The Media

Beginner (A1)

15 questions

01 What kinds of videos do you watch on your phone?
02 What do you like on the radio: people talking or music?
03 Where do you see ads on your way to school or work?
04 What do you watch when you have only ten minutes?
05 How long is a good podcast for you?
06 Which famous person do your parents like?
07 What do you watch on a big screen?
08 What magazines do you have at home?
09 Which cartoon characters do you see in ads?
10 Who in your family likes making videos?
11 What do you listen to before you go to sleep?
12 Which person on TV has clothes you like?
13 Who chooses what to watch in your home?
14 What language do you read the news in?
15 What do you like about your favorite news program?

The Media

Elementary (A2)

32 questions

16 What words from a movie or show do you use in real life?
17 Who chooses the radio station when you travel by car?
18 What would you like to make: a video, a magazine, or a radio show?
19 What have you watched for much longer than you planned?
20 What kind of magazine would you like to see for sale?
21 Tell us about an ad that confused you.
22 What do you like to watch that the other people in your home dislike?
23 What could you talk about for a whole podcast episode?
24 What did you copy from a cartoon when you were a child?
25 How do you feel when a new episode comes out only once a week?
26 What kind of radio host makes you want to keep listening?
27 What would you like to do for a music video: dance, film, or make the clothes?
28 What can you watch while doing something else?
29 Which part of a magazine do you read first?
30 What product looked very different in real life from its ad?
31 Tell us about something you enjoyed watching that other people called bad.
32 What comics did people read when you were in school?
33 What things with movie or cartoon characters on them have you owned?
34 What do you enjoy watching people do but would never try yourself?
35 Which magazines are worth keeping after you read them?
36 Which famous person is popular with both young and old people you know?
37 What do you like to watch with someone much older or younger than you?
38 What radio program do you remember from when you were younger?
39 What would make you cancel a streaming service?
40 What would you put in a magazine for people your age?
41 Would you enjoy an audiobook with different actors for each character?
42 What makes a magazine cover catch your eye?
43 Where do most people in your country get their news?
44 Which famous person appears in the news too often?
45 What makes you stop reading a news story?
46 Which do you enjoy more: reading the news or listening to it?
47 What news story would you like to hear more about?

The Media

Intermediate (B1) 38 questions

48 When would you choose a movie over starting a series?
49 Have you ever been surprised by what a radio or podcast host looked like?
50 Which ads do you remember better than the products they sell?
51 Tell us about a video that made an unfamiliar subject interesting to you.
52 How much unrelated conversation do you enjoy before a podcast gets to its main subject?
53 What ordinary thing did you learn about a famous person that surprised you?
54 What did you believe about adult life because of movies or television?
55 What makes a podcast host feel like someone you know?
56 When does seeing a real brand in a movie bother you?
57 Tell us about a scene in a movie or show that reminded you of your own life.
58 Would you rather hear an author read their own book or hear a professional actor read it?
59 What job looked appealing on screen but less appealing when you learned about it?
60 Whose taste in movies or shows has influenced yours?
61 What can you do while listening to a story without losing track of it?
62 How do you feel when a song you love appears in an ad?
63 How do you feel about watching someone react to a movie or video you already know?
64 What would interest you most in a magazine from the year you were born?
65 Would you rather have a small loyal audience or one video that millions of people watch?
66 What would you like to watch again but cannot remember the name of?

The Media

Intermediate (B1) (continued)

67 Why do some adults feel embarrassed about reading comics?

68 Which ad have you seen so often that your opinion of it changed?

69 How has having so much to choose from changed the way you watch things?

70 Which do you prefer: a podcast with a planned topic or one where the hosts talk freely?

71 What makes you stay to watch the credits?

72 What do you notice in a printed magazine that you tend to miss on a screen?

73 Which people behind a movie or show deserve more public attention?

74 Which ending have you kept thinking about after watching it?

75 What kinds of personal problems would you enjoy hearing podcast hosts discuss?

76 Tell us about a time you did not understand a joke because you had not seen the show or video it came from.

77 What makes a three-hour movie feel short or a short video feel long?

78 What kind of person do the ads on your phone seem to think you are?

79 What place turned out to be different from how you had seen it on screen?

80 Which products look strange being advertised by celebrities?

81 Would you put your own name on a video channel or invent a name for it?

82 Does the media in your country report the whole truth, mostly truth, or mostly lies?

83 How has the internet changed the news in your country?

84 How has the media changed in your country during the last 20 years?

85 Tell us about a news story you kept checking for updates.

The Media

Upper Intermediate (B2) 15 questions

86 When would you rather listen to an enthusiastic beginner than an expert on a podcast?

87 How much does it matter to you that people on screen look like people you see in everyday life?

88 What can a simple homemade video offer that an expensive production cannot?

89 What can a comic communicate better than a page of ordinary writing?

90 How do you feel when a podcast host uses a personal story to sell a product?

91 Which unrealistic details in movies or shows bother you, and which do you enjoy?

92 What can a small podcast lose when it becomes a big business?

93 What would persuade you to pay for a magazine when so much is free online?

94 When do ads showing a perfect life inspire you, and when do they put you off?

95 Who has the most control over the media in your country?

96 How does the media help create a healthy society?

97 Should the media just report the facts or should the media interpret the facts?

98 Can you think of a politician who used the media in a successful way? How about a politician who was destroyed by the media?

99 Should the media show graphic violence? Why or why not?

100 What is the fairest and most balanced media outlet in your country?

The Media

Advanced (C1)

11 questions

101 When readers find a meaning that the author says was never intended, whose interpretation carries more weight?

102 Where would you draw the line between enjoying a reality show and enjoying someone's humiliation?

103 What should publishers do with language in an old children's book that they would reject in a new one?

104 How much responsibility do you take for an artist's behavior when you recommend their work?

105 When a joke cannot survive translation, how much should a translator change to make it funny again?

106 When does an interviewer need to let a guest finish, even if the guest keeps avoiding the question?

107 What can make a true-crime podcast worth making when the victim's family wants the story left alone?

108 When an ad moves you, does knowing that it was designed to do so change the value of that feeling?

109 What makes an exaggerated advertising claim harmless fun rather than a promise the company should keep?

110 What do you make of ads that criticize consumerism while trying to sell you something?

111 How much space should a news report give to an argument that few experts accept but many readers believe?