

Name: _____ Class: _____ ()

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‘My book will bring down Trump,’ claims Wolff, author of White House exposé

The author of a book that is highly critical of Donald Trump’s first year as US president said his **revelations** were likely to bring an end to Trump’s time in the White House.

Michael Wolff told BBC radio that his conclusion in **Fire and Fury: Inside the Trump White House* – that Trump is not fit to do the job – was becoming a widespread view.

“I think one of the interesting effects of the book so far is a very clear *emperor-has-no-clothes effect,” Wolff said in an interview broadcast on Saturday. “The story that I have told seems to present this presidency in such a way that it says he can’t do his job,” Wolff said.

“They all say he is like a child,” he told NBC. “What they mean by that is he has a need for immediate **gratification**. It’s all about him. This man does not read, does not listen. He’s like a pinball, just **shooting off** the sides ...”

Trump has dismissed the book as full of lies. It **depicts** a **chaotic** White House, a president who was ill-prepared to win the office in 2016, and Trump **aides** who **scorned** his abilities.

Trump took to Twitter late on Friday to renew his attacks on Wolff, and on his former top aide Steve Bannon who was quoted in the book. “Michael Wolff is a total loser who made up stories in order to sell this really boring and untruthful book,” Trump said. “He used *Sloppy Steve Bannon, who cried when he got fired and begged for his job. Now Sloppy Steve has been *dumped like a dog by almost everyone. Too bad!”

Wolff also hit back at claims that the book was untruthful.

“This is what’s called reporting,” he said. “You ask people, you get as close as you can to the event, you interview the people who were **privy** to the event. You report it.”

Trump on Saturday dismissed Wolff’s claims about his capabilities and mental stability, again in a series of tweets: Actually, throughout my life, my two greatest assets have been mental stability and being, like, really smart ... I went from VERY successful businessman, to top T.V. Star to President of the United States. I think that would qualify as not smart, but genius ... and a very stable genius at that!”

Wolff **insists** he **stands by** everything in his book and has notes and recordings to back it up.

While Trump said he never spoke to Wolff for the book, the author said he spoke to Trump during the campaign and after the inauguration.

White House spokeswoman Sarah Sanders said Wolff never interviewed Trump and “made up a lot of stories” to try to sell books.

Questions to think about:



- What is your opinion on the issue or issues raised in this article?
- Why do you think Trump is such a controversial figure?
- What do you think of the author Wolff writing such a book? What do you think of the of the opinions presented in the book ? Do you think it is responsible writing/journalism? Why is responsible writing/journalism important?
- Do you think such a book can help bring down the president?

I: Vocabulary and understanding meaning: Match the meaning and/or synonym (words with a similar or the same meaning) to the words which have been highlighted in bold in the article.

Column A: Word from text	Letter	Column B: Meaning or synonym
1. revelation (n)		A: in a state of complete confusion and disorder
2. gratification (n)		B: describe (show/portray) in words
3. shoot off (phrasal verb)		C: sharing in the knowledge of (something secret or private)
4. depict (v)		D: feel or express contempt/disdain for/dislike of/be critical
5. chaotic (adj)		E: a surprising and previously unknown fact that has been disclosed/revealed to others
6. aide (n)		F: adhere to or abide by (something promised, stated, or decided)/support something you have said/not back down
7. scorn (v)		G: pleasure, especially when gained from the satisfaction of a desire/the need to feel that you have done well/are good etc/the need for self-satisfaction
8. privy to (adj)		H: demand something forcefully, not accepting refusal
9. insist (v)		I: talk boastfully or indiscreetly
10. stand by (phrasal verb)		J: an assistant to an important person, especially a political leader

II: Usage of vocabulary: Choose the most appropriate word from the table above to fill in the missing words of the sentences below making sure your answers are grammatically correct.

- The situation following the bombing was one of _____ and confusion. People did not know what to do, and were running here and there.
- The (a) _____ to the president, a man who had long been working by the president's side, said he was not (b) _____ the information so I could not confirm or deny it. However, he said he would (c) _____ and support the president as that he did not believe any of the recent (d) _____, in other words, the stories of wrongdoing by the president. In fact, he would bet money on the information being false.
- What do you think this painting _____? It is so abstract, I cannot make heads of tails of it. I do not understand the painting at all.
- It does not pay to _____ one's mouth _____ without thinking first. It can get you into a lot of trouble.
- The author found _____ in having his novel published. He had a feeling of satisfaction that his efforts were rewarded.
- The teacher _____ I join the public speaking competition although I was reluctant. He kept asking me every day until I finally gave in.
- The candidate became an object of _____ when the scandal and stories surrounding him became public. People could no longer trust him because of what he had done.

Challenge of the week: Listen & look at the stars*

ENGLISH CORNER CAFÉ IS ALWAYS OPEN ON A TUESDAY FOR DRINKS, SNACKS, CONVERSATION & GAMES

See Ms Roberts for prizes if you know the answers!