

Year: 10
Term: 2a
Topic: The role of media and free press

Lesson Concepts

1. The role of the media
2. The Importance of the media
3. The Importance of the media
4. Media Regulation and censorship
5. Using the Media
6. Revision
7. Key Assessment
8. Feedback from Key Assessment

Core Text:

Citizenship Studies OCR GCSE 9-1;
Steve Johnson & Graeme Roffe;
Hodder Education

W3 The Leveson Inquiry:

This was a public, judge-led inquiry to examine the culture, ethics and practice of the press.

It was established because of the phone-hacking scandal within the Millie Dowler case. It looked at the relationship between the press and the public, including phone-hacking and other potentially illegal behaviour, and at the relationships between the press and the police and the press and politicians.

The inquiry concluded that newspapers should continue to be self-regulated but that a new regulatory body needed to be established to ensure that the press acted legally. There also needed to be a new code of conduct for the press.

W4 The media helps to scrutinise (check) the actions of:

- The royal family
- MPs and members of the House of Lords
- Civil servants
- Judges and lawyers
- The clergy
- Military leaders
- Business and trade union leaders
- Political parties
- Pressure groups
- Charities
- Heads of schools, hospitals, police forces, prisons and other organisations

W5 Key Facts:

The British media can influence political support by publicly backing one party more than others. The readers of a newspaper are more likely to vote for a political party supported by that paper.

English news media support for the political parties – general election 2015:

Conservative supporters: Daily Mail; The Sun; The Daily Telegraph; Financial Time and The Times

Labour supporters: The Guardian; Daily Mirror and Morning Star

UK Independence Party supporters: Daily Express

Key Words:

W1 Freedom of Expression	the power or right to express one's opinions without censorship, restraint, or legal penalty.	W2 Judicial Public enquiry	An independent investigation by an experienced judge into a matter of concern. Most meetings are open to the public and can be reported by the media. Pressure groups and members of the public can present evidence to the enquiry. Public enquiries are initiated and funded by the Government.
Public interest	Information that the public have the right to know, such as a plan closure to a local hospital.	Self-regulation	This occurs when a group of businesses or organisations engaged in a common activity such as providing the news, set up their own regulator. Some activities are regulated by independent organisations funded by the Government.
BBC	The BBC is the world's leading public service broadcaster. Established by a Royal Charter, the BBC is a public service broadcaster funded by the licence fee paid by UK households.	Regulatory body	An organisation responsible for the oversight of an activity or service. Members of the public can complain to the regulatory body if they are unhappy about the quality of the activity or service. A regulatory body often publishes reports on the effectiveness of service providers.
Licence Fee	The BBC is currently funded directly through a fee paid by each household owning any electronic device used for receiving TV programmes. This fee protects the BBC from those who might wish to influence programme schedules and content.	Digital Media	Digital media is created and shared using computers. Examples of digital media include: blogs and websites; social media; and digital video and audio.
Censorship	The suppression or prohibition of any parts of books, films, news, etc. that are considered obscene, politically unacceptable, or a threat to security.	Libel	A published false statement that is damaging to a person's reputation