

Powers and counter-powers

Are counter-powers growing in influence?

final task

You have been invited to a TV debate on the rise of counter-powers in today's society. After listening to reports and reading about powers and counter-powers, you take part in the debate.



Focus on listening:

Listen to recordings about the Fifth Power	56
Listen to a recording about "Occupy Wall Street"	60
Listen to a report about Rupert Murdoch	67



Speak about "Occupy Wall Street"	60
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Read an extract from a novel about corporate power	58
Read an article about the evolution of flash mobs	62



Interview a protester from "Occupy Wall Street"	60
Act out a conversation about a flash mob	63



Write an e-mail about a meeting	59
Write a letter to a newspaper about WikiLeaks	61
Write an essay about the power of social networks	63
Post a comment on Facebook	65

Keywords

Nouns

- influence (noun + verb)
- supremacy (over sb)
- greed: *avidité*
- empowerment: *responsabilisation*
- the indignant /*ɪn'dɪɡnənt*/ movement
- demonstrator = protester
- the Fourth Power = the power of the press

• watchdog: *comité de surveillance*

• activist: *militant*

Adjectives

- powerful = mighty
- influential /*ɪnflu'entʃəl*/
- corporate /*'kɔ:pərtɪ*/: *de l'entreprise*
- financial /*fai'nænʃəl*/
- well-off = wealthy /*welθɪ*/

• worldwide = global

• determined = strong-willed

• debt-ridden /*det 'rɪdn*/: *criblé de dettes*

Verbs & expressions

- empower: *responsabiliser, donner du pouvoir*
- rule: *gouverner, dominer*
- dominate
- question: *remettre en cause*
- rise up = protest (against)
- resist (sth / sb) = stand up to

• stand up / fight for one's rights

• challenge (sb) = confront (sb)

• assert one's rights: *faire valoir ses droits*

• make oneself heard: *faire entendre sa voix*

• raise awareness: *faire prendre conscience, sensibiliser*

• take to the streets = demonstrate /*'dɛmənstreɪt*/

• repress = crack down on



Watchdogs of the sea

- The photo shows Greenpeace activists trying to stop oil exploration off the Alaskan coast. Describe the scene.
- In what fields do Greenpeace and other environmental organizations intervene?
- Do you believe such actions are efficient?

SPÉCIAL BAC

Lieux et formes du pouvoir

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• Welcome to the 21st century	58
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Espaces et échanges

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