Information Literacy

Teaching students to be discerning in a world of fake news, clickbait, and extreme bias
Media Literacy
News Literacy
Then...

You noticed gossip magazines like National Enquirer, Globe, and The Sun in the grocery checkout line.
Today...

As we experience information overload, we must be equipped to vet and verify news sources.
Fake News
News Gone Viral

Total Facebook Engagements for Top 20 Election Stories

- MAINSTREAM NEWS
  - Feb.–April: 12 million
  - May–July: 9 million
  - Aug–Election Day: 8.7 million

- FAKE NEWS
  - Feb.–April: 3 million
  - May–July: 6 million
  - Aug–Election Day: 7.3 million

Engagement refers to the total number of shares, reactions, and comments for a piece of content on Facebook. Source: Facebook data via BuzzSumo

# News Gone Viral

## Rating by Page

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mostly False</th>
<th>Mix. of True and False</th>
<th>Mostly True</th>
<th>No Factual Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mainstream</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABC News Politics</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>86.0%</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CNN Politics</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>94.1%</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Politico</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td>98.5%</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Left</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addicting Info</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
<td>17.9%</td>
<td>68.6%</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupy Democrats</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
<td>15.8%</td>
<td>48.8%</td>
<td>31.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Other 98%</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
<td>54.9%</td>
<td>32.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Right</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eagle Rising</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
<td>18.9%</td>
<td>42.3%</td>
<td>28.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freedom Daily</td>
<td>23.2%</td>
<td>23.2%</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Right Wing News</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
<td>33.2%</td>
<td>53.0%</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Political awareness, digital savviness and trust in the media all play large roles in the ability to distinguish between factual and opinion news statements.

% of U.S. adults who correctly classified...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>All 5 factual statements</th>
<th>All 5 opinion statements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All adults</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLITICAL AWARENESS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High political awareness</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIGITAL SAVVINESS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very digitally savvy</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not savvy</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEWS TRUST</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A lot of trust in media</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not much/no trust</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEWS INTEREST</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very interested in news</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not interested</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% of U.S. adults who correctly classified...

- Factual statements: 26% (All five), 24% (Four), 21% (Three), 28% (Two or fewer)
- Opinion statements: 35% (All five), 24% (Four), 19% (Three), 22% (Two or fewer)

Note: Skipping a statement was counted as not correctly identifying it as factual or as opinion.
"Distinguishing Between Factual and Opinion Statements in the News"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

1. This is / is not (circle one) an advertisement because________

2. This is / is not (circle one) an advertisement because________

3. This is / is not (circle one) an advertisement because________

Here is the home page of Slate.com. Some of the things that appear on Slate.com are news stories, and others are advertisements.
On March 11, 2011, there was a large nuclear disaster at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant in Japan. This image was posted on Imgur, a photo sharing website, in July 2015.

Fukushima Nuclear Flowers
by pleasegoogleShakerAamerpleasegoogleDavidKelly • a month ago

Not much more to say, this is what happens when flowers get nuclear birth defects

Does this post provide strong evidence about the conditions near the Fukushima Daiichi Power Plant? Explain your reasoning.
Stanford History Education Group Study
Evaluating Information: The Cornerstone of Civic Online Reasoning

‘Death Tax’ Talking Point Won’t Die

September 27, 2017

In calling for the repeal of the estate tax, President Donald Trump repeated a popular myth that a farmer’s heirs often have to “sell the farm” in order to pay the tax. In fact, less than 1 percent of the heirs of farm owners are expected to have to pay any estate tax.

► Click here to read more

Seahawks Players Didn’t Burn Flag

October 17, 2017

Q: Did players for the Seattle Seahawks burn the American flag?
A: No. A widely circulated picture was altered to make it look that way.
Reactions to Texas Shooting

After a gunman in Texas shot and killed at least 26 people in a church before being chased off by a local who shot back, there were many political reactions. Some called for gun control, others pointed to mental illness and were thankful that there was someone there to shoot back to save lives.

From the Center
Trump: ‘Mental health’ is the issue behind the Texas shooting.
USA Today

From the Left
Obama, Biden call for action to prevent gun violence after Texas shooting.
CBS News

From the Right
Politicking the TX Church Shooting Doesn’t Help the...<br>Fox News

Story of the week: Tax Cuts and Jobs Act

Get it each week: Email Address *  Sign Up

Trump Kicks Off Asia Trip

President Trump kicked off his 12 day trip to Asia in Japan meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to discuss trade and North Korea. President Trump has also said he would probably meet with Russian President Vladimir Putin while on the trip to discuss North Korea.

From the Left
Trump opens Asia trip talking tough in campaign style rally.
New York Times

From the Center
Trump kicks off his 12 day tour of Asia in Japan.
Business Insider

From the Right
Trump ready for ‘busier’ leg of Asia trip, after informal talks with Abe.
Fox News

Bowe Bergdahl Avoids Prison

Bowe Bergdahl will not serve any prison time for desertion, but will receive a dishonorable discharge. Trump had previously called for Bergdahl’s execution, which the judge ruled a mitigating factor in the sentencing.

From the Center
No prison for U.S. Army deserter Bergdahl, who Trump...<br>Reuters

From the Left
Bowe Bergdahl won’t serve prison time, and that’s making...<br>Reuters

From the Right
The Bergdahl Sentence is a Tragedy in...Townhall
CRAAP Test

When looking for trustworthy sources, ask yourself these questions:

- When was the information published? Is it CURRENT?
- Does this information relate to my big question and give me what I’m looking for? Is it RELEVANT?
- Who wrote this and how do I know they are qualified? What is their AUTHORITY?
- Can I verify that this information is true? Am I sure that it is ACCURATE?
- What is the PURPOSE of this article? Is it fact or opinion?
Fake news is a real problem. Here's how our students can solve it.
Circular Reporting
Lessons on News Literacy

How to choose your news - Damon Brown

Let’s Begin...

With the advent of the Internet and social media, news is distributed at an incredible rate by an unprecedented number of different media outlets. How do we choose which news to consume? Damon Brown gives the inside scoop on how the opinions and facts (and sometimes non-facts) make their way into the news and how the smart reader can tell them apart.

https://ed.ted.com/lessons/how-to-choose-your-news-damon-brown#watch
How False News Can Spread
Source Deck Activity

https://www.library.virginia.edu/sourcedeck/
Lessons on News Literacy

News & Media Literacy Curriculum Resources
Select a level to access on-topic, classroom-ready learning resources.

- Grades K-2
- Grades 3-5
- Grades 6-8
- Grades 9-12

https://www.commonsense.org/education/toolkit/news-and-media-literacy
Lessons on News Literacy

EDTOOLS

Search hundreds of standards-aligned lesson plans, artifacts, case studies and more that bring the Newseum’s content and collection to you.

Filter & Search:  Select a category  and/or  Enter keyword or phrase.

Sort by  RELEVANCE  NEWEST  A-Z  MOST VIEWED

https://newseumed.org/ed-tools/
Lessons on News Literacy

Module 1:
Filtering News and Information
1,995 Total Points

Start

Core Lessons

Introduction to the checkology® Virtual Classroom
30 Total Points

Start

Know Your Zone: Sorting Information
240 Total Points

Start

What Is News?
75 Total Points

Start

https://checkology.org
Lessons on News Literacy

https://mediaeducationlab.com/curriculum/materials
WHAT IF I TOLD YOU

HALF THE NEWS ON FACEBOOK IS FAKE

FAKE NEWS

FAKE NEWS EVERYWHERE

“Don’t believe everything you read on the Internet just because there’s a picture with a quote next to it.”

—Abraham Lincoln

ALWAYS

CHECK YOUR SOURCES
Tiffany Whitehead
@librarian_tiff
MightyLittleLibrarian.com
librarianantiff@gmail.com