

WEEKLY ENGLISH PRACTICE

Is Impartial Journalism Possible?

Finding independent and neutral news sources is crucial for understanding the world around us. Start by looking for **outlets** that aren't owned by big companies or politicians.



These **sources** are less likely to be influenced by outside **agendas** and more likely to prioritize objective reporting. Instead of relying on advertising, they might get their funding from **subscriptions** or **donations**, which can help maintain their independence.

Next, check if the news outlet reports facts without **bias**. Good journalism involves presenting information accurately and fairly, without pushing any particular viewpoint. Reporters should verify their facts with multiple sources and present different perspectives on an issue. This way, readers can form their own opinions based on a well-rounded understanding of the topic.

It's also important to trust journalists who prioritize truth over personal opinions. Look for reporters who stick to the facts and avoid injecting their own biases into their stories. This integrity is a hallmark of neutral journalism.

To further ensure the reliability of a news source, consider using media **watchdog organizations** like the Poynter Institute. These groups evaluate outlets' adherence to journalistic standards and can help you identify trustworthy sources.

By following these steps, you can find news sources that provide accurate, unbiased information. Remember to prioritize transparency and integrity in your search, and don't be afraid to question the credibility of a source if something seems off. In today's media landscape, where misinformation and bias are rampant, finding independent and neutral journalism is more important than ever.



by ECP coach **Jarrod Olman**

Word list

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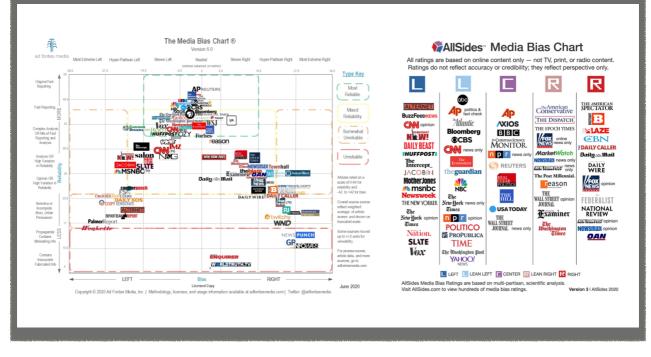
- **1. Watchdog organization** -an individual or group that monitors the activities of another entity on behalf of the public to ensure that entity does not behave illegally or unethically
- **2. Sources-** Origins or providers of information, often referring to individuals, documents, or organizations that supply data, facts, or details used in news reporting or research.
- **3. Outlets -** News organizations or media platforms that distribute information.
- **4. Bias -** Prejudice or inclination towards a particular perspective, often influencing judgment unfairly.
- **5. Agenda** A hidden or underlying purpose or motive, often associated with pushing a specific viewpoint or goal.
- **6. Subscriptions** Payments made regularly to receive access to a service or content, such as a newspaper or magazine.
- **7. Donations -** Contributions of money or goods given voluntarily to support a cause or organization.

Let's chat about that!

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 - 1. How do you personally verify the reliability of the news outlets you follow?
- 2. In your opinion, how might the ownership and funding sources of a news organization influence its editorial content and overall neutrality?
- 3. How do you think advancements in technology and the rise of social media have impacted the spread of misinformation and biased reporting?
- 4. Do you believe that achieving complete neutrality in journalism is possible? Why or why not?
- 5. Do you think organizations like the Pointer Institute are effective in promoting independent and neutral journalism? How might their assessments influence the public's perception of news sources?

Should you trust media bias charts?

https://www.poynter.org/fact-checking/media-literacy/2021/should-you-trust-media-bias-charts/



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