

Nonstandard English in headlines

Headline writers frequently resort to a conscious use of nonstandard English to make a (usually jocular) point. These examples are all taken from website pages in 2017.

The Mafia Ain't Dead (*movie title*)

Fixing what ain't broke? Reply to Baranyiová 2017 (*European Science Editing*)

It ain't good enough: Macheso (*The Sunday Mail*)

New Year's festivities in Japan ain't what they used to be (*The Japan Times*)

DOS ain't dead (*software website*)

The south wind doth blow and we shall have ... frost! (*ITV news online*)

We wuz robbed: Footballers shun French clubs amid crime wave (*The Sunday Times online*)

Rangers – we wuz robbed? No we wuzn't (*Berg Kaprow Lewis website*)

You cannae get a new finger (*King's Church Durham website*)

When I were a lad... (*raspberry pi online*)

Bell's Beer Iceman Cometh Challenge 2017 (*website*)

Cometh the hour, cometh John McDonnell, the man with a plan (*Guardian online*)

Cryptocurrency traders beware – the taxman cometh! (*The National Law Review*)

What hath the iPhone wrought? (*forbes online*)

Look what Brexit hath wrought – UK manufacturing growth at 3-year high (*forbes online*)

Me Tarzan, she man-size! (*Metro online*)

Flat, innit? (*Premier Funds website*)

Gas prices are coming down, but it's gonna take a while (*CNN Money*)

Will y'all please stop yammering about resilience? (*New York Times online*)

The octopuses are invading! Well, kinda... (*Mashable UK*)

Challengers gotta lotta bottle (*Campbeltown Courier online*)

McDonald's has Wall Street lovin' it (*CBS News*)

'No hair, no makeup, no nothing': Jennifer Lopez reveals fresh-faced look (*Today online*)