



Analytical Task: "Mind the Gap" (for secondary schools)

The presentation of political information on television is not usually a balanced affair. Opposing arguments or views can easily be left out in order to push the audience in one direction. It is your task to examine the messages and intentions of the producers and decide for yourself from your own findings.

We suggest that you analyse one 'political' article from a television news programme and exchange your findings with other students in your class. It is the best to record the article to be able to watch it a few times. Alternatively you can analyse an internet text. You can find a general framework with questions below. These can be developed further according to your interest and the lesson context of this task.

Who has created the article?

- Who has possibly come up with the original information? (politician, political party, interest group, ..)
- Who has interpreted this information and put it together into the final form?

What means have been used to bring the message across?

- How has the text been composed?
- What language has been used?
- Which images were selected?
- Do the images support the message? If yes, how?

Who is the article addressed to and why?

- Who do you think is the article intended for?
- Why has the article been published?
- Do you think it is intended to advertise a certain opinion?
- How do you yourself respond to the article?

What points are missing in the article?

- What do you think is missing in the article?
- What opinion has been left out?
- What audience group has not been addressed?
- What would you find important to include in the article?

