

Read the short essay below and answer the questions.

If you watch TV anywhere in the world, you are probably familiar with the face of Christiane Amanpour. She is one of the world's most successful international news reporters. She has reported from so many countries and on so many issues that she is more famous than many movie or music celebrities.



Christiane Amanpour was born in 1958 in London. Her father is Iranian and her mother is British. Because of her mixed cultural heritage, she learned to speak English, Persian and French. She became famous after she started working for CNN, the first global news network. Newsweek magazine wrote that Amanpour “helped establish CNN as must-see for world leaders”.

While working for CNN, Amanpour quickly earned a reputation for high quality journalism. She was also known for her bravery. She was always in the world's newsmaking hotspots at the right time. For instance, she reported on the fall of the Berlin Wall and the Gulf War. She likes to be where the action is happening. She told the New Yorker magazine in 1993 after she reported on the war in Sarajevo, “how can you know what's going onif you're sitting in London”.



Over more than 20 years Amanpour has become perhaps the most famous symbol of high quality journalism in the world. She has won many awards and she has interviewed many presidents, prime ministers, kings, queens, and other important people. But she is never shy when she confronts fame and power. Once she interviewed Bill Clinton and asked him why he had been slow and “flip-flopped” about helping the people in Sarajevo during the war in Bosnia. Bill Clinton got extremely angry, his face went red and he said, “There have been no flip flops , Madam”. If Christiane Amanpour has any weaknesses, it is that her success has made her think she can do anything. Consequently, when she first tried to move out of journalism she failed as a TV host. It has taken her time to learn to be a good TV host.



To sum up, Christiane Amanpour is a role model for anyone wanting to be a journalist. She is brave, honest and independent, while she is also compassionate and caring. The world could do with more people like her. It would be a better place.

1 How did Christiane Amanpour become famous ?

2 What qualities helped her become famous ?

3 What negative effect has fame had on her ?

4 Why could the world do with more people like Christiane Amanpour ?

Answers

1. She became famous working as a reporter for CNN.
2. She was brave, honest and independent. She was always in the right place (hotspots) at the right time. She won many awards. She interviewed many famous people.
3. Because she was successful she thought she would be successful at other things. But it took time for her to be a successful TV host.
4. The world needs good journalists who are brave, honest, independent, compassionate and caring as they help to make the world a better place.