

Current topics in short: Trump and the media, Trump in the media (S II)

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Präsident Trump hat ein gespaltenes Verhältnis zu den Medien; dabei muss man zwischen der Presse (Zeitungen, Fernsehen) und Social Media unterscheiden. Während Trump mit der liberalen Presse häufig auf Kriegsfuß steht, ist er ein glühender Anhänger von Twitter. Dieses Medium benutzt er häufig zu kontroversen Äußerungen. Trumps Aversion gegen die liberale Presse hängt mit seinem falschen Verständnis derselben zusammen. Dass sie ein wichtiges Regulativ in einem demokratischen Staat ist, akzeptiert er ebenso wenig wie Kritik. In dieser Einheit machen sich die Schüler selbst ein Bild von Trumps Auftritten. – Für den Fernunterricht geeignet!

KOMPETENZPROFIL

Klassenstufe:	10–12 (G8), 11–13 (G9)
Dauer:	1–3 Unterrichtsstunden (Klausur: 4–5 Stunden)
Kompetenzen:	1. Sprechkompetenz: sich (zu zweit) über Abbildungen austauschen; 2. Hör-Sehverstehen: einem Kurzvideo zentrale Informationen entnehmen; 3. Lese- und Schreibkompetenz: mit Bezug auf einen Meinungsartikel kreative Texte schreiben (<i>summary, analysis and comment</i>), Cartoons beschreiben/interpretieren;
Thematische Bereiche:	Die Materialien können in eine Unterrichtseinheit zum Themenbereich „American society/democracy/politics“ integriert werden
Material:	Bildimpulse, Kurzvideo, Klausurvorschlag

M 1

Trump and the media – a pictorial approach



Task

Work with a partner in class or in a video conference during times of distance learning.

- Talk about the cartoons.
- State their topics in general, their similarities/differences and their positive and/or negative implications. Make notes.
- Present your points to the class.



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Homework

Choose one of the following pictograms, go online and find out what Trump has to do with that topic. Make notes and be prepared to present your findings in class.



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Pictogram	Pictogram text	Description	What has Trump to do with it?
1	Votes: truth of election	Ballot box with bank note	Voter suppression (Republicans), Trump promising new jobs, more earnings/income

M 3

Mock exam – Trump briefing the media

Briefing or rally? Trump shifts to campaign mode as he rails against¹ the media

He bashed² “Sleepy Joe” Biden. [...] He predicted that had he not been elected, the world might have ended.

5 And somewhere along the way, he talked about the coronavirus.

The past few weeks have seen a battle between Donald Trump, the president,
10 and Donald Trump, the candidate. He has always been more comfortable in campaign mode³ and,

15 slowly but surely, Trump the candidate is winning the struggle. Saturday was one of those days. “It’s called the James S Brady briefing room, not the **James S Brady** rally room, but today it was hard to tell the difference,” Robert Gibbs, a former White House press secretary, told the **MSNBC** network.

I was among an unlucky 13 reporters sitting in that room on Saturday. [...] Laptops on
20 knees, with several seats between us to maintain physical distancing, we were hardly a typical **Make America Great Again** crowd. [...]

Meanwhile Dr Deborah Birx, response coordinator on the coronavirus taskforce⁴, stood on the podium and spent long periods staring expressionless into the middle distance as Trump reeled off⁵ some golden oldies⁶.

25 “We had the best economy in the history of the world, better than China, better than any country in the world, better than any country’s ever had,” he said, waving his hand at what was ostensibly⁷ a coronavirus taskforce briefing. “We had the highest stock market in history by far, and I’m honoured⁸ by the fact it’s started to go up very substantially⁹.”

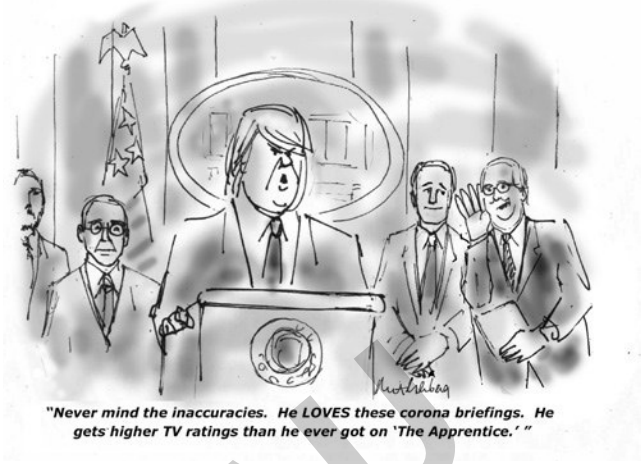
Wearing a blue suit, white shirt and red tie, Trump added: “We have a big election coming
30 up but I think we have tremendous momentum¹⁰. First we get rid of the plague¹¹.” [...]

No Trump rally is complete without him playing the victim – one sure to prevail heroically in the final act¹² – and goading¹³ the media, usually a cue¹⁴ for his supporters to turn and jeer¹⁵ the press pen. This time the president took aim at a reporter who was not in the room: Maggie Haberman of the New York Times. “She’s a third-rate reporter,” he
35 lamented¹⁶, going on a long riff¹⁷ to make the baseless allegation¹⁸. [...]

Extraordinarily, the president of the United States spent more time on this personal grievance¹⁹ against a journalist with whom he has a long history than on the unimaginable scale of death²⁰ and grief across the nation. [...]

When Birx finally got her turn, she praised “the amazing work of the American people”,
40 particularly in cities such as Detroit, to observe social distancing. [...]

The president ended the briefing-cum-rally²¹ as he began, talking about anything but the coronavirus. He attacked the Democratic congresswomen Ilhan Omar and Alexandria



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