

Journalism: A Very Short Introduction

Ian Hargreaves

Questions for Thought and Discussion

- Why is the Internet causing such big problems for newspaper companies?
- What makes Rupert Murdoch such a significant figure in the world of journalism?
- Why do you think Thomas Jefferson, a founding father of the United States of America, said that given a choice between government without newspapers or newspapers without government he would not hesitate to choose the latter?
- What is your favourite film in which a journalist or journalists play a leading role?
- Why was the Leveson inquiry set up into the culture and practices of the British press?
- What was Leveson's principle recommendation for change and why has it so far proved impossible to get agreement about change?
- Do you trust journalists? Do you trust them or less than politicians? Doctors? Teachers? Business leaders? Scientists?
- Can it ever be right for a journalist to break the law of the land?
- Do you spend more or less time staying in touch with the news than you did five or ten years ago? What are your main sources of news?
- As newspaper sales continue to fall, do you think that the public are becoming less well informed about what's going on?
- To what extent and how does the Internet offer new routes to finding out what's going on?
- Do you Tweet? Or use Twitter in some other way? How do Twitter and Facebook play a part in the news business?
- How do you get local and community news? Is this becoming easier or harder?
- Are news media owners too powerful?
- How important is the BBC in news provision? Do you trust it more or less than newspapers or other news sources?

Further Reading

Please refer to the further reading section at the back of *Journalism: A Very Short Introduction*.