

Overview of the media in Victoria

Newspapers

The Age

The Age is a Melbourne-based broadsheet (full page) daily with a generally more educated readership than the tabloid (half-size with bold headlines and large photographs) *Herald Sun*. *The Age* has a format and is strong on Australian and Victorian news and sport. International news is not so well covered. *The Age* includes several useful supplements:

- Thursday: *The Green Guide* (a comprehensive television and radio guide)
- Friday: *EG* the entertainment guide
- Saturday: classified advertisements.

The Age is available online at <<http://www.theage.com.au/>>.

The Herald Sun

The *Herald Sun* is a Melbourne-based daily with a tabloid format and generally shorter and easier-to-read articles than those in *The Age* or *The Australian*. There is a strong emphasis on local news, especially more sensational stories, and sport.

The *Herald Sun* is available online at <<http://www.news.com.au/heraldsun/>>.

The Australian

This newspaper is the only national daily. It has a similar format to *The Age* but with a stronger emphasis on national and international news. *The Australian* includes several supplements through the week including:

- Tuesday: Information technology
- Wednesday: Higher education
- Thursday: Media and Marketing

The Australian is available online at: <<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/>>.

The Financial Review

This specialist national financial daily is useful for business and economics students.

The Financial Review is available online at <<http://afr.com/>>.

Television

ABC

ABCTV is run by the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) a government-financed broadcaster which often addresses controversial issues and questions political decisions. It is very strong in news, current affairs and documentaries. The ABC obtains many programs from the BBC (British Broadcasting Corporation).

Highlights:

- *News*: 7.00 pm
- *The 7.30 Report*: 7.30 pm: in-depth coverage and analysis of major daily news events – both domestic and international
- *Lateline*: 10.30pm: nightly news analysis program with up-to-the-minute coverage of Australian and International news
- *Australian Story*: Monday 8.00 pm: documentary on significant events in ordinary people's lives.
- *Four Corners*: Mondays 8.30 pm: Australia's longest running current affairs program
- *Media Watch*: Mondays 9.20pm: evaluates the way in which news is presented in the media
- *Foreign Correspondent*: Tuesdays 9.20 pm: current affairs from around the world.

The *ABC Online* <<http://www.abc.net.au/>> website has links to both ABC television and radio.

SBS

SBS is also government-financed, with some commercial funding. With a role to promote 'multicultural television', it has many international programs broadcast in languages other than English (with English subtitles), including news and current affairs from all over the world.

Highlights:

- *World News* at 6.30 and 9.30 pm
- foreign films shown in original languages
- world soccer.

SBS Online: <<http://www.sbs.com.au/>>.

Channels 7, 9 and 10

These are fully commercial channels and show similar programs, many of which are American sitcoms and dramas. There is a strong emphasis on sport, 'tabloid' (sensational) current affairs and quiz programs.

Channel 7 online: <<http://www.seven.com.au/seven>>

Channel 9 online: <<http://channelnine.ninemsn.com.au/>>

Channel 10 online: <<http://www.ten.com.au/>>.

Radio

Radio programs are an excellent way of practising your listening skills as well as keeping up to date with the latest news and music. The ABC has several radio stations: *Radio National*, *Triple J*, *ABC News Radio*, *Classic FM* and *Radio Australia*, which offer a variety of specialised music, news and current affairs. You can download programs broadcast on ABC radio from *ABC Online*: <<http://www.abc.net.au/radio/>>.

Commercial radio stations, such as **3AW (AM 693)**, highlight current events and discussion via talk-back with listeners. Community radio stations such as **3RRR (FM 102.7)** and **PBS (FM 106.7)** provide an enormous range of alternative music, arts and reviews programs.

ABC Radio National (AM 621)

Radio National has a broad range of interesting programs. Their news programs AM and PM give comprehensive national and general international news, morning and night. Other specialised shows such as *The Health Report*, *The Book Show*, *Life Matters*, *The Science Show* give fascinating insights into a wide range of topics. Most shows can be downloaded and many programs have transcripts available. Students who are not fluent in English can create a valuable listening resource by using the transcripts while listening to the downloaded program.

ABC Radio National online: <<http://www.abc.net.au/rn/>>.

RPH Print Radio (AM 1179)

The Vision Australia Foundation operates the radio station *RPH Print Radio* where articles from the daily newspapers are read aloud. This is also a useful resource for speakers of English as an Additional Language (EAL) as you listen to a newspaper being read on air and follow the text on the printed page. *The Age*, the *Herald Sun*, *The Australian* and the *Australian Financial Review* are read at various times of the day.

You can go online and view the RPH Print Radio program guide from Vision Australia: <<http://www.visionaustralia.org.au>>