

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
SECONDARY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME
SEPTEMBER 2020

WEEK TEN: LESSON ONE

SUBJECT: English 'A'

GRADE: Eleven (11)

TOPIC: COMPREHENSION

OBJECTIVE(S): With the aid of a text students will select the correct responses to given questions.

Instructions: read the following extract carefully and then answer the following questions in the basis of what is stated or implied.

The press must be, in any democratic society, a dedicated Opposition.

Any Government – to a good Press – is a suspect instrument. Any Opposition, to a good Press, is opposing ineptly.

The good Press represents nobody but itself. It is the last stronghold of totally aristocratic privilege. It speaks for the people because it depends on the people who buy it because they like it; and because it has an unwritten contract between it and the people, who would otherwise know about the Government of the day only what the Government wanted the people to know. But this allegiance to, and contract with, the people do not bind the Press to any commitment except telling the truth. The Press elects itself, and can be removed from office only by a legitimate revolution of the people that stop buying it, or by an illegitimate coup mounted by the elected estates of the Government.

Every Government is, potentially, a ravager; every people, potentially, a victim. Every good Press is an individualistic, opinionated knight who simply declares that between ravager and victim there is a force which will not be frightened by the ravager, and which will not be influenced by those to whom it sells its opinions.

A good Press speaks for the people who vote a government out of power But the day after such a Government takes power, the Press must be ready to rebuke the people for shouting "Hurrah!" for a patently incompetent Government.

A good Press, in short, is the product of 500 years of technological development between Caxton and Baird and we make history as well as record it The politician never knows which one editorial, one story, one commentary; one pictorial feature might destroy him or create him.

There is nothing that the politician can do about us in the free Press We do not seek office, influence or advantage from the Party in power. We simply reserve the right to be a part of the governing process, with or without the approval of the elected Government or its elected Opposition. Our consistency does not depend on those who say "I agree or disagree" with what you had to say, but on those who say "I read you! I listened to you! I saw you last night on TV!"

(Source unknown)

1. The function of the second and third sentences in the extract is to
 - (A) give specific examples of "a dedicated Opposition" (line 1)
 - (B) explain the statement made in the first sentence
 - (C) show that the Press is only good when it acts as an opposition
 - (D) arouse the reader's concern about the role of the Press
2. why does the writer repeat the phrase "good Press" at the beginning of paragraph three, five and six (lines 4, 16 and 19)?
 - (A) To emphasize the ideal characteristics of the "good Press"
 - (B) To indicate contempt for the Press which is not an opposition
 - (C) To stimulate greater identification of a "good Press"
 - (D) To emphasize that he is a member of a "good Press"
3. According to the writer, the MOST important function of the good Press is to
 - (A) present the truth
 - (B) oppose the Government
 - (C) represent the views of the people
 - (D) increase the number of its subscribers
4. According to the writer, a legitimate revolution against the Press occurs by
 - (A) the government closing it down
 - (B) the Press being denied its freedom
 - (C) someone establishing a rival press
 - (D) people refusing to purchase its product
5. By describing the good Press as "an individualistic, opinionated Knight" (line 12) the writer is emphasizing
 - (A) strength
 - (B) wisdom
 - (C) Honesty

(D) Independence

6. The writer states that the good Press "... depends on the people who buy it because they like it" (line 5) and that it "...will not be influenced by those to whom it sells its opinions" (lines 14-15). These two statements taken together
- (A) argue that the Press creates popular opinions
 - (B) repeat that the good Press owes its allegiance only to its subscribers
 - (C) appear contradictory but support the argument that a good Press should be independent
 - (D) show that the power of the Press depends upon the number of its subscribers.
7. According to the write, the good Press should regard Government with
- (A) fear
 - (B) mistrust
 - (C) resentment
 - (D) disrespect
8. In paragraph 5 (lines 15-17) the writer implies that a good Press
- (A) may be deceptive
 - (B) is sometimes consistent
 - (C) should be open-minded
 - (D) cannot always be reliable
9. The examples of the possible effects of the press on the politicians
- (A) drive fear into the politicians
 - (B) show how the Press records history
 - (C) illustrate how powerful the Press really is
 - (D) demonstrate how uncertain the career of a politician is
10. Which of the following BEST describes the manner in which the writer presents his views in this extract?
- (A) Forceful
 - (B) Objective
 - (C) Detached
 - (D) Emotional