

In the limelight

Language focus

- Media vocabulary
- Language for cause and effect

1 Your media habits

Do you ever...

- binge miniseries on one of the video streaming services?
- watch reality TV? Be honest!
- get up at night just to post something on your favourite social platform?

2 The press

How much do the following affect the press and society?

- The paparazzi
- Today's media moguls
- Tabloid journalism
- Spin propaganda
- Defamation law
- Investigative journalism

3 Discuss

Is the free press really free?

Useful language

- In any country, the degree of freedom given to the press **has to do** with the dominant political culture.
- **Since** the mass media are often owned by private companies, it's hard to believe that they can be fully impartial.
- Freedom of the press is essential in a democracy **because** it promotes public debate.
- Obstructing the freedom of the press can easily **lead to** human rights abuses.
- Censorship can **make** it hard for people to see different viewpoints.
- Access to reliable information is crucial for informed decision-making, **as** it helps us understand the world we live in.



4 The role of the press and social media

Are the following statements about the press and the social media really true?

- They help gauge public opinion.
- They provide an important platform for the public to air their grievances.
- They provide a platform for making public announcements.
- They give us the means to hold people in power to account.



5 The future

In the future, what effect will social media have on books, newspapers and other media?
Use the following vocabulary, if you need to.

the fourth estate
propaganda
sensationalism
tabloid journalism
digital literacy
media literacy

censorship
infotainment
podcasts
soundbites
citizen journalism
user-generated content

algorithms
influencers
going viral
public engagement
trolls
privacy



ub.edu/grups-conversa

Continguts de James Haden i Serveis Lingüístics

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