

Overview

Watch the video podcast. Which opinions do you most agree with?

1 Read and complete the text with the prepositions from the box. Then watch the video podcast from 0:11-0:29 and check your answers.

in (x2) about (x2) of (x2) for (x2) from

Hi, I'm Val and I work ¹for the BBC here ²_____ London. I read a lot ³_____ news stories ⁴_____ my job and I get my news ⁵_____ lots ⁶_____ different sources. Today, I'm going to be asking people ⁷_____ the media and ⁸_____ truth. How do you find out what's happening ⁹_____ the world?



Glossary: source = the place something comes from; the media = TV, radio and newspapers

2 How do you find out what's happening in the world? Look at the people and the responses they give. Then watch the video podcast from 0:25-1:07 and match the responses to the speakers.



	A	B	C	D	E	F
TV						
the radio						
the newspapers						
Twitter						
other people						
the internet	✓					
news programmes						

3 Do you always believe what you see or read in the news? Look at the people and read the opinions below. Then watch the video podcast from 1:08-2:06 and match the opinions to the people. There is ONE extra answer that you do not need.



Who...

- 1 ...thinks it's important to distinguish between fact and opinion?
- 2 ...doesn't always believe that news sources are being honest?
- 3 ...often finds that news headlines are quite misleading?
- 4 ...doesn't ever believe what she reads in the news?
- 5 ... thinks health stories in the news are very honest?
- 6 ...thinks it's a risk to believe everything you see and hear on television?

A

Glossary: to distinguish = recognise or understand the difference; misleading = give incorrect information

4 When is it OK to tell a lie? Read the possible answers a and b for each person. Then watch the video podcast from 2:07-2:44 and tick (✓) which is true.



A
Joanne

1a It's OK to lie sometimes to protect yourself.
1b It's OK to lie sometimes to protect another person's feelings. ✓



B
Dorra

2a You don't want to tell the truth to a kid and scare them.
2b You should tell lies to a kid to scare them.
3a There are some lies that are nasty.
3b There are some lies that are necessary.



C
John

4a In general, telling lies destroys relationships.
4b In general, telling white lies destroys your relations.
5a He's always honest about his wife's new clothes.
5b He's not always honest about his wife's new clothes.



D
Binisa

6a It's OK to tell lies when it doesn't harm anyone.
6b It's not OK to tell lies even when it doesn't harm anyone.

Glossary: a kid = a child (slang); to scare = to frighten; to destroy = damage something very badly; to harm = to damage or hurt somebody

The way we speak

5 Do you always believe what you see or read in the news? Read Tamara and John's views below. Then watch the video podcast from 1:39-2:06 and complete what they say.



Tamara

I come from Africa so I ¹ *don't* because depending ² _____ what the news is, sometimes it ³ _____ be a little ⁴ _____ *biased*, sometimes it can be *tinged* with *self-interest*. So no, I ⁵ _____. I don't believe ⁶ _____ I read.



John

I work as a doctor and I ⁷ _____ that quite a lot of the health stories, which are very big in ⁸ _____ media and often get *headline-grabbing* attention, *turn out* to be actually not. They're often ⁹ _____ misleading, so I ¹⁰ _____ I'm a fairly *critical consumer*.

6 Tell me about a time you told a lie. Look at the people and read the two summaries of their responses A and B. Then watch the video podcast from 2:45-3:28 and decide which summary is correct for each person.



Tamara

- 1a Tamara's husband cooked a meal that she didn't like but she told him she liked it because he'd made an effort to do it and she didn't want to hurt his feelings.
- 1b Tamara's husband cooked a salty meal for her one evening but she told him she liked it and she ate it all even though she had already eaten dinner at a restaurant.



Joanne

- 2a When Joanne's late for a class or a meeting at university, she usually tells her tutor that she should have left home earlier.
- 2b When Joanne's late for a class or a meeting at university, she sometimes blames the transport.



Adrian

- 3a When Adrian was in China, he said the food was delicious, but it was to his detriment because it made him feel unwell.
- 3b When Adrian was in China, he said the food was delicious even though it wasn't. He was sorry later because they gave him even more food.

Glossary: *make an effort* = try very hard; *detrimental* = not good for you; *delayed* = late

Vocabulary

7 Find the words in *italics* in Ex. 6 and match them to the definitions.

- 1 show a small amount of *tinged*
- 2 designed to attract your attention _____
- 3 a person who buys products and services and says what is bad or wrong about them _____
- 4 preferring one thing rather than another in an unfair way _____
- 5 happen in a certain way that you often don't expect _____
- 6 wanting what is best for you, not for others _____

Personalisation

8 Write your answers to the questions.

- 1 How do you find out what's happening in the world?

- 2 Do you always believe what you see or read in the news? Why/Why not?

- 3 Do you agree with what the people in the podcasts say about telling lies?

- 4 Have you ever told a lie that you feel bad about?



A recent study shows that British men tell more lies than British women.
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/8689010.stm>

