

CLICHÉS

There are thousands of clichés and slang phrases that reporters must learn to recognize and avoid. Some of the most common are listed here.

a keen mind	few and far between	pitched battle
ambulance rushed	foreseeable future	police dragnet
around the clock	gained ground	pose a challenge
arrived at the scene	gave it their blessing	proud parents
at long last	get a good look	proves conclusively
at this point in time	go to the polls	pushed for legislation
baptism of fire	got off to a good start	quick thinking
bare minimum	grief-stricken	real challenge
beginning a new life	ground to a halt	reign of terror
behind the wheel	hail of bullets	see-saw battle
benefit of the doubt	heated argument	set to work
bigger and better	heed the warning	smell a rat
blanket of snow	high-speed chase	sped to the scene
blessing in disguise	hits the spot	spread like wildfire
called to the scene	in his new position	start their mission
calm before the storm	in the wake of	still at large
came to their rescue	landed the job	stranger than fiction
came to rest	last but not least	strike a nerve
came under attack	last-ditch stand	sudden death
came under fire	left their mark	sweep under the rug
cast aside	leveled an attack	take it easy
caught red-handed	limped into port	talk is cheap
clear-cut issue	line of fire	tempers flared
colorful scene	lingering illness	time will tell
complete stranger	lodge a complaint	tip of the iceberg
complete success	lucky to be alive	tipped the scales
coveted title	made off with	took its toll
crystal clear	made their escape	too late to turn back
dead and buried	made their way home	tower of strength
decide the fate	miraculous escape	tracked down
devoured by flames	Mother Nature	traveled the globe
dime a dozen	necessary evil	tried their luck
doomed to failure	never a dull moment	under siege
dread disease	no relief in sight	under their noses
dream come true	notified next of kin	undertaking a study
drop in the bucket	once in a lifetime	up in the air
dying breed	one step closer	view with alarm
erupted in violence	only time will tell	went to great lengths
escaped death	opened fire	won a reputation
exchanged gunfire	paved the way	word of caution
faced an uphill battle	pillar of strength	words of wisdom
fell on deaf ears	pinpointed the cause	word to the wise