

Vocabulary to pre-teach

e-scooters

mayor

transport

vehicles

ban

device

public vote

monstrosities

voter

environment

Lesson 8

Exploring balance

Learning objective

To evaluate whether reporting is balanced or not

Journalist training school

Journalists should make sure that their reporting is balanced. If they do not represent the views of everyone involved in a story, their reporting could be biased.

Complete the headline

A primary school is going to change its dinner menu completely.
It will now only offer pizza every day of the week!

How would you fill in the missing word in his headline?

Parents _____ at school's new menu

angry

shocked

joyful

Complete the headline

A primary school is going to change its dinner menu completely.
It will now only offer pizza every day of the week!

How would you fill in the missing word in his headline?

School's new menu causes _____ for pupils

surprise

celebration

disgust

Farewell to e-scooters

In 2023, e-scooters were banned from the streets of Paris.

People could rent a scooter by using an app on their devices. Then they could travel around the city quickly.

Some people did not like them while others thought they were great.

The mayor decided to hold a vote to see if people would like to ban them or keep them. In the vote, most people wanted them to be taken off the streets.



How might these people feel?

Name
Anne Hidalgo

Who are they?
The mayor of Paris

What do they think?

- People in Paris should use bikes
- Many people think e-scooters are annoying

News WISE

Name
Clement Beaune

Who are they?
Someone in charge of France's transport

What do they think?

- It is a good thing for people to have the choice to use e-scooters
- The e-scooters are good for the environment

News WISE

Name
Bianca Scalvi

Who are they?
An Italian person who has lived in Paris for many years

What do they think?

- The e-scooters are dangerous and should be made slower
- The e-scooters were awful at first, but they have got better
- There are more important things to worry about than scooters

News WISE

Name
Linda Joëlle

Who are they?
A 35-year-old

What do they think?

- The e-scooters are good for the environment
- The e-scooters are an easy way to get to work

News WISE

Name
Suzon Lambert

Who are they?
A 50-year-old teacher

What do they think?

- The e-scooters are scary
- It feels like there is no space for people to walk anymore

News WISE

Who might agree with the e-scooter ban?

Who might disagree with the e-scooter ban?



Death trap scooters banned from Paris streets



Chesnot/Getty Images

The people of Paris are fed up with the scooters which will soon be gone.

Electric scooters that have caused injuries and deaths in Paris will be banned after a public vote yesterday.

Anne Hidalgo, the mayor of Paris, decided to ask the city what they thought of the dangerous vehicles. A vote was held, and people waited in long queues to have their say.

The results were clear, and nine out of ten people in the city wanted to see the high-risk scooters banned.

People have been upset with the scooters since they first appeared in the city. In 2022, over 400 people were injured by them. They have also been driven dangerously by young people and dumped in the river.

Suzon Lambert, a teacher in Paris, is glad that they have been banned. She told reporters that, "Scooters have become my biggest enemy. I'm scared of them."

The whole city will be delighted that the electric monstrosities will be gone soon. The city has spoken, and the scooters are finished.

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What happened in this news story?

What are the 5Ws of this news story?

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Chesnot/Getty Images

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Let's discuss

Whose point of view is shown in this story?

Whose point of view is **not** shown in this story?

How do you know?

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When we see, read or hear a news story, we expect it to be balanced. That means everybody's point of view is heard.

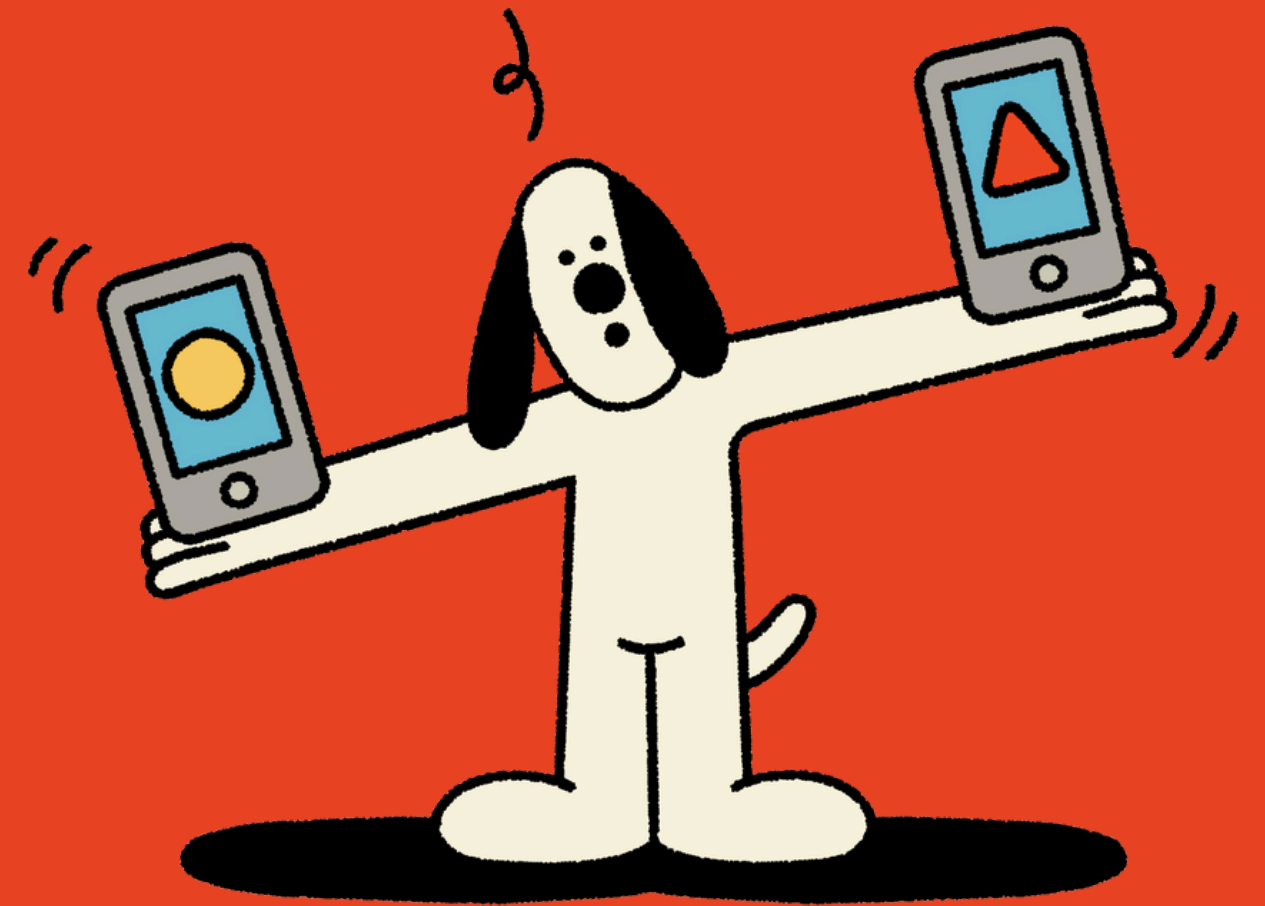
Which of these options is the most balanced version?

One voter said to reporters, "It's dangerous, and people use them badly. I'm fed up."

A student in the city said, "I don't live so close to the Métro and so it's better to go to school on the e-scooter."

A school teacher told journalists, "Scooters have become my biggest enemy. I'm scared of them."

Another voter said, "Now that I have found an excellent way to get to work, and one that is better for the environment, they are trying to ban it."



**Why might it be a problem
if we read news reports
that are unbalanced?**





**Why might somebody
choose to only show one
point of view in a report?**