UNIT 9 A POINT OF VIEW

VOCABULARY

Verbs and phrases

1 Refrain 10 Converge 11 Implicate 2 Feign 3 Brood 12 Settle on

4 Plunder 13 Be none the wiser 5 Loot 14 Gravitate towards

15 Leaf through something 6 Fetter 7 Dismiss 16 Be devoid of something

8 Correspond

Nouns and phrases

1 A revelation 10 An interloper 11 A think tank 2 A proprietor 3 A fallacy 12 Commonality 4 A hotchpotch 13 Credence

5 A mishmash 14 Demagoguery 6 A delusion 15 Censorship 7 A melting pot 16 Interference

8 A disguise 17 Undertow of something 18 The intricacies of something 9 An assertion

Adjectives

- 2 Decent
- 3 Dubious
- 5 Invincible
- 6 Deplorable
- 7 Venerable
- 8 Repellent
- 9 Repugnant
- 10 Fair-minded

- 4 Neglected

- 11 Impoverished

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

me to understand its _____.

Task 1 Fill in the missing spaces with the words from the list. Don't change the form of the words.

iorm or the words.	
Part 1	
credence	a melting pot
demagoguery	fallacy
proprietors	disguise
revelation	commonalities
interference	delusion
think tank	interlopers
hothcpotch	assertion
censorship	intricacies
1) After the of money laund	lering the city mayor resigned.
2) For many centuries the British were th	ne of many countries which had
been colonised.	
3) It is a to believe that won	nen are worse leaders than men.
•	a of new and flashing ideas which
often seem to have no order.	
5) Once you don't trust anybody, it is eas going to cheat you.	sy to be under the that people are
6) In any big city you observethe same place.	which means people of all nations live in
7) The more I read about colonisation, th	ne more difficult it was for me to
the disappointment with the English gent	lemen.
8) The newspaper article provides only b to it because I need more fa	g ,
9) I don't agree with the that	house prices are going to rise too high.
10) The colonisers were often treated as	by the local population.
11) The leading universities are often a _	of new ideas.
12) The two researches have some	, thus we can trust both of them.
13) is often a deceitful instr	ument to make people take the decision.
14) When you publish a book, you will f	ace
15) Government into private	e business leads to negative consequences.

16) Programming has always been complicated for me, so I believe it is impossible for

rait 2		
dubious	deplorable	
invinsible	repellent	
decent	venerable	
patchy	repugnant	
impoverished	fair-minded	
1) Generally, the situation in the city is under of protests, they are not a big issue.	control. Although there	are some
2) Everybody dreams of getting a good job and	d getting a	salary.
3) I am very about the reliability trust everything that people say.	of the financial situation	n. I wouldn't
4) Such behaviour is unacceptable and I would	l rather say	_•
5) Once, the company is now on	the stage of becoming b	ankrupt.
6) Harvard is a university where successful careers.	students get great know	ledge and
7) That guy was very and made n	ne feel scared.	
8) Political debates are often becau	use they often contain ag	ggression.
9) In an attempt to make the career as a lawyer that you can judge situations fairly.	r, you need to become _	SO
10) The colonisation left many countries	•	

Part 3	
refrain	plundered
feigned	implicated
dismissed	converge
correspond	fettered
looting	gravitate towards
devoid of	none the wiser
1) It is not allowed to turn on music after 10pm making any other type of noise after 10pm.	n. You should also from
2) I believe Jack's behaviour wasn't natural –	he simply the excitement.
3) Many countries were during th	e British colonialism.
4) After the evacuation was finished, many ho tough task to patrol the areas so that	1 2
5) Once you get married, you are	by family responsibilities.
6) It's not a secret that many good ideas are of remembering later when it is usually too late.	tenand people start
7) There must be some mistakes in this docum to each other.	ent because its two parts don't
8) After many arguments we managed to agreement.	our ideas and come to an
9) The investigation that the com	pany was involved in corrupt schemes.
10) Although the teacher has explained the promote and, honestly, I believe programm understand.	
11) Most young students Program these subjects to learn.	nming and Mathematics and choose

12) The hotel was so cheap and _____ any comfort – of course we didn't like it.

the words. Text A credence dismissed leafed swayed proprietors demagoguery fair-minded invincible revelations Being at school, I remember many students were bored with History lessons. On the contrary, I never (1) the History lessons as something boring. I remember when I bought two bunches of books on history. I (2) _____ through them all. Having noticed that people are reading little today, I am not surprised most of us are not (3) _____ enough to judge what happened not only in the past but also what is currently happening. We still give (4) _____ to everything we read on the Internet without analysing the facts – the last is hardly possible because most of us know nothing about history. That is why we are so easily (5) and can't assert our personal viewpoint. The Internet is the tool for (6) _____ which is all about imposing somebody else's opinion. Maybe this is the reason why we get shocked when we read about (7) _____ which, as we think, were hidden. In fact, they were not, it is that we have lost interest in our history. The mass media has its owners – that is why it is often controlled and abused by the (8) _____. The danger of relying too much on the Internet is that there is a high probability it will create an (9) _____ belief that the information there is true. Text B delusions undertow invincible brood fair-minded converge fallacy embrace gravitate towards Once there is a (1) _____, you start to (2) _____, a false idea and that leads to the inability to see the (3) _____, of an issue. In the current world of 24hour access to the Internet, it is hard to take your own decision. Mostly it is based on what you read on the Internet and you think the decision you have taken is yours – in reality it is totally the other way round. That is why it is too hard to stay (4) _____ and be able to judge situations critically and carefully. A great amount of webpages and the easiness of information access are probably the reasons why we prefer reading about something unpleasant, such as catasrophes, bullying, curruption and many more. We prefer not only to read about these issues but also to (5) _____ on the questions that are often unpleasant for us. All the negative information seems to (6) _____ into one place - the Internet. My (7) _____ belief on the damaging

Task 2 Fill in the spaces with the words from the list. Don't change the form of

and detrimental effect of the Internet is strong. The inability to sort out the information

leads to mass (8) _____ and the tendency to (9) ____ them eagerly.

gravitated	implications	intricacies
dubious	credence	revelations
devoid	demagoguery	fetter
have always managed to delive and using the eloquence wrote secret. The dream of any journ censorship and government int definitely notice that the impulgiven by a journalist. The job of them is eloquence. Using the vinformation properly. The curr leading newspapers are owned fair journalism by diffunable to deliver the informatical allowed to publish what they the to what you read instrument and in	fair opinion on the isser the (2)	sue. Being nosy, the journalists on the pages of their newspapers ents which had previously been s being (3) of yes any political scandal, you will in this scandal was own (5) and one of ist is able to deliver the the control of the press – the ich and dominant figures who (6) alation. Thus the journalists are be delivered. If journalists are not it is it possible to give (7)
Task 3 Read the dialogues ar list. Don't change the form o	-	spaces with the words from the
Dialogue 1	T the Words	
credence	comr	nonality
demagoguery		ations
leafed through		orable
some (2)	_ it all and I've noticed owever, I wouldn't giv books. case?	d that all historical events have the too much (3) to to use several
information sources and only t B: Will it be possible then to n events?	then it will be possible	e to draw some conclusions.
A: I believe so. Get ready, tho	ugh, that they can be	

Text C

Dialogue 2	
assertions	fair-minded
leaf	fallacies
undertow	commonality
A: I guess there are many (1)	once you learn history.
B: Sure there are. A lot of people beliany desire to learn. They believe wha	ieve false ideas simply because they don't have they are told.
A: These false beliefs can't hide the ((2) of sadness.
B: I agree. Using false beliefs you can	n easily make propaganda.
A: Do you believe there are (3) opinion?	people who don't believe the popular
we divide people into two groups, we	The problem is, though, we don't know them. It is also that each group has some (4)ion and share the same ideas, others don't follow wn ideas within the group.
A: I believe if you don't want to follow through the books carefully.	ow the majority, you need to (5)
B: Sure, only then you will be able to	resist the established (6)
Dialogue 3	
brooding	intricacies
implications	hotchpotch
embrace	devoid
A: Is there any question you have been	en (1) on?
B: Yes, this is the question how to lea	arn to separate facts from fiction.
A: I believe most of us (2)	fiction rather than facts.
B: That's true. The future (3)	in that case are terrible.
A: Unfortunately, it is so. However, e	even a simple question might have many (4)
B: Right, and if you want to solve that facts from fiction.	at (5), you need to learn to separate
A: Personally, I am also (6)simply can't separate facts from fiction	of much knowledge in many speheres and on.

Dialogue 4 mishmash revelations repugnant a patchy issue demagoguery delusion **A:** I didn't like the mayor's (1) _____ behaviour. **B:** Nobody liked it. Instead of answering the journalists' questions, he simply chose (2) _____ to be his instrument. A: I agree. His answers were simply a (3) . We didn't hear any sensible answer even for one question. **B:** Of course he chose to do so because there have been many (4) _____ about his affairs. **A:** I believe most politicians behave the same way. **B:** I agree. Such behaviour isn't (5) ______. I'd rather say it is a norm rather than an exception. A: Anyway, I am not under the (6) _____ that he is going to be re-elected. Task 4 Use the words given in brackets and form a word that fits the space. Change the form of the words if necessary by adding suffixes or prefixes if necessary. 1) The _____ (**REVEAL**) about the previously unknown cases of money laundering have led to the resign of the city mayor. 2) The interview with the actress opened a very _____ (REVEAL) episode of her life. 3) In an attempt to avoid the answers for unpleasant questions, the manager was speaking _____(REVEAL). 4) Jack was a very mistrustful person and often experienced _____ (**DELUSION**) thinking. 5) I think I agree with the _____ (ASSERT) about the near house price rising. 6) The history of many countries have _____ (**COMMON**) of events. 7) There used to be hard _____ (CENSOR) which today has become more loyal. 8) The _____ (**DEMAGOGUE**) speaker was trying to persuade people about the credibility of the new political plan. 9) The mayor was _____ (**DEMAGOGUE**) criticized by a group of journalists. 10) The government (INTERFERE) has led to serious problems in business sector. 11) The decision had an important (IMPLICATE) on the financial future

of the company.

12) The (IMPLICA	TE) of the police chief in the scandal was something
unbelievable for this small town.	
13) The two parties are starting to	have (CONVERGE) viewpoints on
the budget plan for the coming ye	ar.
	markets which we have observed for the last couple financial (INVINCIBLE).
15) The tone you have chosen is _ with your colleagues.	(DEPLORE) and unsuitable for talking
16) I admit the (DEI	PLORE) low quality of today's fiction.
17) I can't get rid of the feeling of	[(DUBIOUS) for that company.
18) The businessman'sspeculations.	(DUBIOUS) earned income has arisen many
	ords given in brackets and form a word that fits ne words by adding suffixes or prefixes if
110003341 *•	
•	of the latest political scandal has shown that
The (1) (REVEAL)	of the latest political scandal has shown that othing about the (2) (DUBIOUS) of the
The (1) (REVEAL) thousands of local people knew no	othing about the (2) (DUBIOUS) of the
The (1) (REVEAL) thousands of local people knew no local politicians. Being influenced	-
The (1) (REVEAL) thousands of local people knew no local politicians. Being influenced eloquence, people have supported	othing about the (2) (DUBIOUS) of the d by the (3) (DEMAGOGUE) and
The (1) (REVEAL) thousands of local people knew no local politicians. Being influenced eloquence, people have supported corruption schemes and money la Data shed light on the financial af	othing about the (2) (DUBIOUS) of the d by the (3) (DEMAGOGUE) and the politicians for years, knowing nothing about undering. The journalists' access to the Transaction fairs. It turned out that all the transitions had (4)
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Task 6 Read the dialogues and put the lines in the correct order.

Dialogue 1

A: Judging by such a great amount of books, I think you are unsatisfied with the school programme.

B: Probably, you are right. I have heard similar complaints from several families. So, the tight school programme isn't a patchy issue.

C: Yes, I have. I did it last month. I introduced him to some books on English, French, Chinese as well as Mathematics and History.

D: I believe he will. It isn't only him who reads these books. Honestly, I leafed through all these books together with him.

E: You are right. The school programme is planned so that children simply don't have enough time to learn. They get only basic information about the subject but that doesn't mean learning.

F: Have you introduced your son to some interesting books?

G: This is a lot of information. Do you think he will have time to read through them all?

Dialogue 2

A: Of course not. I don't give any credence to what is told in the government.

B: Demagoguery is the right word here. I believe politicians need to think about the undertow of any decision.

C: Do you think the political decisions are taken fairly?

D: However, I must admit it isn't easy to separate facts from fiction in today's hotchpotch of information. So, the ability to analyse needs to be taught.

E: Exactly. The ability to analyse what you are told is one of the goals of the education because this ability might have a significant implication on your future as well as the future of the whole nation.

F: I agree. The masses are simply swayed by demagoguery.

G: Every assertion you hear from TV screens, or the Internet, must be checked, or at least analysed.

Dialogue 3

A: I agree. That's why we need to learn more than we are taught. By doing so, we'll notice that the popular opinion isn't invincible.

B: What conclusion can we make? Don't give credence to what you are told, right?

C: It was really so. Great Britain looted and impoverished many countries.

D: I wonder why we are not taught this information at schools.

E: It isn't only about being invincible or not. It is also about the revelations and delusions that are all around the British.

F: I do think the British colonialism was a bloody period for many centuries.

G: I believe it is so because it is planned to make the students follow the common known facts about the British as the nation of gentlemen and shopkeepers, while the deplorable facts about the Britishness are intentionally hidden.

Dialogue 4

A: I guess most nations today are melting pots.

B: Yes, there is. I think there is a fallacy in the newspaper about the negative issues of immigration.

C: Yes, they are. At least I believe so. It takes efforts not to gravitate towards demagoguery.

D: So, all these assetions are simply delusions, aren't they?

E: Is there any question you have been brooding on?

F: Well, the formation of any nation includes some immigration history. We simply have never learnt the history of immigration.

G: Sure, people from all nations live in any country. Especially it is noticeable in big cities where people converge.

READING

Task 7 You are going to read an article about people's interest to learn. The article is written on the basis of several BBC podcast "A Point of View. Three paragraphs have been removed from the extract. Choose from the paragraphs AD the one which fits each gap (1-3). There is one extra paragraph which you don't need to use.

1

Being fascinated by the educated minds, it's little wonder that many people want to obtain decent knowledge and join the think tank group. In the current world of the Internet and information technologies, it has become easier to get educated. How is it possible then that we often complain about the neglect of the education? Despite formal training and getting certificates, it turns out we lack knowledge as well as another question comes up: how much are we aware of the credibility of our knowledge? Most of us have probably never thought about it and far fewer dare to agree their knowledge is not sufficient.

(Fill	in	the	letter)	
2				

Being at school, I remember my fascination of the teachers. The passion with which they taught us was incredible and, as I understand now, their knowledge of the subject they taught was impressive. The lesson plans were carefully thought out and combined with the discipline rules which were, to put it mildly, tight. Long after school, I thought for a while if I really had possessed deep knowledge there, or was it probably regurgitation, keeping in mind the fear of punishment for the expression of personal viewpoint or, worse still, discord with the teacher.

(Fill	in	the	letter)	
3				

Leafing through books requires concentration, time and effort. The Internet, in its turn, has made its contribution into the speed of information access and the deplorable quality of obtaining knowlede. The easiness with which the information is accessed makes us often none the wiser even if we read several times. The assertion about the invincibility of knowledge isn't convincing any longer which results in the inability to give credence to what is taught. Once you are in the library, it is different. Learning the information from books, in other words the paper media, makes both the iris and the brain process the acquired information more thoroughly.

(Fill	in	the	letter)	
4				

So, I have come to the firm belief that learning is a complicated thing. Once you are a school or a university student, you learn the facts without any insight in what you learn as well as what you are told. All this, in its turn, is supplemented by the easy access to what most of us believe to be the reliable Internet information resource. The scary thing is that students gravitate towards avoidance of a careful thought. Following this path, it is easy to notice how fallacies are not only accepted eagerly but can also be imposed.

Choose the correct paragraph and fill in the missing spaces. Remember that there is one extra paragraph.

A

While getting higher education, you often get similar experience. It is possible that the students again gravitate towards what they are told, but hardly anyone even asks university teachers any question. The quality of higher education has been criticed recently. The criticsm, though, has been focused all around the teachers and it was a rare case that despite the unfettered access to university libraries, the students' inability, or unwillingness, to learn more than what they are taught, was mooted.

В

The Internet was implemented into the educational system not so long ago. Its initial goal was to make the access to the information easier as the students were constantly complaining on tight curriculum and the great amount of the study materials to read. Deliberately or unconsciously, the proposal to let students use the Internet for educational purposes was approved. It soon turned out, though, that such students eagerly embraced the ideas which in reality turned out to be absurd. Moreover, they were often easily taken in by mass delusions than by those who used libraries as the mine of information.

C

It isn't reasonable, however, to deny the importance of the Internet even in the realm of getting education. It is reasonable to remember, though, that the speed isn't the same as quality. Despite being overflowed with the information, the Internet is better to be used as an auxiliary instrument. The fountains of knowledge have always converged into libraries, not the World Wide Web. The access to a great amount of books will allow everybody, who is interested in obtaining decent knowledge, to get a totally different and much stronger viewpoint on the necessary subject.

D

Once you admit you are devoid of knowledge, that is the right time to stop leafing through coursebooks and start learning the intricacies of the subject you are eager to learn. The question is, though, what learning exactly is. It is easy to be taken in by mass delusions. The new ideas, which are quickly embraced, can be recognized as absurd. This issue is the newly discussed one, although it is definitely not the newly emerged one.

LISTENING

You will listen to several extracts of BBC podcast "A Point of View".

Task 8 You will listen to five speakers. Choose from A to E the subject that each speaker is talking about.

Speaker 1	a) The lack of information about British colonialism
Speaker 2	b) The problem of giving freedom of the press
Speaker 3	c) The problems of integration
Speaker 4	d) The problems of higher education
Speaker 5	e) The importance of Mathematics

Task 9 You will listen further to the five speakers of the BBC podcast "A Point of View". In each extract you will have to complete the text with a word or a short phrase. Pay attention that it is not a word-for-word text.

Speaker 1

According to David Spiegelhalter, the Cambridge sta	atistician and professor of the (1)
who wrote a piece where h	e explained how a newspaper
headline might (2) have ala	armed some people. Study shows
29 per cent of the 42 people who have died after (3)	had both
vaccinations ran the headline. Spiegelhalter explaine	ed that as the rate (4)
rises high, we should actua	ally expect the proportion of
hospitalised who've had two shots to rise. If everyon	ne were double vaccinated, even
the marvelous vaccine is (5)	_ and some people will still be
hospitalised even if they are far fewer in number. Ye	et they will all, one hundred per
cent of them, have been (6)	Spiegelhalter is addressing
something called the Base Rate Fallacy, (7)	by (8)
to regard it in its correct con	itext.

Speaker 2

Nevertheless, at a time of continuing high levels of immigration and (1)
there remains (2) in many parts of the country about the issu
of integration, meaning, loosely, the extent to which behaviour of newcomers (3)
and the common norms of society. So, the integration project
that I've taken an interest in is an integration unit at the policy exchange (4),
although integration is one of (5) in the political lexicon.
Mostly, there are two main reasons for this (6) The first
is that it's hard to know what is happening. And what we do know is (7)
It is difficult to know what goes on inside people's heads. But you can
collect data on where they live and where they send their children to school.
The second big reason we don't talk much about integration is that it is difficult to
know what (8) from whatever background should feel about
it.
We don't know how much (9) is needed for society to
function well. We also don't know how much should politics lean against so-called
homophily – the tendency of people (10) people like themselves
There are no clear answers to these questions.
Speaker 3
In the 70 th anniversary year of Indian independence when the media (1)
with partition stories, "voices from the dying days of empire", I
(2) on a question that's troubled me for a long time. Why is the
history of the British Empire not taught in our schools?
Being at school in the north-west of England, in the 70s and 80s, I was taught much
less about empire. I was taught (3) Everything I learnt (4)
was from my father which amounted more or less to this:
India was (5) of which Bengal was one of the wealthiest regions until the British (6), looted and left it deeply impoverished. I
remember scare at the school and local libraries for evidence of these assertions and
coming out (7)
An Ofsted report which was made in 2004 said that teaching about the empire was
(8) Since then, a host of voices including TV-presenter
Jeremy Paxman, historian William Dalrymple and ex-EU Undersecretary General
Shashi Thoreau has called for (9) Paxman attacked the dreary
educational establishment for treating empire as irrelevant. Thoreau's recent book "In
Glorious Empire", by the way, provides a kind of ballast I searched for (10)
while I at school.

Speaker 4 Over time the eras of ordinary people can be corrected by their everyday experience. (1) _____, in contrast. tends to be invincible. They like to think they have a clear view of the world. In fact, they are often more easily (2) by mass delusions than the rest of human kind. As George Orwell wrote: "There are some ideas, so absurd, that only intellectuals could believe them". At present this is the danger of a higher education, the humanities and social sciences. Those who have degrees (3) _____ have often (4) and projects that many less educated folk was dangerously absurd. If higher education has any (5) ______, it's to inculcate intelligence scepticism regarding all grand theories of society and history. The world is still presented by many university teachers in all its (6) _____. The problem is that much of what is taught consists (7) ______ of ideology, disguised this critical thought. Deconstruction, (8) ______ deriving from Marxism, psychoanalysis and linguistics which claims to offer an insight into society by demolishing established structures of thought, informs many academic disciplines. But do students (9) have a better understanding of the world around them? Or have they, at considerable financial cost, learnt once fashionable academic jargon with very little practical or intellectual value? Speaker 5 Marie Colvin believed it was the purpose of reporters and newspaper people to tell truth to power. Today's journalism is of a different sort and which since last summer has been investigating the culture, practices and ethics of British newspapers, following (1) _____ concerning the news of the world – phone hacking scandal. "The press", lord Justice Leveson announced on the first day of public hearings, "provides an essential check on all aspects of public life. That is why any failure within the media affects all of us". Here's the latest version of a familiar refrain. On the one hand, a free press (2) ______, or any other form of (3) _____, or regulation, is vital to the successful functioning of any nation that claims to be a democracy. Those freedoms, however, are often abused by rich proprietors in an attempt to promote their own (4) ______, and by journalists, whose ethics are at best dubious and at worst (5) ______. So, the freedom of the press is a self-serving argument, (6) practices that ought to be against the law and in some cases probably are. Here's a (7) _____ and so far unresolved dilemma. The press is no longer free to check and criticise the government as long as the press is (8) _____ by the government regulation. The free press, however, may (9) _____ those freedoms in ways that the public, (10)

find deeply repellent and repugnant, as in the case of the current phone-hacking

scandal.

_____ it claims to speak and whose interests it claims to serve, may

Task 10 You will hear five extracts where people are expressing their viewpoints on different subjects. In the left column (from A to E) choose the topic they talk about. In the right column (from A to E) choose the problem they talk about. You need to choose the answers from both columns while you listen.

Choose the topic that each speaker talks about.	Fill in the answers after each speaker. The answer must include two letters.	Choose the problem that each speaker talks about.
 a) Multicultural society b) The journalist's job c) Mathematics d) Teaching about the empire e) Acquaintance with 	The journalist's job Speaker 2 Mathematics Speaker 3 Teaching about the speaker 4 Speaker 5	 a) The lack of knowledge at school children b) The inability of the freedom of the press c) The insecurity of higher education d) Learning to think
learned people		clearly e) The problems of integration