



Task 1. Write a synonym to every phrase using one word from the new vocabulary

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|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. argument _____ | 4. to separate _____ |
| 2. disagree _____ | 5. is predicted _____ |
| 3. to support _____ | 6. to promise _____ |

Study the new expression.

- *to undermine* – to make something weaker or less effective
- *to curate* – to carefully choose or collect a number of things
- *take the plunge* – to make a decision to do something, especially after thinking about it for a long time

Video:

Task 2. Video. Part 1: understanding the introduction. Number the extracts from the introduction to the video in order from 1 – 9. The first one is done for you.

and three or four TV networks where trusted newscasters delivered the day's news at the same reliable time every evening. _____

a series of scandals showed that democratic governments were also misleading the public, often with media cooperation. _____

But the problems with this system soon became apparent as mass media spread. _____

How do you know what's happening in your world? 1

The amount of information just a click away may be limitless, but the time and energy we have to absorb and evaluate it is not. All the information in the world _____

this idea would have sounded strange. Only a few decades ago, news was broad-based. _____

While it was known that authoritarian countries controlled and censored information, _____

won't be very useful unless you know how to read the news. To your grandparents, parents or even older siblings, _____

Your choices were limited to a couple of general interest magazines and newspapers of record, _____

Now watch the first part of the video (00:00 – 01:04) to check your answers.



Task 3. Watch the rest of the video (01:04 - 04:46) and choose the best answer to the following questions.

1. What caused the public to stop trusting mainstream media?

- a. Revelations that the government were paying the media to report them in a good light.
- b. The invention of the Internet, which showed there were other ways to look at the news.
- c. Evidence that they were working with democratic governments who were not operating honestly.

2. What is the problem with the increase in media sources due to the Internet?

- a. Too many differing views which may not always have the same opinion or even agree on what is a fact.
- b. It has become expensive to get the full range of opinions due to subscription charges.
- c. If there is a connection problem with the Internet, then it's very difficult to find out the news.

3. What does the video suggest as a good way to get to the truth?

- a. Subscribe to a high-quality news show or blog which will interpret the news honestly.
- b. Locate the source of the news story rather than an interpretation of the event.
- c. Find out what politicians are saying about the event and listen to their words, not what you are told they said.

4. What does the video suggest in situations where you can't get direct sources of the news?

- a. Check social media and find out what people are saying as it will often be discussed there more quickly than in the media.
- b. Get news from different places and compare what they are saying and what they agree on to get a full picture.
- c. The main news channels are usually the best source in this situation as they will have reliable access to the story.

5. What does the video warn that news reports should not contain?

- a. Information from people who are not named, as this could be people trying to change the story to one which benefits them.
- b. Information from several different sources, as they will not be clear and may confuse the situation more.
- c. Information which is based on a news blog, as blogs are often paid for by politicians.



6. What does the video suggest about sharing news on social media?

- a. Avoid using social media for news as it's nearly always false.
- b. Check news items before sharing by finding other sources.
- c. It's the fastest way to share news, so that's the first place to go.

Now watch the first part of the video (00:00 – 01:04) to check your answers.

Task 4. Pick one word from the box that suits both sentences.

verify outrageous presenter misleading read between the lines gatekeeper

1) Nothing was spelled out, yet everything was there for those who could (understand and interpret the hidden meaning).

2) If we (Interpreting the hidden meaning), Oaks wants the DEF/ AID shops closed down. _____

3) This person is the (person who control what information is shared or published who determines) where reporters and camera crews are sent.

4) The column was widely read and gave her a (person who control what information is shared or published who determines) role in comics. _____

5) It was not possible to (to establish the truth or accuracy of) his identity or alleged crime.

6) They are more than happy to (to establish the truth or accuracy of) information over the telephone. _____

7) I must apologise for my (extremely or excessively unusual, strange) behaviour.

8) You'd have to have costumes that are a little (extremely or excessively unusual, strange) when you see actors wearing them. _____

9) Commercials must not create a (causing someone to believe something that is not true) impression.

10) The instructions were confusing and even (causing someone to believe something that is not true) in some cases. _____

11) Byer, who graced the carpet in a flowing, sparkly black dress, attended the show as a (person who hosts and introduces a television or radio program).

12) While the (person who hosts and introduces a television or radio program) made the introductory remarks, the room reverberated with chattering and clinking glasses.



BAKER ST.

English course

Task 5. For some people, the media is responsible for manipulating and influencing its audience. For others, however, the media simply reflects the beliefs and values of those it provides news to. Give your own opinion, use the studied expressions. Mind articles and tenses.

