**MEDIA**

What images spring to mind when you hear the word ‘media’?

What are the main types of media?

Which type of media do you prefer?

What do the following words mean? breaking news, gossip columns, a hoax, traffic reports

***VIDEO: MEDIA IN BRITAIN***

Watch the video and answer the questions:

How many people in Britain read newspaper every day?   
What are the names of the most popular tabloids?

What are broadsheets?

How many magazines are there in Britain?

How many people read the news on the Internet?

What does BBC mean?

How many hours a week do the British watch TV?

How many percent of children have a television in their bedroom?

What are young people’s favourite programmes?

How many percent of British households have a video recorder?

*Put the underlined words in the correct order:*

Where would we be without the media? How would we get the information world about? All of us are interested in the news. what’s We want know happening all to around the world. We switch the TV on just to watch the news. train It as every passenger seems though has a newspaper. The us bring who journalists news the do a very important job. Many risk their lives to bring us the from the world’s danger zones news. Unfortunately, many reporters are killed they covering war while are a. The media make us feel we are part of the world. We other countries and become experts on on the big news stories. The media also bring us many unforgettable images, on walking man a as such moon the. Really, the media show us history as it happens.

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| Do you think the media have too much power?  What is the role of newspapers in society?  What sells newspaper?  Why do we buy newspapers?  What are the good and bad things about the media in our country?  What do you think about countries that ban or restrict the media?  Do you always believe the media?  How is today’s media different from that of 30 years ago?  Can you think of any examples of the media being irresponsible?  Would you like to work for the media?  Why do people fear the media?  Should there be any censorship of the media?  Do you think the media tries to manipulate people or change their views? |

What is the future of newspaper like?

What is your favourite section of the newspaper to read?

How often do you watch the news?

Do you feel bad if you miss the news?

Do you think people need to know all of the news?

How often do you read the newspaper?

What newspaper do you read?

How much does the newspaper cost?

What kind of magazines do you like to read?

Are magazines expensive in your country?

Would you like to read newspaper or watch TV which reports only about good things?

**A Very Spirited Cheerleader**

Kristi Yamaoka, a cheerleader from Southern Illinois University, fell 15 feet and landed on her head during a recent basketball tournament. The 18 year-old student balanced on the top of a group of her fellow cheerleaders. Together, they formed a human pyramid. Suddenly, the stunt went wrong and Kristi fell down. She landed on her head.

People in the stands were shocked, as Yamaoka lay motionless for several minutes on the court. Emergency medical workers put the cheerleader on a stretcher. As she was being wheeled off the court, the Southern Illinois University band started playing the fight song "Go Southern Go." Yamaoka managed to give two thumbs up and to move her arm in time to the music. The crowd of 14,000 responded with a standing ovation for the brave and spirited cheerleader.

From her hospital bed, Yamaoka said, "As long as my arms were functioning, I could do the fight song." She explained that she didn't want her team to get distracted. She wanted them to pull off a win. Fortunately, her team did win the game.

Yamaoka is expected to make a full recovery, though doctors have told her she must take it easy for the next six weeks. That means her cheerleading is over for the season. Yamaoka says she'll try to join the team again next season.

After Yamaoka's injury, the Missouri Valley Conference has barred cheerleaders from performing certain stunts that they now consider high risk.

Yamaoka, however, has no regrets. "Life is about taking risks, and you can die at any moment," she says.

**Vocabulary:**  
cheerleader - at sporting events, a member of a team that leads cheers and performs dances and gymnastic moves  
human pyramid - when rows of people stand or kneel on top of each other to form the shape of a pyramid; each person is balanced atop two others  
stunt - an action that displays unusual daring, strength or skill  
motionless - not moving; completely still  
stretcher - an object used to transport the wounded or sick  
fight song - a sports team's unique song, played so the fans will cheer for the team  
(to) give two thumbs up - to raise two thumbs as a sign of support or approval  
in time to - along with the beat or rhythm of  
standing ovation - when the audience stands up and claps, as a sign of praise, usually at the end of a performance  
spirited - lively, enthusiastic; willing to face danger  
distracted - losing focus; having one's attention drawn away   
(to) pull off - to succeed in doing something  
(to) make a full recovery - to get 100% better after an accident or injury  
(to) take it easy - to relax  
(to) bar - to prevent; to forbid

1. What happened to the cheerleader?

2. What was the band doing as the cheerleader was being carried away?

3. What is the cheerleader's attitude to the fall?

4. What are the cheerleader's plans regarding cheerleading?

5. What did the Missouri Valley Conference do as a result of Kristi Yamaoka's fall?

**The Zookeepers' Surprising Discovery!**

Zookeepers at a zoo near Tokyo received a big shock recently. They served a snake named Aochan a hamster as a snack. However, instead of gobbling up the hamster, Aochan befriended the hamster. Zookeepers found them lying side by side.

"I've never seen anything like it," said one of the zookeepers. "Never in a million years would I have predicted this."

The hamster is clearly enjoying his life beside the snake. Sometimes the hamster even climbs onto Aochan to take a nap.

Meanwhile, the snake is enjoying a diet of frozen mice.

Some say this relationship may end in disaster. One day, the snake may get hungry and decide to devour his furry little friend. But in the meantime, zoo visitors are in for a unique spectacle. The chance to see a snake and hamster together will surely draw large crowds.

**Vocabulary:**  
gobbling up - to eat quickly  
(to) befriend - to make friends with  
side by side - next to each other never in a million years - never (said of something that one really does not expect)  
(to) predict - to know in advance; to expect  
(to) take a nap - to sleep for a short period of time  
disaster - serious misfortune; a very bad event  
(to) devour - to eat quickly or greedily  
furry - hairy  
(to be) in for - guaranteed to have or to get  
spectacle - something that can be seen, especially something impressive or surprising  
draw - attract

1) What happened when zookeepers put a hamster in the snake's cage?

2) How surprised were zookeepers by what happened with the snake and the hamster?

3) The "furry friend" in this story refers to:

4) What is the snake eating instead of the hamster?

5) Why do some people say the relationship between the snake and the hamster may end in disaster?