Case Study

ESSAY

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Case study 'Essay'

1. Text description

We have chosen the following article (Annex 1) that talks about how researchers have determined what is accepted in the paella recipe. Let's see if this research can resolve the issue. The debate about the original paella recipe is well known. We have seen culinary offences over the years. With the rise of social networks, the discussion has intensified.

In the article, the journalist talks about the discussion around which ingredients should contain a paella. They explain who has carried out the research and how. The writer provides data from the study and quotes from the main researcher. It also talks about the global popularity of paella, thanks to famous chefs. The text tells us about the important tradition of paella in Spain and, especially, in Valencia. In fact, we are told that paella has been declared a cultural asset by the regional government. The article concludes telling us about the tradition of eating paella on Tuesday and also says that there are many paella recipes, except in Valencia, which is a matter of science.

2. Text analysis

We can deduce that this is a soft news article. It doesn't have time and its talk about an issue that is not urgent. It tries to entertain the reader with something trivial and funny.

We think that the chosen text respects the parts and features of its genre. It follows the composition of title, lead, body and tail.

In the <u>title</u> we can read the main information of the article which is extended in the subtitle adding relevant information. We can see the <u>lead</u> at the third paragraph (The research was carried...266 Valencian villages). It gives us a clear idea of the article. At the <u>body</u>, the author starts contextualising the subject and then goes on to explain what has happened. Here we have the essential information and the 5W + H. The <u>tail</u> adds some extra but not relevant information. However, it's interesting information that gives value to the article.

In terms of content, the author gives us an accurate information about a specific research. The text has data from the research and quotes from the main researcher. The writer uses direct speech and present tenses. He seems to be narrating the interview that he has with the researcher and adding his opinion.

Analysing the factual approach, we have:

What: A study is carried out to establish the ingredients of the paella.

Who: Researchers of the Universidad Católica de Valencia with a local chef.

Where: In Valencia and Valencian villages.

When: We don't have an exact '*when*', but we can deduce from the context, the date of the article (March 22, 2022) and from this sentence 'Last year the regional government declared Valencian paella a cultural asset', that this is 2020 or 2021.

Why: There is not specific reason, but we can think of the popular debate about this issue.

How: Through a research to a 400 amateurs chefs aged over 50 from 266 Valencian villages.

3. Conclusion

After analysing the text, we have drawn the following conclusions:

It is a soft news article that talks about social topic. It doesn't follow the inverted pyramid technique, but it does not need it either. As we have analysed, it presents numerical data, quotes, the author uses the direct speech and present tenses. It's not a formal text and the language used is in coherent with the reader. There aren't significant weaknesses or strengths as it's a soft news article that presents trivial information.

By doing this project we have learned to analyse a real text without an academic supervision and to communicate with each other in English, thinking in English, for a purpose in English.