

ENGLISH

Lesson 4

Year 9

Topic: Persuasive written texts

Comprehending a media text

Today you will:

- ▶ understand how to apply comprehension strategies to read and interpret meaning in a persuasive media text.

Resources

Text

Rose, R 1956, 'Twelve angry men' (Use the version of the play made for television on the **Website — Fischer sophomores at Mt. Ararat 'Twelve angry men'** <https://fischersoph.files.wordpress.com/2010/09/12-angry-men-script.pdf>.)

Find and prepare

Sheet 4 — Using language to compare and contrast

Sheet 7 — Individuality

Exercise book

Key terms

comprehension strategies, context, evaluative meaning, inferential meaning, literal meaning, media texts, position, scanning, skimming

For definitions and explanations of terms, please see the [Glossary](#).

Lesson

Review prior knowledge of persuasive media texts



Persuasive written media texts are very common. They are texts that convince an audience to accept a particular point of view. Can you think of any examples of persuasive media texts?

1. Brainstorm three examples of persuasive media texts.

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In this lesson, you will read and comprehend a newspaper article that presents a persuasive point of view about the issue of individuality.



Comprehend a persuasive media text

Before you read and comprehend a newspaper article, let's review your understanding of comprehension strategies that will assist in reading and interpreting ideas.

Previously, you used a variety of different comprehension strategies to make meaning from different information texts.

- Complete the list of comprehension strategies below by selecting the correct word from the box to fit in each space.

explicitly	images	meaning	construct
information	integrating	readers	inferences
prior	predicting	reflecting	

Comprehension strategies are strategies and processes used by _____ to make _____ from texts. Key comprehension strategies include:

- activating and using _____ knowledge
- identifying literal information _____ stated in the text
- making _____ based on information in the text and prior knowledge
- _____ likely future events in a text
- visualising by creating mental _____ of elements in a text
- summarising and organising _____ from a text
- _____ ideas and information in texts
- critically _____ on content, structure, language and images used to

meaning in a text.



3. Open and read **Sheet 7 — [Individuality](#)**.

a. Expand your knowledge of the vocabulary used on **Sheet 7** by completing the table below:

- identify any unfamiliar vocabulary in the text
- write your own definition using your knowledge of spelling systems or word origins
- use a dictionary to check your understanding and record a final definition.

Unfamiliar vocabulary	My definition	Dictionary definition



Hot tip

In comprehending texts, remember that different levels of meaning are constructed:

- **literal meaning:** the answer can be found *in the text* or is directly stated in the text
- **inferential meaning:** readers of the text use their prior knowledge and understandings in combination *with the text*, to understand inferred or implied meanings
- **evaluative meaning:** readers make links *beyond the text*, such as between the text and other texts or real-life.

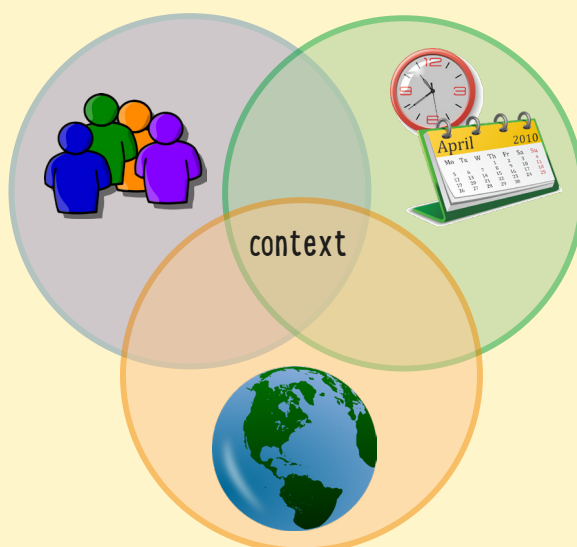
4. Comprehend literal, inferential and evaluative ideas about issues and ideas represented in the news article on **Sheet 7** by completing the questions below:

a. Explain the purpose of this media text. (1–2 sentences)

- b. Sum up the reporter's perspective on individuality, in your own words. (1–2 sentences)

context: the environment in which a text is responded to or created

Context can include the general social, historical and cultural conditions in which a text is responded to or created.



- **historical context:** the time, place and circumstances in history during which the text was written (for example, America in the 1950s)
- **social context:** aspects of society (from the time and place the text was written) that influence the creation of, or responses to, the text
- **cultural context:** relating to the culture of groups of people in society and the attitudes, values and beliefs of the culture.

- c. Describe the contexts (social, cultural and historical) of the media text on **Sheet 7**. Provide evidence from the text to support your ideas. (2–3 sentences)

- d. List three (3) words or phrases from the text that could be considered examples of 'outdated' word use. How does this language give clues about the historical context? (2–3 sentences)
- e. Suppose you had to make adaptations to the media text so that a similar story could run in a contemporary newspaper or media publication. How would the changes in context affect the content and language used in the text?

List three (3) specific examples of changes you would make in the article to make it appeal to and engage a contemporary audience.

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Compare representations in different texts



Did you notice that, even though they have different contexts, both the play 'Twelve Angry Men' and the media text, 'Individuality', present ideas about the importance of being your own person and standing up for your beliefs.



5. a. Open **Sheet 4** — [Using language to compare and contrast](#).

Skim and scan the sheet to help you with the tasks that follow.



STOP

You are about to access the internet. Check with your parent/carer to ensure the content is appropriate.

- b. Go to the **Website — Fischer sophomores at Mt. Ararat 'Twelve angry men'**
<https://fischersoph.files.wordpress.com/2010/09/12-angry-men-script.pdf>.
Download a copy of the play.
- c. Skim and scan 'Twelve Angry Men' to review:
- the social, cultural and historical contexts of the play
 - how the actions and interactions of the characters in the play script work to present ideas about the importance of being an individual and standing up for your beliefs.

scanning: moving the eyes quickly down the page when reading, seeking specific words and phrases

skimming: quickly reading the text to find the main idea in a paragraph, page, chapter or article and a few of the details

- d. Explain how the context (social, cultural, historical) of 'Individuality' is different from the play 'Twelve Angry Men'. Use the language of contrast to explain the differences in context. (2–3 sentences)

- e. Write a paragraph that compares how the different texts represent ideas about individuality. Use the language of comparison to explain the similarities. (4–5 sentences)



Hot tip

Note: Your paragraph should include:

- a clear **topic sentence** that outlines the central idea of your paragraph
- **supporting sentences** that:
 - provide *examples* and/or *evidence* from the two texts
 - *explain* the similarities between the texts, elaborating on the topic sentence
- a **concluding sentence** that sums up the ideas in your paragraph and links back to the topic sentence.