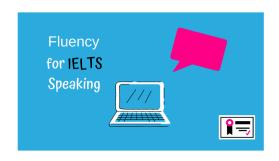


## **Live Lesson Notes**

# The News

# Click on a picture to discover my online courses!





What you will learn

Useful Links Vocabulary Guest conversation Idioms

#### Some useful Links

**Brick's** Youtube Channel <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQeS430YP-RVm4AZOnd9g9Q">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQeS430YP-RVm4AZOnd9g9Q</a>

**English learning website** based on news articles <a href="https://breakingnewsenglish.com/">https://breakingnewsenglish.com/</a>

BBC website based on the news <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/features/lingohack">https://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/features/lingohack</a>

**New Yorker** magazine, great for **advanced learne**rs <a href="https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2021/03/29/is-the-pandemic-breaking-our-backs">https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2021/03/29/is-the-pandemic-breaking-our-backs</a>

**American news channel** for students of English <a href="https://edition.cnn.com/cnn10">https://edition.cnn.com/cnn10</a>

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# **IELTS Vocabulary News**

News (n.) uncountable

Here is **some** news - I have a lot of news

A piece of news (countable)

A journalist (n. person)
Journalism (n.)

A **correspondent** (n. person) = a person who reports news for a media outlet

The following are all people who present the news on TV

- · A news anchor
- A news host
- A news presenter

To **cover** a story = to report (on) a story

The **press** (n.) uncountable = *The media* 

Is the British press biased?

A **tabloid** (n.) = a less serious newspaper, more sensationalist

"The Sun" is a tabloid

The **paparazzi** (n. Pl.) = news photographers *(negative)* 

#### **Collocations**

**News flash =** a quick piece news

**Breaking news =** the latest piece of news

News coverage

The BBC **covered** this story in a lot of detail, their **coverage** (n.) was really good.

#### **IELTS Conversation**

The following are some of the questions that I discussed with Brick, today's guest, and some useful phrases we used and you can use to talk about this topic.

#### Do you follow the news? Why?

I follow the news quite a lot, especially with what is going on in the world right now.

The **stats** about the virus = *statistics* 

I like to **keep on top of** things / the news = *keep up to date with the news* 

The government have handled the vaccine roll out really well

I like to keep (myself) in the loop = to keep up to date

#### How do you get your news?

I get all my information from my phone

I access newspaper applications on my phone

If I am on a long drive, I will listen to podcasts

Every now and again, I **dip into** the Guardian news app = have a quick look at

To keep up to date, I read the Gulf News

I've never **come across** any tabloids here = *never found* 

#### Will the way we get news change in the future?

Yes, it will for sure, and here's the reason why...

In the past, people had to read the whole newspaper to find the information they wanted...

Now **fast track 10 years,** we can search for any piece of news easily = come forward to today

A decade ago **you would have had to** read the whole paper to find one **news item** 

If things go along this way.... = if things continue like this

More useful phrases from our conversation:

The weather is **picking up** = *getting better* 

I have been **dabbling into** Arabic = early stages of trying

I have **dabbled in** Spanish cooking = *try* something for maybe the first time

**Fake** news = *false* 

**Authentic** news = *real* 

**Cross reference** the news = check different sources

# Keeping up to date with the news

Yes, it helps us stay in touch with what's going on in the world.

Yes, we need to know what's happening locally and internationally, in case some news affects us directly, such as new regulations around COVID

Yes, it helps us **keep in the loop** with recent events.

It can be important to know what's going on in the world, so we can participate in conversations on breaking news.

I think it is **crucial** to **be up to date** with the latest news so you are better **aware of** what is happening around the world

If I keep up to date with current affairs, I can talk more confidently with friends and colleagues about these issues

Yes, otherwise, we will **be in the dark** about key events happening around us.

Yes, in this **ever-changing world** we need to **keep ourselves abreast of** what's going on around us and in the world via the news

#### Idioms to talk about The News

To **give the low-down** = to give all the details about a piece of news

By **word of mouth** = to spread news by telling other people about it

I heard it **by word of mouth** = Someone else told me about it

To hear about it **through/on the grapevine** = to hear something from another person (not the original source)

These 3 phrases all mean to keep someone up to date with the news

- Keep someone posted
- Keep someone in the loop
- Keep someone informed

To **break the news to** someone = (negative news) to tell someone the news

## Students' Questions about News

# Keith, tell us about a time when you received some bad news

So, I'd like to tell you about the time I got some bad news and it was when I booked a hotel for a holiday, but **it had to be cancelled.** 

So, this **is going back** probably a month ago, maybe two months ago and during the time of the **pandemic**, there have been a lot of **confinements** and **lockdowns** and recently in my country the lockdown finished.

This was about two months ago. So, we were able to go out again and so my family and I **booked a couple of nights in a hotel**, in a different city and we were really looking forward to it.

It was something that we were so excited about because we had been **cooped up** (=stuck in a small place) in our homes for such a long time, without the ability to go out, **breathe in fresh air**, and **enjoy socialising**.

So, we got excited about this trip to the hotel, but the day before the government announced that we were not allowed to leave the province that we were in and **the hotel that we had booked** was in a different province.

So, legally we couldn't go. We were **in a bit of dilemma** (=facing a difficult decision), you know, should we break the law and go, or not go, and in the end we had to cancel the hotel.

I got in touch with them and said it's gonna be impossible for us to come. Luckily, we could get our money back because there was a policy, a return or a refund policy.

They gave us our money back but we felt **devastated** (=very unhappy). We were really annoyed and frustrated because **we had been so looking forward to** this break and in the end we just had to **give it up** and stay at home.