

ESSAY QUIZ

Role of Media in Israel-Palestine conflict

OUTLINE :

1. Introduction to the Media's Role in Conflict

(i) Media as a Narrative Shaper

- Two stories one night; News outlets actively constructing narrative rather than neutrally reporting events.

(ii) Thesis Statement :

The media exemplified by outlets like the BBC, plays a crucial role in shaping public understanding and international responses to the Israel-Palestine conflict through selective framing, language choices, and source representation which often reflect underlying biases and power dynamics, thereby influencing perception, policies and humanitarian outcomes.

2. BBC as a Case Study.

- (i) Global reach and reputation for balanced reporting yet criticized for potential bias
- (ii) Influence on international discourse and policy related to the conflict.

3. Print, Digital and Social Media:

Distinct roles

- (i) Print Media: Single sided Discourse shaping minds generating narratives.
- (ii) Digital Media: blend speed and multimedia but largely controlled by deep-pocketed owners.
- (iii) Social Media: uncontrolled, unfiltered and uncensored raw space sometimes revealing truth while spreading misinformation in other times.

4. Theoretical Perspectives on the Role of Media

(i) ~~Priming Theory~~

- (a) Selective emphasis on aspects of a story shaping audience interpretation
- (b) Highlighting Israeli security concern vs. Palestinian suffering

(ii) Agenda-Setting Theory

- (a) Media determines what issues the public considers important by prioritizing coverage.

(iii) Critical Discourse Analysis

- (a) Examining how media language reflects and reinforces power dynamics.



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5. Linguistic and Framing Patterns.
- (i) Differential Casualty Reporting
 - a. Israeli deaths individualized; Palestinian deaths presented as statistics
 - (ii) Terminology Choices
 - a. "Terrorist" vs. "Militant", "occupied" vs. "disputed" influencing perception of legitimacy.
 - (iii) Headline and lead bias
 - a. Early positioning of Israeli/Western voices shaping audience minds before Palestinians perspectives are introduced.

6. Implications of Media Framing
- (i) Impact on Public Opinion
 - (ii) Influence on International Policy
 - (iii) Emergence of biasness in neutral reputed outlets
 - (iv) Shaping and Influencing Younger Minds.

7. Conclusion.

The ESSAY

It was the same night in Gaza and Tel Aviv, but the news told two very different stories. On the BBC homepage, the lead headline, "Israel mourns the victims of brutal Hamas Attack". The article began with the names and faces of three Israeli civilians,

Teacher's Signature: _____



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their families speaking through tears. Photos showed flowers at the site of the attack, children's drawings pinned to a fence. Scrolling further down, and another headline appeared: "Dozens killed in Gaza Clashes". No names, No faces - just an aerial shot, collapsed buildings, with caption: "Damage after overnight strikes!" The people in those buildings remained nameless, their deaths summarized in a single statistical number. By the next morning many readers remembered the Israeli victims vividly while the Palestinians who died the same night vanished silently. It was not just reporting; it was framing, and it quietly told the audiences whose lives mattered more.