

How the Media Connects Oversight to the Public

Student Materials

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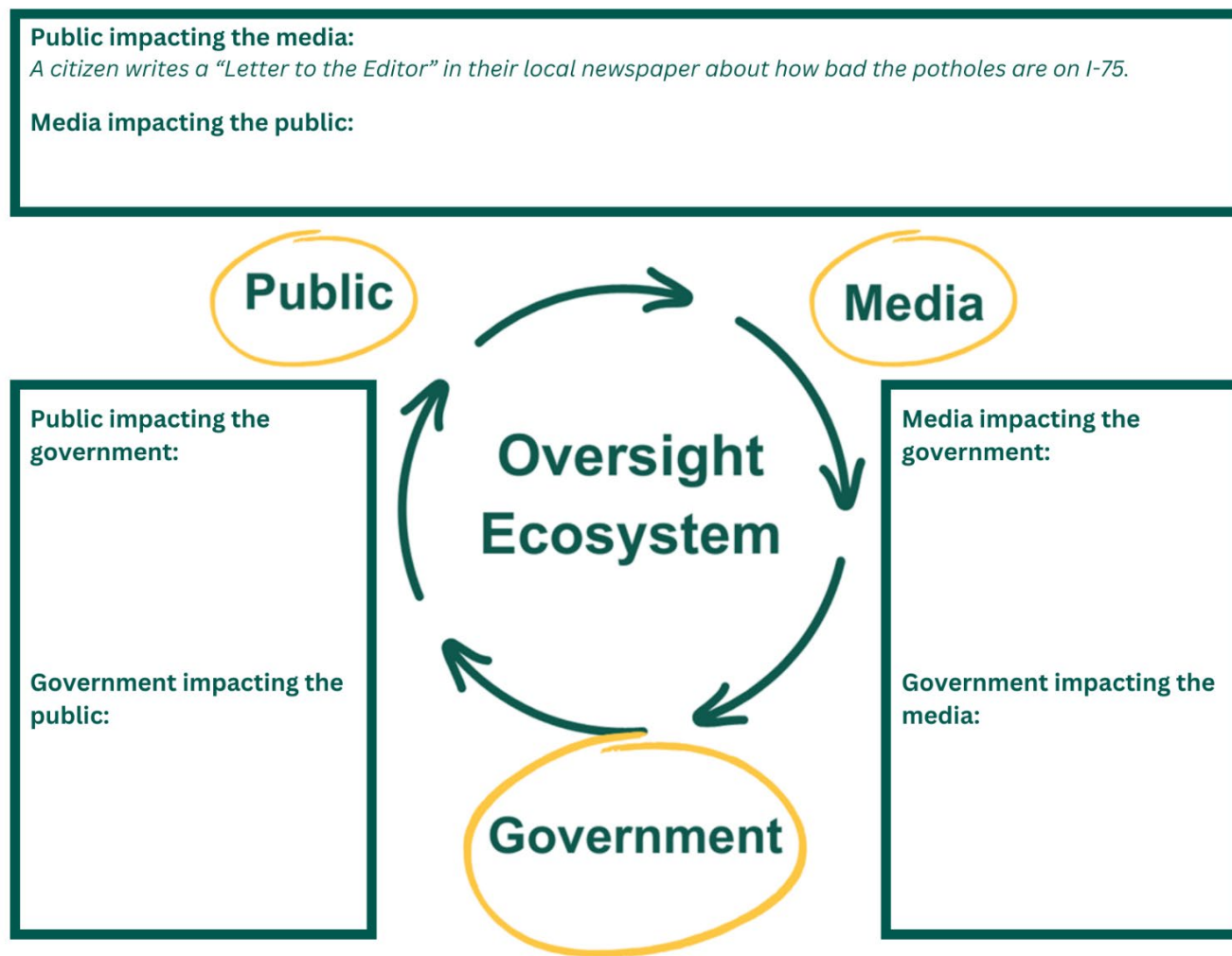


Name: _____

How important is the media in informing the public about government activities?

Directions: Follow the instructions to complete each of the five stations. It does not matter what order you view the material in but be sure to record your answers in the correct place. Keep in mind that you will be answering the activity's compelling question, so pay attention to examples that you find persuasive.

Station 1: With your partners, brainstorm some of the ways that you see the government and the media interacting. Complete the chart with real-world examples (one is done for you).



<p>Station 2: Imagine that you are a reporter in 1974, hearing this tape for the first time. Write a newspaper headline that summarizes this breaking news.</p>	
<p>Station 3: Why was it important that “Big Tech” hearings were public and televised?</p>	
<p>Station 4: What’s the message of this political cartoon? Do you think it is more important for journalists to reflect public opinion or to shape public opinion?</p>	
<p>Station 5: What did Wigand risk by coming forward about big tobacco? In your opinion, why did his story get so much attention?</p>	

Name: _____

How important is the media in informing the public about government activities?

Directions: Using the sources from the stations activity, answer the compelling question using **at least two** pieces of evidence.

Claim: A claim is a statement that answers the question. It will usually only be one sentence in length. The claim does not include any explanation, reasoning, or evidence so it should not include any transition words such as “because.”

Evidence: The evidence is the data used to support the claim. It can be either quantitative or qualitative depending on the question. The evidence should be a direct quote or paraphrase from one of the sources.

Citation: Which document are you quoting or referencing?

Reasoning: The reasoning is the explanation of “why and how” the evidence supports the claim. This is written in your own words.

