1251616/Mother-charged-murder-acid-drink-kills-year-old-daughter.html

*Daily Mail text26:* 

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-1251833/The-secret-films-success-mathematics-claim-scientists.html

Daily Mail text27:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football/article-1251864/Lucasz-Fabianskifouls--Arsene-Wenger-refuses-blame-Arsenals-blunderman-keeper.html

Daily Mail text29:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-1252590/Despair-DNA-sisters-Interrible-mistake-casts-new-doubt-DNA-profiling-turns-werent-related-all.htm

Daily Mail text30:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1252637/Amy-Williams-trusty-pal-Arthur-receive-British-Winter-Olympic-gold-medal-30-years.html

Daily Mail text32:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1253035/Charity-chief-Christine-Pratt-admits-intimidation-Downing-St-bullying-backlash.html

*Daily Mail text33:* 

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1252993/Poem-backs-claims-Anne-Boleyn-lovers--brother.html

Daily Mail text34:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1252956/Carpenter-shoved-woman-railway-track-row-smoking-nearby.html

*Daily Mail text35:* 

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/worldnews/article-1252857/Lufthansa-cancels-800-flights-bringing-travel-misery-10-000-passengers-pilots-strike.html

Daily Mail text36:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1253927/Shop-worker-died-tumblingjust-steps-customers.html

Daily Mail text38:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1256307/Convicted-sex-attacker-Peter-Chapman-admits-murder-teenager-Ashleigh-Hall.html

Daily Mail text39:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1256573/Young-woman-jumped-100ft-death-just-hours-father-begged-psychiatric-hospital-release-her.html

*Daily Mail text40:* 

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1256387/Victoria-Fabian-First-picture-heavily-pregnant-woman-horrifically-injured-car-bomb-blast-Kent.html

Daily Mail text41:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1256533/Jon-Venables-Terror-young-father-accused-Bulger-killer-Facebook.html

Daily Mail text42:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1256869/Girl-13-hangs-amid-claims-bullied.html

Daily Mail text43:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1256828/James-Bulger-killer-Jon-Venables-posed-trivial-risk-experts-claimed.html

Daily Mail text44:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1258033/Girl-11-killed-colliding-carriding-bike.html

Daily Mail text45:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/worldnews/article-1257242/Princess-Dianakilled-plan-frighten-went-wrong.html

Daily Mail text46:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-1257008/Is-MY-fault-twins-Downs-A-39-year-old-mother-reveals-regrets-having-IVF.html

*Daily Mail text47:* 

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/worldcup2010/article-1257332/Wayne-Rooney-fluffs-big-chance--But-dont-worry-video-game---hes-saving-best-summer.html

Daily Mail text48:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-1257294/Skating-ice-The-feudsjealousies-passions-Britains-favourite-dance-show.html

Daily Mail text49:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1257775/James-Bulgers-mother-Sack-childrens-tsar-described-sons-murder-unpleasant.html

Daily Mail text50:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1257779/Nick-Clegg-I-wont-kingmaker-hung-parliament.html

Daily Mail text51:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-1257677/I-grew-breast-implants--fat-tummy.html

Daily Mail text52:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1192515/First-Tube-chaos-POSTMEN-going-strike.html

Daily Mail text53:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/debate/article-1225538/History-battle-hearts-minds.html

Daily Mail text54:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-384266/UK-farmers-living-shadow-Chernobyl.html

*Daily Mail text55:* 

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/worldnews/article-1253617/Van-Gogh-painting-proved-genuine-25-years-art-world-mocked-collector-claimed-lost-masterpiece.html

Daily Mail text 56:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-1282967/Malaria-Mattie-Cooperdied-taking-anti-malaria-drugs.html

*Daily Mail text57:* 

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1284505/Baby-twins-Isabella-Lola-Koupparis-seriously-injured-fox-attack.html

*Daily Mail text58:* 

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/othersports/article-1023406/Jamaicas-Bolt-sets-world-alight-thunders-new-100m-record.html

Daily Mail text59:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/othersports/article-1036058/Hungry-Hamilton-says-hes-Nadal-Formula-One.html

*Daily Mail text60:* 

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1280330/The-billionaire-Facebookfounder-making-fortune-secrets-probably-dont-know-hes-doing-it.html

#### *MIRROR*

Mirror text1:

http://www.mirror.co.uk/sport/more-sport/darts/2009/12/18/phil-taylor-i-ve-got-rocket-power-115875-21906446/

*Mirror text2:* 

http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/top-stories/2010/02/09/tearful-john-terry-vows-to-save-his-marriage-and-tells-his-mum-we-ll-start-again-115875-22028613/

*Mirror text3:* 

http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/top-stories/2010/02/09/conrad-robert-murray-did-unlawfully-and-without-malice-kill-michael-joseph-jackson-a-human-being-in-the-commission-of-an-unlawful-act-115875-22028912/

*Mirror text5:* 

http://www.mirrorfootball.co.uk/news/Cole-injury-could-see-Bridge-line-up-alongside-bitter-foe-Terry-for-England-article321043.html

#### DAILY STAR:

Daily Star text2:

http://www.dailystar.co.uk/football/view/121459/Michael-Ballack-Arsenal-are-easy-to-beat/

Daily Star text3:

http://www.dailystar.co.uk/football/view/121454/Cahill-in-World-Cup-blow/

Daily Star text6:

http://www.dailystar.co.uk/news/view/122980/EastEnders-Who-killed-Archie-/

*Daily Star text7:* 

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