News

Lead-in: Discuss the questions.

- Is it important to you to know what is happening in your country? Why? Why not?
- Is it important to you to know what is happening around the world? Why? Why not?
- How do you find out about the news?
- Do you always believe the news stories you see or hear? Why? Why not?

Task 1: Write advantages and disadvantages of using these media as a source of information.

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<th>advantages</th>
<th>disadvantages</th>
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<td>newspapers</td>
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Decide which media is best and be prepared to say why!
Task 2: Choose one of the headlines and guess or invent the story.
- TAX CHEWING GUM TO PAY FOR CLEAN-UP
- NASA ASTRONAUTS STILL STUCK IN SPACE
- 3-YEAR-OLDS ASKED TO MARK THEIR TEACHERS
- HOMES TO BE POWERED BY GRASS CUTTINGS
- TELEVISION KILLS, SAYS GERMAN PROFESSOR
- WANT A DOG? TAKE A PERSONALITY TEST
- WHALE CRASHES INTO FISHING BOAT

Task 3: Choose an interesting news story. Make notes and prepare to give a summary.

Task 4: Discuss these quotes with your classmates.
- You can’t believe anything you read or see in the news.
- The news media has no respect for the lives of normal people.
- All the news you hear is bad news.
- Famous people earn a lot of money from being in the news. They shouldn’t complain when they have reporters following them.
- We need to see what is happening in the world. Visual images are important for us to be able to understand.
- We don’t need to see the horrific things that happen in the world. Images and videos give us too much detail and invade the privacy of real people.
- The world is getting smaller as news is travelling faster.
- Within ten years newspapers won’t exist, as we will get all our news online.
- Bad news travels fast.
- Fake news is a real danger to society.

Task 5: Imagine that you are a journalist. You have been asked to interview somebody who has been in the news. Decide who it is and write questions to ask them.

Then carry out a role play with a classmate. One of you is the journalist, and the other is the person who has been in the news.