



Unit 5 — Media and Democracy

Track E · Klasse 10 · Niveau E

Learning objectives

- *I can read a short text linking media and democratic life and identify three causal claims.*
- *I can use academic register hedges (it has been argued that, the available evidence suggests, in some contexts).*
- *I can write a 220-word op-ed on a media-democracy topic.*

Lead-in

Maja's class read a one-page essay about local newspapers. The essay opened with a fact that surprised most of the class: more than 200 local UK papers have closed in the past two decades, and research has linked their absence to lower voter turnout in the affected districts. Maja underlined the verb *has linked*. "Linked is not caused," she said. "Useful word."

Vocabulary

- free press
- press freedom
- accountability
- scrutiny
- oversight
- opinion vs. reporting
- editorial independence
- conflict of interest
- sponsored content
- public-interest journalism
- civic information
- local press desert

Practise

- Choose hedge: *It has been argued* / *The evidence suggests* / *Critics maintain* — ___ *that local papers support voter turnout.* ___ *that the link is causal.*
- Match: free press → press freedom; oversight → scrutiny; sponsored content → paid promotion.
- Build 4 academic-register sentences on the local-press topic.

Your turn

Op-ed, 220 words. Take a position on a media-democracy topic of your choice. Use 4 academic-register hedges + 1 cautious-claim phrase + 1 complex-sentence subordinator.

Reflect

- I can identify 3 causal claims in a media-democracy text.
- I can use 4 academic-register hedges.
- I can write a 220-word op-ed.