

Social tensions

Task 1: Match each newspaper headline in the box with the first line of its accompanying story below. Use the words in **BOLD** to help you.

- A. **ILLEGAL ALIENS** TO BE EXPELLED
- B. **ETHNIC MINORITIES** 'LIVING BELOW POVERTY LEVEL'
- C. **HOMELESS SQUATTERS** EVICTED
- D. **INSTITUTIONAL RACISM** STILL A PROBLEM
- E. **INTERNALLY DISPLACED** IN NEW GENOCIDE HORROR
- F. **EXTREMISTS** ACCUSED OF PROMPTING HOSTILITY
- G. **UNREST. RIOTS AND ANARCHY** CONTINUE
- H. **REBELS** VICTORIOUS IN LATEST POWER STRUGGLE
- I. **DISCRIMINATION AND EXPLOITATION** A MAJOR PROBLEM IN BRITISH INDUSTRY
- J. **DISSIDENTS** ASK AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT FOR POLITICAL ASYLUM

1. Officers from the Thames Valley Police Force swooped on a house in Kidlington earlier this morning and forcibly removed a family who had been staying there illegally since they lost their home in August.
2. Almost 50% of factory workers in national companies claim they have received bad treatment or have been taken advantage of because of their class, religion, race, language, colour or sex, it has been revealed.
3. The UN has accused the government of Zarislavia of further atrocities committed in the west of the country, where hundreds of migrants are reported to have been killed by security forces.
4. Opponents of the government in Yugaria have asked to stay in Sydney because the political situation in their own country is making it unsafe for them to return.
5. The police have once again been accused of discriminating against minority groups, despite their reassurances earlier this year that they had reformed their practices.
6. Neo-Nazi groups in Paris were today condemned for inciting violence against non-whites in the centre of the city,
7. A shocking survey has revealed that almost 30% of Asian and African racial groups living in London are suffering financial hardship.
8. Following further devaluation of the Malovian dollar, violence has once again erupted on the streets of the capital.
9. Groups fighting against the government of George Malikes in Livatia have succeeded in capturing and occupying the parliament building.
10. The Government has ordered the immediate deportation of over 200 immigrants who entered the country without passports or visas last year.

Social tensions

Task 2: Match the words and expressions in the first box with a word or expression in the second box which is either the closest in meaning or which is normally associated with it. Some of these also appear in Task 1,

ethnic cleansing • prejudice • civil rights • harassment
 rebel • picket line • poverty-stricken • refugee • outcast

reject (noun) • non-conformist • blackleg • human rights • destitute
 discrimination • displaced person • intimidation • racial purging

Task 3: Now look at this news programme and complete the gaps with one of the words or expressions from Tasks 1 and 2. In some cases, more than one answer may be possible. You may need to change the form of some of the words.

Good evening. Here is the news.

Neo-Nazis and other 1_____ have been held responsible for a wave of 2_____ in the Bratilovan Republic, The United Nations estimates that over 20,000 people have been murdered there in the last six months. 3_____ who have escaped from the country have asked the British government to grant them 4_____, as they fear for their safety if they have to return.

The government are to deport 500 5_____ whose visas have expired. Angry members of the opposition have accused the government of 6_____, as most of the deportees are of African origin. Meanwhile, the police have been accused of 7_____, after Asian families in Bradford complained they had been pestered and worried by officers following a series of robberies in the city.

8_____ leaders in the USA have held a demonstration in Washington against the death penalty. They have called for a total abolition of capital punishment, claiming that it is contrary to basic 9_____ principles outlined in the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights.

10_____ fighting the government of President Stanislow have taken control of the television station in the centre of the capital. This follows a long-standing 11_____ between Mr Stanislow and the principal opposition party which has seriously weakened his power.

A spokesman for the 12_____ community in London has presented a petition to the government asking them to provide housing for everyone. He argues that the government's refusal to raise the minimum wage rate has resulted in thousands living in 13_____, with not enough money to pay for somewhere to live. Meanwhile, the Metropolitan Police evicted several 14_____ who took over a house in the city centre last week and refused to leave until the government took positive action.

A recent survey reveals that at least 30% of public companies have been accused of 15_____ and 16_____ in the past year. The main offender is Anglo-Amalgamated Telecommunications, a Bristol-based company. Their employees, many of them Asian women, claim they have received bad treatment or been taken advantage of by the company.

And finally, the Cardiff police are preparing for angry scenes at the Welsh International Computers factory tomorrow when 17_____, anxious to return to work after six months on strike, will attempt to break through the picket line. A senior officer has expressed his concern that there will be 18_____ and people will get hurt as a result.

Children and the family

Task 1: Complete these sentences with an appropriate word or expression from A, B or C.

1. Mr and Mrs Smith live at home with their two children. They are a typical example of a modern _____ family
A. extended **B. nuclear** **C. compact**
2. Mr and Mrs Popatlal live at home with their aged parents, children and grandchildren. They are a typical example of a traditional _____ family
A. nuclear **B. enlarged** **C. extended**
3. Mrs Jones lives on her own and has to look after her two children. There are a lot of _____ families like hers
A. single-parent **B. mother-only** **C. mono-parent**
4. Some parents need to _____ their children more strictly
A. bring down **B. bring about** **C. bring up**
5. When I was a child, I had a very turbulent _____
A. upbringing **B. upraising** **C. uplifting**
6. Mrs Kelly is _____ and finds it difficult to look after her children on her own
A. divorced **B. divided** **C. diverged**
7. Many men believe that _____ is the responsibility of a woman
A. childhelp **B. childcare** **C. chiidaid**
8. _____ is a particularly difficult time of life for a child
A. convalescence **B. adolescence** **C. convergence**
9. A person's behaviour can sometimes be traced back to his/her _____
A. creative years **B. formulating years** **C. formative years**
10. The country has seen a sharp drop in the _____ in the last few years
A. birth rate **B. baby rate** **C. born rate**
11. She has five _____ who rely on her to look after them
A. dependants **B. dependers** **C. dependents**
12. _____ is on the rise, with over 20% of serious crimes being committed by children under the age of seventeen
A. junior crime **B. juvenile delinquency** **C. minor crime**

Task 2: Match sentences 1-12 with a second sentence A-M. Use the key words in bold to help you.

1. Mr and Mrs White are very authoritarian parents.
2. Mr. Bowles is considered to be too lenient.
3. Mr and Mrs Harris lead separate lives.
4. Billy is a well-adjusted kid.
5. The Mannings are not very responsible parents.
6. My parents are separated.
7. Parents must look after their children, but they shouldn't be over-protective.
8. Professor Maynard has made a study of the cognitive processes of young children.
9. I'm afraid my youngest child is running wild.

Children and the family

10. She looks quite different from all her siblings.
 11. There are several different and distinct stages of development in a child's life.
 12. Tony was raised by a foster family when his own parents died.
- A. They don't look after their children very well.
 - B. He is fascinated by the way they learn new things.
 - C. He very rarely punishes his children.
 - D. I live with my mother and visit my father at weekends.
 - E. He never listens to a word I say, and is always playing truant from school.
 - F. Brothers and sisters usually bear some resemblance to one another.
 - G. Although they are married and live together, they rarely speak to each other.
 - H. They are very strict with their children.
 - I. Of all of these, the teenage years are the most difficult.
 - J. Children need the freedom to get out and experience the world around them.
 - K. He's happy at home and is doing well at school.
 - L. Foster families take in children who are not their own.

Task 3: Now read this case study and fill in the gaps with one of the words or expressions from Tasks 1 and 2. In some cases, more than one answer may be possible. You may need to change some of the word forms.

Bob's problems began during his 1 _____ years. His parents got 2 _____ when he was young, and neither of his parents wanted to raise him or his brother and sister, so he was 3 _____ by a 4 _____ chosen by his parent's social worker. Unfortunately, his foster-father was a strict 5 _____ and often beat him. Bob rebelled against this strict 6 _____, and by the time he was eight, he was already 7 _____, stealing from shops and playing truant. By the time he reached 8 _____, sometime around his thirteenth birthday, he had already appeared in court several times, charged with 9 _____. The judge blamed his foster parents, explaining that children needed 10 _____ parents and guardians who would look after them properly. The foster father objected to this, pointing out that Bob's 11 _____ - his two brothers and sister - were 12 _____ children who behaved at home and worked well at school.

This has raised some interesting questions about the modern family system. While it is true that parents should not be too 13 _____ with children by letting them do what they want when they want, or be too 14 _____ by sheltering them from the realities of life, it is also true that they should not be too strict. It has also highlighted the disadvantages of the modern 15 _____ family where the child has only its mother and father to rely on (or the 16 _____ family, in which the mother or father has to struggle particularly hard to support their 17 _____). In fact, many believe that we should return to traditional family values and the 18 _____ family: extensive research has shown that children from these families are generally better behaved and have a better chance of success in later life.

SOCIAL CLASSES DISCRIMINATION
 SOCIOLOGICAL ISSUES
 NGOs and Lobbies

MALE & FEMALE ROLES

Vocabulary Find the "odd one out".

There may be more than one answer. Give your reasons.

	A	B	C
1.	a baby-sitter	a home-maker	a bread-winner
2.	prejudice	harassment	discrimination
3.	racism	political correctness	sexism
4.	the chair	the chair-person	the chairman
5.	a husband	a wife	a partner
6.	Ms	Mrs	Miss
7.	crèches	nurseries	primary schools
8.	capabilities	talent	qualifications

MALE & FEMALE ROLES

In the British General Election in 1997, some of the most powerful men in the country lost their seats to *professionally successful women*. One hundred and nineteen women were elected to the House of Commons and five women secured Cabinet posts. By 1997, over a million of Britain's four million small businesses were run by women. Many of these women had left corporate life because of their difficulties in progressing in large organizations, especially in the world of finance, where men are generally favoured for the top managerial posts.

During the twentieth century, women in Britain have had to *campaign* vigorously for *equal rights* - the *right to education*, the *right to vote* and the *right to work* in posts traditionally reserved for men. It was largely through *war-work* that women proved their *capabilities*.

More recently, they have been *outperforming* men in public examinations. *Women's rights* campaigns have focused particularly on language and thought. Terms such as "*chairman*" have been changed to more neutral descriptions such as "*chair*" or less ambiguous alternatives such as "*president*". This is part of the recent concept known as "*political correctness*".

Some men are careful to avoid accusations of *sexism* and *sexual harassment* while others have reacted by campaigning for "*men's rights*".

Dialogue

A: *What kind of rights* do women and men want in your country?

B: *To begin with*, most women and men want the right to work.

A: *Do you think* both partners in a relationship should expect to work in times of High unemployment?

B: *It's often an economic necessity for* both partners to work, especially if they're buying a house or providing for a family.

A: *What if there isn't* enough work to go round?

B: Then some people will be out of a job - they could be either women or men.

A: *Aren't they more often* women?

B: *Yes, but it isn't that* women don't want to work. *For a start,* they suffer more discrimination in the work-place. When a young woman applies for a job, it isn't possible to ask her whether she intends to start a family or not, but it is possible to give the job to a man with fewer qualifications.

A: *Does that happen?*

B: *Perhaps not as much as it used to,* but if a woman leaves a job to start family, it may be very difficult for her to return to full-time work. Many women are in part-time jobs and on very low rates of pay. Underemployment of well qualified women who are working as bar-maids or waitresses is a huge waste of talent.

A: Are there many underemployed men?

B: *Yes, certainly.* There are those who do seasonal work such as deck-chair attendants or English language teachers and those who depend on the black economy for occasional jobs - they might repair your motorbike or clean your windows!

A: *How about* unemployed men?

B: Well, unemployment can be very frustrating for those men who believe that they should be the bread-winner in a relationship. Many live on state benefits. There is also a group of men who have become unemployable. They have dropped out of the system altogether. The adventurous ones become New Age Travellers, the idealistic ones become political protesters and the dishonest ones turn to crime.

A: So, if the system doesn't give you any rights, you *live by your own rules!*

Men and women

Task 1: Look at the words and expressions in *bold* in the following sentences and decide if we generally consider them to have a positive connotation or a negative connotation.

1. At the interview, the manager was impressed by her **astute** comments.
2. **In the power struggle** between men and women, neither side will win.
3. After the takeover, the staff hoped that things would improve, but the new manager was just as **ruthless** as the man he replaced.
4. Some men believe that women are the **weaker sex** and should leave real work to men.
5. Our boss is a **male chauvinist** and believes that women should get less money than men for the same job.
6. John doesn't consider women to be very intelligent. To him, they are just **sex objects**.
7. Our company is **male-dominated**; all the top management positions are occupied by men.
8. Maureen is a **multi-faceted** worker. She is able to do a number of different jobs, often at the same time.
9. He holds **egalitarian** views and believes that everybody should be treated equally.
10. The new management has taken steps to ensure **equality** in the office; from now on, everyone will receive the same money regardless of their sex or age.
11. **Militant feminists** have thrown paint at a well-known television personality in order to stress their views.

POSITIVE	NEGATIVE

Don't forget to keep a record of the words and expressions that you have learnt, review your notes from time to time and try to use new vocabulary items whenever possible.

Task 2: Use the words and expressions in the box to complete the conversation below.

gender roles • child-rearing • male counterparts
 breadwinner • stereotypes • household management • role division
 battle of the sexes • Sex Discrimination Act • social convention

Chris: Cleaning and cooking are a woman's job. After all, men are no good at 1._____.

Terry: What rubbish! Thank goodness the 2._____exists to prevent men from taking advantage of women.

Chris: Well, let's face it, in the workplace women never do as well as their 3._____.

Terry: And I suppose you think that women are only good for changing babies' nappies and other tedious aspects of 4._____.

Chris: No, but I do believe that in a modern household there should be a clearly-defined 5._____. Men are good at DIY, for example. Most women aren't. And I'll always believe that it's the man who should be the 6._____, providing food and shelter for his family.

Terry: Well, all I can say is that I'm glad your ideas of 7._____are not shared by most people.

Chris: Nonsense! A lot of people believe in traditional 8._____; the man goes out to work, the woman stays at home. It's as simple as that.

Terry: Men at work and women at home? Come on dear, those are such typical 9._____. With people like you around, the 10._____will always continue.

Chris: Oh, shut up dad.

Terry: Sorry Christine, but it's an issue I feel strongly about.

Don't forget to keep a record of the words and expressions that you have learnt, review your notes from time to time and try to use new vocabulary items whenever possible.

GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1508/150824-voting.html>

Saudi Arabian women have been registering to vote for the first time in their (1) _____. Women will be able to vote in the (2) _____ council elections (3) _____ this year. They now have a 21-day period to register. The Saudi Gazette newspaper said the first woman to (4) _____ was Safinaz Abu Al-Shamat. She said she wanted to be, "the first woman to arrive at the centre" and the first woman to register. She also said it was a (5) _____ duty to take part in elections. Another woman to register early was Jamal Al-Saadi. She told reporters that: "The (6) _____ of Saudi women in the municipal elections as voters and candidates was a (7) _____ for us. We are just at the beginning of the (8) _____."

Letting women vote was one of the (9) _____ of King Abdullah, who died earlier this year. The Saudi government said giving women the vote was an important (10) _____. It added that it was, "a significant milestone in (11) _____". As well as being able to vote, many women also want to run for (12) _____ and take up government positions. At least 70 women want to run for office, and more than 80 have registered as (13) _____ managers. One of the women who wants to be a candidate in the December (14) _____ is 36-year-old Haifa al-Hababi. She said she would campaign with a message for (15) _____. She said that: "Change is life. The government has given us this (16) _____ and I intend to use it."

register

history

dream

city

national

road

later

participation

campaign

progress

change

plans

tool

office

step

elections

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1508/150824-voting.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE:

Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- | | |
|---|-------|
| a. Saudi women are registering to vote in national elections. | T / F |
| b. The women have three weeks in which to register to vote. | T / F |
| c. A lady called Jamal was the first woman to register. | T / F |
| d. A woman said voting was a dream for her. | T / F |
| e. Giving women the vote was the idea of King Abdullah. | T / F |
| f. Fewer than 70 women want to run for office. | T / F |
| g. Around 800 women have registered to be campaign managers. | T / F |
| h. A lady called Haifa wants to change a message. | T / F |

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms from the article.

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 1. registering | a. passed away |
| 2. period | b. get to |
| 3. arrive | c. jobs |
| 4. duty | d. start |
| 5. beginning | e. time |
| 6. died | f. serious |
| 7. significant | g. push |
| 8. positions | h. signing up |
| 9. campaign | i. plan |
| 10. intend | j. responsibility |

3. PHRASE MATCH:

(Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Saudi Arabian women have been | a. of the road |
| 2. the first time | b. council elections |
| 3. vote in the city | c. managers |
| 4. it was a national | d. for change |
| 5. We are just at the beginning | e. duty to take part |
| 6. an important | f. us this tool |
| 7. women also want to run | g. registering to vote |
| 8. campaign | h. for office |
| 9. campaign with a message | i. in their history |
| 10. The government has given | j. step |

The media

Task 1: Match the words and expressions in box A with a suitable definition in box B.

Box A.

- | | | | |
|--------------------|--------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| 1. current affairs | 2. reporters | 3. journalists | 4. tabloids |
| 5. broadsheets | 6. coverage | 7. information overload | 8. broadcasts |
| 9. web | 10. website | 11. download | 12. the Internet |
| | | | 13. log on |

Box B.

- | | |
|--|---|
| A. large format newspapers | 1. the millions of pages and sites which display text and images within the Internet |
| B. small format newspapers | J. to transfer pages from a web site onto our own computer |
| C. people who write for newspapers or periodicals | K. the international network linking millions of computers |
| D. the amount of space or time given to an event in newspapers or on television | L. a modern expression referring to the inability of a human to process everything he or she hears and sees |
| E. the political situation as it is now | M. a collection of related pages on the World Wide Web created by a company, organisation or individual |
| F. radio or television programmes | |
| G. to enter a password and start to access a computer system | |
| H. journalists who write reports of events for a newspaper, periodical or television programme | |

Task 2: Complete this extract from a television interview with an appropriate word or expression from the box.

entertainment • invasion of privacy • exploiting • libel • censorship
information • readership • media tycoon • paparazzi • freedom of the press
unscrupulous • gutter press • chequebook journalism

Interviewer: Welcome to today's programme. Today we will be discussing the 1 _____, and asking the question: Should we allow newspapers and television channels to print or say whatever they like? In the studio I have television personality Timothy Blake and 2 _____ Rupert Poubelle, multi-millionaire owner of the Daily Views newspaper. Timothy, let's start with you.

T.B.: Thank you. In my opinion, it's time the government imposed stricter 3 _____ of the press in order to prevent 4 _____ journalists and reporters from making money by 5 _____ people. I have often accused Mr Poubelle's organisation of 6 _____ - nowadays I can't even sunbathe in my garden without being photographed by his hoardes of 7 _____. They're like vultures. And everything they print about me is lies, complete rubbish.

Interviewer: But isn't it true that the media provides us with valuable 8 _____

The media

and 9 _____, and censorship would deprive us of much of this? Rupert?

R.P.: Of course. Mr. Blake's accusations are unfounded, as are the accusations of 10 _____ we have received, and I can safely say that my journalists never pay people money to create stories. We are simply reporting the truth. Of course, if Mr. Blake wants to sue us for 11 _____, he is very welcome to try. But he would be depriving our 12 _____ - all eight million of them - of the things they want...

T.B.: You're talking rubbish, as usual, like the pathetic 13 _____ you own and use to fill your pockets with dirty money.

R.P.: Now look here, mate...

Task 3: Now read this essay and complete the gaps with one of the words or expressions from Tasks 1 and 2. You may need to change the form of some of the words.

The media plays a valuable role in keeping us informed and entertained. However, many people believe it has too much power and freedom.' Discuss your views on this, giving examples and presenting a balanced argument both in favour of, and against, the power and freedom of the media.'

Barely a hundred years ago, if we wanted to stay informed about what was going on in the world, we had to rely on word of mouth or, at best, newspapers. But because communication technology was very basic, the news we received was often days or weeks old.

We still have newspapers, of course, but they have changed almost beyond recognition. Whether we choose to read the 1 _____, with their quality 2 _____ of news and other 3 _____ by top 4 _____ and articles by acclaimed 5 _____, or if we prefer the popular 6 _____, with their lively gossip and colourful stories, we are exposed to a wealth of information barely conceivable at the beginning of the last century.

We also have television and radio. News 7 _____ let us know about world events practically as they happen, while sitcoms, chat shows and documentaries, etc. keep us entertained and informed. And there is also the 8 _____, where we can access information from millions of 9 _____ around the world which we can then 10 _____ onto our own computers.

However, these forms of 11 _____ and 12 _____ (or 'infotainment' as they are now sometimes collectively called) have their negative side. Famous personalities frequently accuse the 13 _____ (and sometimes even respectable papers) of 14 _____ by the 15 _____ who are determined to get a story at any cost. Newspapers are often accused of 16 _____ by angry politicians who dislike reading lies about themselves, and there are frequent accusations of 17 _____, with 18 _____ reporters paying people to create stories for their newspapers or television programmes. Of course, it is not just the papers which are to blame. Sex and violence are increasing on the television. Undesirable people fill the 19 _____ with equally undesirable material which can be accessed by anyone with a home computer. And the fear of 20 _____ prevents many from 21 _____ to the Internet.

Many argue that the government should impose stricter 22 _____ to prevent such things happening. But others argue that 23 _____ is the keystone of a free country. Personally, I take the view that while the media may occasionally abuse its position of power, the benefits greatly outweigh the disadvantages. Our lives would be much emptier without the wealth of information available to us today, and we are better people as a result.

WHILE READING / LISTENING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1011/101122-digital_newspapers.html

GAP FILL: Put the words into the gaps in the text.

Traditional and digital news media _____ soon merge to produce daily newspapers on iPads. This is if the plans of Apple owner Steve Jobs and newspaper mogul Rupert Murdoch come to _____. Industry rumours say the new newspaper will be called "The Daily". There might even be a name to _____ newspaper, as the new project will, of course, be _____. There will be no print edition or even a Web edition of this new media. It will download straight to the iPad or _____ tablet for an unbeatable price of 99 cents a week. Messrs Jobs and Murdoch maybe onto a _____ thing here. The Apple boss has the technology to be able to _____ digital news and Mr Murdoch owns the world's biggest news corporation. They also both have a _____ of knowing what people want.

There are reports that Murdoch is _____ interested in the iPad and how popular it is. He told Fox Business this week that The Daily was his "Number one most exciting _____." He seems to believe people will prefer to read the news on such a _____ rather than a traditional broadsheet newspaper. There are advantages of the tablet over a paper, such as the _____ of origami-style gymnastics required to turn a page on a crowded train, or _____ the corner getting soaked in milk at the breakfast table. Other more _____ benefits to an iPad include the higher level of interactivity the user has with the news. Another _____ for Mr Murdoch and his News Corporation is that he could increase revenues by selling apps designed _____ for the iPad.

alternative

knack

fruition

paperless

deliver

might

winning

replace

lack

advantage

project

obvious

specifically

particularly

avoid

device

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1011/101122-digital_newspapers.html

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- | | |
|--|-------|
| a. Newspapers might soon appear with moving images on their pages. | T / F |
| b. Steve Jobs and Rupert Murdoch have an idea about fruit. | T / F |
| c. The new news idea could cost as little as 99 cents a week. | T / F |
| d. Messrs Jobs and Murdoch seem to know about people's likes. | T / F |
| e. This news project is the most exciting of Mr Murdoch's projects. | T / F |
| f. Murdoch believes people prefer news in papers rather than on iPads. | T / F |
| g. There might be a danger of newspapers getting wet with milk. | T / F |
| h. Mr Murdoch is thinking of making available all apps for free. | T / F |

2. SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article.

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. merge | a. version |
| 2. fruition | b. ability |
| 3. edition | c. advantages |
| 4. alternative | d. combine |
| 5. knack | e. income |
| 6. particularly | f. completion |
| 7. prefer to | g. especially |
| 8. required | h. substitute |
| 9. benefits | i. needed |
| 10. revenues | j. rather |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Traditional and digital news media | a. to an iPad |
| 2. There will be no | b. thing here |
| 3. It will download | c. read the news |
| 4. maybe onto a winning | d. print edition |
| 5. have a knack of knowing | e. might soon merge |
| 6. people will prefer to | f. by selling apps |
| 7. There are advantages | g. what people want |
| 8. more obvious benefits | h. the user has |
| 9. the higher level of interactivity | i. straight to the iPad |
| 10. increase revenues | j. of the tablet |

READING COMPREHENSION TEXTS

Television has transformed politics in the United States by changing the way in which information is disseminated, by altering political campaigns, and by changing citizen's patterns of response to politics. By giving citizens independent access to the candidates, television diminished the role of the political party in the selection of the major party candidates. By centering politics on the person of the candidate, television accelerated the citizen's focus on character rather than issues.

Line
(5)

Television has altered the forms of political communication as well. The messages on which most of us rely are briefer than they once were. The stump speech, a political speech given by traveling politicians and lasting 3/2 to 2 hours, which characterized nineteenth-century political discourse, has given way to the 30-second advertisement and the 10 second "sound bite" in broadcast news. Increasingly the audience for speeches is not that standing in front of the politician but rather the viewing audience who will hear and see a snippet of the speech on the news.

(10)

In these abbreviated forms, much of what constituted the traditional political discourse of earlier ages has been lost. In 15 or 30 seconds, a speaker cannot establish the historical context that shaped the issue in question, cannot detail the probable causes of the problem, and cannot examine alternative proposals to argue that one is preferable to others. In snippets, politicians assert but do not argue.

(15)

Because television is an intimate medium, speaking through it requires a changed political style that was more conversational, personal, and visual than that of the oldstyle stump speech. Reliance on television means that increasingly our political world contains memorable pictures rather than memorable words. Schools teach us to analyze words and print. However, in a world in which politics is increasingly visual, informed citizenship requires a new set of skills.

(20)

Recognizing the power of television's pictures, politicians craft televisual, staged events, called pseudo-event, designed to attract media coverage. Much of the political activity we see on television news has been crafted by politicians, their speechwriters, and their public relations advisers for televised consumption. Sound bites in news and answers to questions in debates increasingly sound like advertisements.

(25)

10. What is the main point of the passage?

- (A) Citizens in the United States are now more informed about political issues because of television coverage.
- (B) Citizens in the United States prefer to see politicians on television instead of in person.
- (C) Politics in the United States has become substantially more controversial since the introduction of television.
- (D) Politics in the United States has been significantly changed by television.

11. The word "disseminated" in line 2 is closest in meaning to

- (A) analyzed (B) discussed (C) spread (D) stored
12. It can be inferred that before the introduction of television, political parties
(A) had more influence over the selection of political candidates
(B) spent more money to promote their political candidates
(C) attracted more members
(D) received more money
13. The word "accelerated" in line 6 is closest in meaning to
(A) allowed (B) increased (C) required (D) started
14. The author mentions the "stump speech" in line 8 as an example of
(A) an event created by politicians to attract media attention
(B) an interactive discussion between two politicians
(C) a kind of political presentation typical of the nineteenth century
(D) a style of speech common to televised political events
15. The phrase "given way to" in line 10 is closest in meaning to
(A) added interest to (B) modified
(C) imitated (D) been replaced by
16. The word "that" in line 12 refers to
(A) audience (B) broadcast news
(C) politician (D) advertisement
17. According to the passage, as compared with televised speeches, traditional political discourse was more successful at
(A) allowing news coverage of political candidates
(B) placing political issues within a historical context
(C) making politics seem more intimate to citizens
(D) providing detailed information about a candidates private behavior
18. The author states that "politicians assert but do not argue" (line 18) in order to suggest that politicians
(A) make claims without providing reasons for the claims
(B) take stronger positions on issues than in the past
(C) enjoy explaining the issue to broadcasters
(D) dislike having to explain their own positions on issues to citizens
19. The word "Reliance" in line 21 is closest in meaning to
(A) abundance (B) clarification (C) dependence (D) information
20. The purpose of paragraph 4 is to suggest that
(A) politicians will need to learn to become more personal when meeting citizens
(B) politicians who are considered very attractive are favored by citizens over politicians who are less attractive
(C) citizens tend to favor a politician who analyzed the issue over one who does not
(D) citizens will need to learn how to evaluate visual political images in order to become better informed
21. According to paragraph 5, staged political events are created so that politicians can
(A) create more time to discuss political issues