

Citizenship

Should the media ever be censored?

Lesson 5 of 6

Mrs Blachford



Task 2: Should the media ever be censored in a democracy?

Write a paragraph to explain whether it is ever acceptable to censor the media in a democracy.

Your added challenge is to see if you can include all of key words at the bottom of this page.

There is a copy of this task on the worksheet.

Good luck!

democracy	trial	misinformation	freedom
security	government	values	self-censorship



Task 3: Compare media control in China with the UK

Compare the situation in China described in ³**Source B** with how the media are treated by the British government.

Source B

Censorship in China.

For a long time, the Chinese government has been closely controlling the traditional media. It has also started to control any new form of media that emerges. Because China is run as a one party state, the Chinese government wants to avoid anything that could challenge or question their authority. While there are other political parties in China besides the communist party, these other parties have minimal rights. The rights that do exist within China's Constitution are interpreted by the government and the government-appointed courts.

The Chinese government use a number of different methods to control traditional and new media, including: monitoring systems and firewalls; putting dissident journalists, activists or bloggers on trial and in jail; and shutting down critical websites or publications.

Internet access is heavily restricted and monitored, which has led to fierce disagreement between the Chinese government and international companies like Google. These international companies have raised concerns about how much access Chinese citizens have to the internet, and how much data companies store about their users' internet use. The Chinese government also limit what is actually put on the internet, and restrict what their citizens are able to search for.

