The press and the media

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

UPPER-INTERMEDIATE | B2

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

1 Match each journalism concept with its meaning.

1 editorial independence	____	a freedom to report without censorship or intimidation
2 media bias	____	b selection of issues given prominence by news organisations
3 public interest	____	c reporting designed mainly to provoke excitement or shock
4 anonymous source	____	d benefit or importance to society as a whole
5 right of reply	____	e hidden personal interest that may affect professional judgment
6 investigative journalism	____	f systematic preference influencing news selection or presentation
7 news agenda	____	g informant whose identity is protected
8 press freedom	____	h reporting that uncovers concealed wrongdoing through sustained inquiry
9 sensationalism	____	i ability of editors to make decisions without improper outside pressure
10 conflict of interest	____	j opportunity for a criticised person to respond

2 Complete the journalism collocations.

agenda | allegation | conflict | evidence | freedom | independence | interest | reply

1 protect editorial _____

2 serve the public _____

3 make a serious _____

4 support a claim with _____

5 offer a right of _____

6 declare a conflict of _____

7 shape the news _____

8 defend press _____

3 Choose the most precise term for the context.

1 An owner cannot dictate coverage: *editorial independence / press freedom*.

2 A newsroom repeatedly favours one party: *media bias / public interest*.

3 A hidden informant provides documents: *anonymous source / right of reply*.

4 Months of reporting uncover corruption: *investigative journalism / sensationalism*.

5 A dramatic headline exaggerates limited evidence: *sensationalism / news agenda*.

6 A reporter owns shares in the company examined: *conflict of interest / media bias*.

7 A criticised official may answer the claims: *right of reply / public interest*.

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4 Complete the editorial review with terms from the box.

anonymous source | conflict of interest | editorial independence | investigative journalism | media bias | news agenda | press freedom | public interest | right of reply | sensationalism

The investigation serves the **1** _____ and reflects sustained **2** _____. Its central documents came from an **3** _____, whose motives were assessed. Editors protected **4** _____ from commercial pressure and checked for any **5** _____. To reduce **6** _____, they reviewed language and source selection. The headline avoided **7** _____. Those criticised received a **8** _____. Publication contributes to the **9** _____ and depends on strong **10** _____.

5 Read the text and answer the questions briefly.

Publishing leaked documents

A newsroom received documents suggesting unsafe practices at a large company. Reporters verified several records independently and asked the company detailed questions. Editors removed personal data unrelated to the allegations and delayed publication while checking whether disclosure could endanger employees. The company denied wrongdoing, and its response appeared alongside the findings. The report explained what remained uncertain and linked readers to the evidence that could safely be published.

1 What did the documents suggest? _____

2 How were records verified? _____

3 Why was some personal data removed? _____

4 Why was publication delayed? _____

5 How was the company's response handled? _____

6 How did the report communicate evidence and uncertainty? _____

6 Rewrite using the expression in capitals.

1 The story benefits society as a whole. **PUBLIC** _____

2 The informant's identity is protected. **ANONYMOUS** _____

3 Editors decide without commercial pressure. **INDEPENDENCE** ___

4 The criticised company was allowed to respond. **REPLY** ____

OVER TO YOU

Write a **120-150 word** editorial decision explaining whether and how to publish a sensitive investigation. Address evidence, sources, privacy, harm, reply, uncertainty and public interest.

[ ] Use at least ten target terms. [ ] Balance transparency with harm prevention. [ ] Justify the headline and timing.

The press and the media

ANSWER KEY

1 Journalism concepts

1 **i** 2 **f** 3 **d** 4 **g** 5 **j** 6 **h** 7 **b** 8 **a** 9 **c** 10 **e**

2 Journalism collocations

1 **independence** 2 **interest** 3 **allegation** 4 **evidence** 5 **reply** 6 **interest** 7 **agenda** 8 **freedom**

3 Precise terms

1 **editorial independence** 2 **media bias** 3 **anonymous source** 4 **investigative journalism**
5 **sensationalism** 6 **conflict of interest** 7 **right of reply**

4 Editorial review

1 **public interest** 2 **investigative journalism** 3 **anonymous source** 4 **editorial independence** 5 **conflict of interest**
6 **media bias** 7 **sensationalism** 8 **right of reply** 9 **news agenda** 10 **press freedom**

5 Reading - suggested answers

1 Unsafe company practices. 2 Against independent evidence. 3 It was unrelated to the allegations. 4 To assess possible danger.
5 It appeared with the findings. 6 It stated uncertainty and linked safe evidence.

6 Rewriting - possible answers

1 It is in the **public interest**. 2 It is an **anonymous source**. 3 Editors have editorial **independence**. 4 The company had a right of **reply**.

Over to you: Answers will vary. Check evidential standards, proportionality, reply, privacy and public interest.