English 4 “How the Media Twist the News” and “Why Partisans view…”

Write definitions for the following terms in relation to media study. Leave space to add to/revise your definitions later. Consult references—either print or online—to determine precise meanings and standard usage.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Term | Definition |
| Target audience |  |
| Objectivity |  |
| Perspective |  |
| Agenda |  |
| Bias |  |

Read “How the Media Twist the News” and answer the following questions thoroughly and in complete sentences:

1. How does the structure of paragraph 2 help the writer make an effective argument?
2. According to Liaugminas, why are people susceptible to media manipulation? Cite details from the text to support your answer.
3. What tone does Liaugminas establish when she addresses Zahn directly at the end of paragraph 12? How might this appeal to her target audience?
4. What three suggestions does Liaugminas make for recognizing and avoiding media manipulation?
5. In paragraph 12, why does Liaugminas put “experts” and “news analysts” in quotation marks?
6. In the context of her article, what does Liaugminas mean by “intelligent citizens”? How has the meaning of this term changed from her initial definition of *intelligent news consumers*? How effective is her call to action using this term?

Read “Why Partisans view Mainstream as Biased and Ideological Media as Objective” and answer the following questions thoroughly and in complete sentences:

1. What is the difference between “mainstream” and “ideological” media? Why is their difference a paradox? Paradox: a statement that contains two seemingly incompatible points.
2. What is the meaning of *progressive* as it is used in paragraph 2?
3. According to the text, what is the “hostile media effect”?
4. How does the “relative hostile media perception” relate to the “hostile media effect”? What effect does it have on audiences?
5. Why does Nisbet find the bias against news bias to be “troubling”? Based on this, how do you think he feels about the current political climate?