

The speed of news

Before you watch

Answer the questions.

- How do you find out about what is happening in the world?
- What different ways are there to find out about the news?

Comprehension check

1  Watch the video clip. Choose the correct answers.

- Where is the Newseum?
 - in Boston
 - in New York
 - in Washington, D.C.
- How many newspapers are there in the Newseum?
 - 30,000
 - 1,000
 - 3,000
- When was the first telegraph line built?
 - 1844
 - 1704
 - 1944

2  Watch again. Write down five different ways that people have received news through history.

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

3  Watch again. Are the sentences true or false?

- The *Boston News-Letter* is the oldest newsletter in the U.S. _____
- It was first printed in 1904. _____
- Blackbeard was a famous soldier in the American Civil War. _____
- Originally, people would deliver the news using horses. _____
- Radio was first used during the American Civil War. _____
- People didn't think radio would be very important when it was invented. _____

4  Watch again. Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

broadcast channels connected
front page media newspapers

- The Newseum has lots of exhibitions about the history of the _____.
- This _____ article told the American people that Blackbeard had been killed.
- These old _____ were often just a single sheet of paper.
- When the radio was invented, it was the first time news could be _____ live.
- By the end of the century, there were hundreds of cable TV _____.
- Visitors are instantly _____ to the day's news by live Twitter feeds.

5  Watch again. Answer the questions.

- What has caused most of the changes in journalism?

- How were newspapers originally produced?

- How did the telegraph change reporting the news?

- What problems were there with some of the reports that journalists wrote from the civil war?

- What happened to news technology in the 20th century?

- What do you think is the biggest difference between today's news and news 100 years ago?

Language check

Passive

Visitors **are connected** to the day's news.

The oldest newsletter **was first printed** in 1704.

Most of the changes **were caused** by developments in technology.

6 Complete the sentences with the correct passive form of the verbs in parentheses.

- The famous pirate Blackbeard _____ in 1718. (kill)
- Today, the Internet _____ by journalists all over the world. (use)
- Hundreds of years ago, newspapers _____ by men on horses. (distribute)
- Nowadays, lots of stories _____ first on social media. (report)
- 30,000 newspapers _____ in the Newseum in Washington, D.C. (keep)
- The Internet _____ until the late 20th century. (not invent)

7 Rewrite the sentences in the passive.

- Somebody stole my wallet when I was in the park.

- The police arrested the criminals in the street.

- People post important news stories on social media every day.

- People still print newspapers every day of the year.

- People do not deliver newspapers on horseback any more.

- People didn't use radios until the 20th century.

Extension



Look at the photos and answer the questions.

Photo A

- What is the person in the picture doing?
- Why do you think she is doing this?
- How often do you do this?

Photo B

- What is the person in the picture doing?
- Why do you think she is doing this?
- How often do you do this?
- Do you prefer to find out about the news like the person in photo A, or the person in photo B? Why?