



# Unit 4

## Complaints

### Call-In

a. Do you recall the radio program you listened to called "Interview Line"? Complete the following sentences about the program.

1. Mr. Swathmore's friends and colleagues call him \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Mr. Swathmore spent most of his journalist career working for \_\_\_\_\_.
3. After he retires, he is probably going to \_\_\_\_\_.
4. An issue which Mr. Swathmore knows a lot about is \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The first caller thinks that Mr. Swathmore's reports are based on \_\_\_\_\_.
6. When Mr. Swathmore hears about a new story, he talks to \_\_\_\_\_.
7. The second caller agrees with the first caller and makes three new points:  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. To support his claims, Mr. Swathmore always relies on \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Mr. Swathmore's opinion of "the truth of a story" is that \_\_\_\_\_.
10. The issue for the next program will be \_\_\_\_\_.

b. Match the definitions in column B to the appropriate words and phrases in column A.

A	B
1. to be on air	a. to support and agree with somebody
2. to back someone up	b. to hear about something
3. freedom of the press	c. to find or reach a person
4. sources	d. the right of newspapers to print their opinions
5. tabloid newspapers	e. only a little of the whole story
6. to get hold of someone	f. people who give information to journalists
7. to get wind of a story	g. to be broadcast on radio or TV
8. the tip of the iceberg	h. newspapers that are very popular, cheap, and often scandalous

1.  2.  3.  4.  5.  6.  7.  8.

c. Match the nouns in column B to the most appropriate verbs in column A.

A	B
1. break	a. people
2. exaggerate	b. the law
3. follow up on	c. a claim
4. get hold of	d. people's tragedies
5. back up	e. sources
6. take advantage of	f. the truth
7. reveal	g. a story
8. base on	h. rumors

1.  2.  3.  4.  5.  6.  7.  8.

**d. Complete the following newspaper interview with Dan the Man about his retirement.**

- Interviewer: Now Dan, I hope you don't mind if we begin with your early career here at the newspaper. Remind me, how long ago did you start here?
- Dan: Well, I'm a little embarrassed to answer, but I started (1) \_\_\_\_\_ ago.
- Interviewer: Can you tell us a little about the newspaper then, who you worked with?
- Dan: Yes, I'd be happy to remind the older readers of one particular investigative reporter who taught me all I know - Hank "Hot Lead" Smith.
- Interviewer: What did you learn from Hank?
- Dan: Well, first of all, he taught me that when you get (2) \_\_\_\_\_ a story, you have to get (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the people who are close to the story. They can tell you what they know. Hank also taught me that I have to (4) \_\_\_\_\_ any claims I make in my articles.
- Interviewer: Now Dan, tell us about the most scandalous reports you have ever written.
- Dan: Well, there were a few, as anyone who is (5) \_\_\_\_\_ with tabloid papers knows. But in all these reports, even though I came under a lot of pressure from the courts, I never (6) \_\_\_\_\_ my sources.
- Interviewer: One last question Dan. What do you say to those people who complain that tabloid papers (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the truth?
- Dan: I can only say that the readers must decide what they believe and as long as there are good investigative journalists around, the papers will report the facts.

**e. In the phrase, "... will soon be retiring", the word *soon* gives the reader extra information. Rewrite the following sentences using the word in the brackets to add additional information.**

1. The guest on the radio show is commonly known as "Dan the Man". (more)  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Dan is familiar with the world of tabloid newspapers. (very)  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Is it known what happened? (actually)  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Journalists refuse to reveal any information. (always)  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. The host of the show tells the listeners that this program is the tip of the iceberg. (just)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- f. The adjectives in the first column all have common adjective endings: *-y*, *-ous*, *-al*. Use a good dictionary to find the missing words to complete the table below.

Adjectives	Nouns	Verbs
catchy		
personal		
scandalous		
special		

Now complete the following dialogues using the correct forms of the most appropriate words from the table above.

- "I'm a lawyer by training and I (1) \_\_\_\_\_ in cases involving people who reveal state secrets."  
"Really, so were you involved in the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ about the prime minister's secretary who sold secrets to foreign governments? I promise we won't publish your name."
- "The soft drinks company is complaining; they want us to come up with a (3) \_\_\_\_\_ slogan." "How about 'Spirit is Life!'?"
- "Her strong, decisive (4) \_\_\_\_\_ was the main reason for her success at running a tabloid newspaper."
- "The restaurant has a few good dishes and is very popular with the Japanese reporters who work for the Tokyo tabloid, because their (5) \_\_\_\_\_ is Japanese sushi."