

### **F.3D Class Presentation (March 18,Wed)**

Theme: Mass media

Characters: Yannes, Vincy, Shiry, Annie, Ivy

A: (Holding a newspaper) Hey everyone, have you read today's newspaper?

S: Not yet. Why? You found something stunning?

A: Yup, look at this headline: World's Ugliest Woman Dies after Look in Mirror.

Y (Take a look at the newspaper) What? World's Ugliest Woman Dies after Look in Mirror. Isn't it ridiculous? So the woman was killed by the mirror, or what? How can the newspaper say the woman was the ugliest? It's really insulting?

S You're right. But on the hand, I think the headline is very attractive. It will surely arouse readers' interest and attract them to read this news.

V Well, I'm not surprised. You know what? The trend of the newspapers in Hong Kong is becoming like tabloid. They now usually report news in exaggerated and sentimental ways. They focus on reporting the lives of celebrities, sentimental and exciting news, sports news and gossip. There are also more and more reports about strange stories.

I Other than that, they use crimes, pornographic information, scandals and entertainment as their focus, for example, inheritance disputes of wealthy families and love relationships of pop stars. Serious political and social news is also reported in sentimental and exaggerated ways.

S I agree. They also use pictures and headlines to attract the public. Sometimes, they even track down celebrities and take candid pictures in order to get exclusive news. Actually, they are invading others' privacy.

A Right, the media focus more and more on earning more money. To get more advertisements, they move towards tabloidization. This not only affects the credibility of the media but also misleads the public. As the information released by the media may not be fully reliable, what should we do?

- Y As readers, we should carefully choose and analyse the information released by the media. We have to judge whether the sources of news are reliable. We must not blindly believe the authority. Also, we have to carefully distinguish between facts and opinions.
- V However, I find it strange that on one hand, many people complain that the media release violent and pornographic information; but on the other hand, they are eager to get such information. This will only encourage the media to write exaggerated or unreal stories.
- I That's true. Therefore, most importantly, we should stop buying or reading the newspapers that present information in exaggerated ways. We should only read newspapers that report objectively so that we will not make wrong judgments.
- A As teenagers, we are still exploring ourselves. We are easily misled and hence can develop distorted values. So, we should always be objective, open and critical when receiving and using the information transmitted by the media.
- Y Lastly, I hope the government can do more to monitor the media so that they can fulfill their social responsibility as to report the truth, be objective and report social problems actively. That's the end of our presentation. Thank you.

