

## Learning Targets

- Analyze a variety of opinions about newspapers.
- Examine your own personal experiences with print media.

## Before Reading

1. How often do you read the newspaper? In a group, create a chart that illustrates the sections of newspapers and the topics you look for in your local or national newspaper.

## During Reading

2. Look over the following quotations about newspapers. In the space after each quote, summarize what the author is saying and then state whether you agree and why.
  - “Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter.”—Thomas Jefferson, 1787
  - “Here is the living disproof of the old adage that nothing is as dead as yesterday’s newspaper... This is what really happened, reported by a free press to a free people. It is the raw material of history; it is the story of our own times.”—Henry Steel Commager, preface to a history of *The New York Times*, 1951
  - “The newspapers, especially those in the East, are amazingly superficial and ... a large number of news gatherers are either cynics at heart or are following the orders and the policies of the owners of their papers.”—Franklin D. Roosevelt, May 7, 1934
  - “For my part I entertain a high idea of the utility of periodical publications; insomuch as I could heartily desire, copies of ... magazines, as well as common Gazettes, might be spread through every city, town, and village in the United States. I consider such vehicles of knowledge more happily calculated than any other to preserve the liberty, stimulate the industry, and ameliorate the morals of a free and enlightened people.”—George Washington, 1788
  - “I read the newspapers avidly. It is my one form of continuous fiction.”—Aneurin Bevan (1897–1960), British Labour politician

**LEARNING STRATEGIES:**  
Skimming/Scanning,  
Marking the Text, Discussion  
Groups, Paraphrasing,  
Quickwrite, Graphic  
Organizer



### WORD CONNECTIONS

#### Roots and Affixes

The words *avid* (*adj.*) and *avidity* (*n.*) are from similar Latin roots. *Avid* is from the Latin word *avidus*, meaning “longing eagerly” or “greedy.” *Avidity* is from *aviditatem*, meaning “extreme eagerness” or “greed.”

### My Notes

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### WORD CONNECTIONS

#### Roots and Affixes

*Superficial* combines two Latin words: *super* meaning “above” and *facies* meaning “face.” *Supervise*, *supernatural*, *superb*, and *face* are some of the many English words that originate in these Latin words.

