Definition: An editorial is (1) “an article in a newspaper or other periodical presenting the opinion of the publisher, editor, or editors. (2) A statement broadcast on radio or television that presents the opinion of the owner, manager, or the like, of the station or channel.”


Editorials are regular features of newspapers and news magazines such as Time, Newsweek, or U.S. News and World Report. Other non-news periodicals may feature editorials written by editors or guest editors.

Editorials are indexed in periodical indexes by subject and identified by the term “editorial” in the citation.

To find editorials in electronic databases do the following:
- Select Academic Search Complete as your database and go to Advanced Search located on a tab at the top of the screen.
- Type your search term(s) in the box or boxes provided.
- Go to the bottom part of the screen where you find Limit Your Results:
- Select “editorial” as your Document Type from the pull down menu.

If you want to find journals that have editorials but are not news magazines, select Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) Journals as a limiter.

Other limiters include Published Date, Publication (title of journal), and full text.

After you have finished selecting limiters, press the Enter key or Search button and you should see a bibliography of editorials.

You will see some editorials are designated either HTML Full text or PDF Full text and may be printed from the computer.

For articles that are not full text you will see the direction to Search your catalog, which will take you to the library online catalog. If the periodical is available in the library, information to locate the journal will show on the screen. If the periodical is not subscribed to by the library, you will see the designation “word or phrase ‘1012-6244’ found no matches in the library you searched.” This means the library does not have the periodical.

If you have any questions about locating editorials or finding periodicals, please ask a reference librarian for assistance.