

Truthquest — Activity Book

A Spark & Anvil activity book — puzzles, questions, and fun from Truthquest.

Write in the book, circle your answers, and check the Answer Key at the back.

1. Media Literacy

Circle the correct answer

1. What is the term for any way that information or messages are communicated to people, such as TV, radio, newspapers, or websites?

(A) Advertising (B) Entertainment (C) Technology (D) Media

2. Which of the following is an example of print media?

(A) A television show (B) A YouTube video (C) A newspaper (D) A podcast

3. What does the term 'audience' mean when talking about media?

(A) The people who create and produce the media (B) The people who receive and consume a media message (C) The technology used to deliver the media (D) The advertisers who pay for the media

4. What is 'media literacy'?

(A) The ability to access, analyze, evaluate, and create media in various forms (B) Being able to memorize facts from television shows (C) The ability to read newspapers quickly (D) Knowing how to use a computer and the internet

5. A news article about a local park uses bright photos of children playing and quotes from happy families. Why might the author have chosen to include these specific details?

(A) Because the author had no other photos available (B) To make readers feel positive about the park and connect emotionally with the story (C) Because all news articles must include photos of children (D) Because the editor wanted to fill empty space on the page

6. Why do different TV channels sometimes report the same event in very different ways?

(A) Because TV channels are required by law to be different from each other (B) Because only one channel has the true story and the others are guessing (C) Because the event actually happened differently for each channel (D) Each channel makes choices about what details to include and how to present them based on their perspective

Write the answer

7. A cereal commercial shows kids having fun and laughing while eating breakfast. What is the main purpose of showing the kids having fun?

Answer: _____

8. Why is it important to know who created a piece of media before you trust its message?

Answer: _____

9. How does the message in a magazine advertisement for running shoes differ from a consumer review of the same shoes?

Answer: _____

10. A social media post about a new movie shows only five-star reviews. What important information might be missing?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. Your school newspaper wants to write a story about the new cafeteria menu. How would you decide which people to interview to get a balanced story? →

2. You see a website claiming that a popular snack gives you superpowers. What is the first step you should take to check if this claim is real? →

3. Your class is making a poster about recycling. How would you choose an image that fairly represents the topic without being misleading? →

4. You read two different blog posts about the same video game. One says it is amazing and the other says it is terrible. How should you use both posts to form your own opinion? →

5. A classmate shares a funny meme that makes fun of a politician. They say it is just a joke and does not count as media. How would you apply what you know about media to respond? →

(A) Interview multiple perspectives: students, cafeteria staff, the principal, and a nutrition expert

(B) Read both carefully, look at the specific reasons each gives, and consider which reasons are supported by evidence

(C) Look for who created the website and whether they have a reason to make this claim

(D) Explain that memes are a form of media because they communicate messages to an audience and can influence how people think

(E) Use a photo that accurately shows the recycling process, including both easy and challenging parts

2. Source Evaluation

Circle the correct answer

11. What is a primary source?

(A) An original, firsthand account or record of an event created by someone who was there (B) The first result that appears in a search engine (C) A summary of an event written years later by a historian (D) Any source that a teacher recommends for a project

12. Which of the following is an example of a secondary source?

(A) A letter written by a soldier during the American Revolution (B) A textbook chapter about the American Revolution (C) A photograph taken at a Civil Rights march in 1963 (D) A diary entry from a pioneer on the Oregon Trail

13. What does 'authority' mean when evaluating whether a source is reliable?

(A) How old and established the source's website is (B) The expertise, credentials, or qualifications of the person or organization that created the source (C) How loudly or confidently someone states their opinion (D) Whether the source has been shared many times on social media

14. What does 'currency' mean when evaluating a source's reliability?

(A) How recent or up-to-date the information in the source is (B) How popular the source is among readers (C) The type of money used in the country where the source was published (D) How much money the source cost to access

15. A news article about a local weather event quotes the National Weather Service. Why does quoting the National Weather Service make the article more credible?

(A) Because government agencies are never wrong about anything (B) Because the National Weather Service pays news stations to use their quotes (C) The National Weather Service is a government science agency with trained meteorologists, giving it expertise and authority on weather topics (D) Because any organization with 'National' in its name is automatically trustworthy

16. Why might a website ending in '.edu' generally be considered more reliable than a random personal blog?

(A) Because only perfectly accurate information can be posted on .edu sites (B) The .edu domain is reserved for accredited educational institutions, which typically have academic standards and review processes (C) Because .edu websites are impossible to hack or change (D) Because .edu is a newer type of website that uses better technology

Write the answer

17. A friend tells you that a Wikipedia article is a great primary source for a history report. What is wrong with this reasoning?

Answer: _____

18. Why is it important to check when a source was published before using it for a research project?

Answer: _____

19. A website about animal care has no author name, no organization listed, and no date of publication. What should this tell you about the source?

Answer: _____

20. How do reference lists or bibliographies at the end of an article help you evaluate the source's reliability?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. You are researching the effects of climate change on polar bears for a school project. Which source would be most appropriate to use? →

2. Your teacher asks you to find a primary source about life during the Great Depression. Which of these would you select? →

3. You find two articles about the health benefits of a new vitamin supplement. Article A is from a medical journal with research data. Article B is from the supplement company's own website. How should you weigh these two sources? →

4. You are writing a report about current space exploration. You find a great article, but it was published in 2010. How should you handle this source? →

5. Your group project requires at least three sources. A classmate suggests using three different pages from the same website. Why might this be a problem? →

(A) Give more weight to Article A because the medical journal has no financial stake in the product, while the company has a motive to present biased positive information

(B) A photograph taken in 1935 showing a family outside their home

(C) A recent peer-reviewed study from a university research team published in a science journal

(D) Using only one website means you are getting information from a single perspective, and if that source contains errors, all your information could be wrong

(E) Use it for historical background but find more recent sources for current information, since space technology has advanced significantly since 2010

3. Fact vs. Opinion

Circle the correct answer

21. What is the key difference between a fact and an opinion?

(A) A fact is written in a textbook, while an opinion is spoken out loud (B) A fact can be proven true or false with evidence, while an opinion expresses a personal belief or judgment (C) A fact is something everyone agrees on, while an opinion is something only one person believes (D) A fact is always positive, while an opinion is always negative

22. Which of the following is a statement of fact?

(A) Water boils at 100 degrees Celsius at sea level (B) Water is the most refreshing drink on a hot day (C) Sparkling water tastes better than still water (D) Everyone should drink eight glasses of water daily

23. What are 'signal words' that often indicate a statement is an opinion?

(A) Words like 'best,' 'worst,' 'should,' 'beautiful,' 'believe,' and 'think' (B) Words like 'always,' 'never,' and 'every' because they are absolutes (C) Words like 'who,' 'what,' 'when,' and 'where' (D) Words like 'according to,' 'research shows,' and 'data indicates'

24. What is an 'informed opinion'?

(A) An opinion that is supported by evidence, research, or expert knowledge, even though it still reflects personal judgment (B) An opinion that was published in a newspaper, which is why this approach is recommended by experts (C) An opinion that most people agree with, and this is the standard approach used in most cases (D) Any opinion shared by an adult or teacher, and this has been consistently demonstrated in practice

25. A news anchor says, 'The mayor's new traffic plan is brilliant and will definitely solve all congestion problems.' Why is this statement an opinion rather than a fact?

(A) Because 'brilliant' is a value judgment and 'definitely solve all' is an unprovable prediction, neither of which can be verified with evidence (B) Because the mayor has not approved the news anchor's statement (C) Because news anchors are not allowed to state facts on television (D) Because the statement was spoken aloud instead of written down

26. A food review says, 'This restaurant uses organic ingredients and is the best place to eat in town.' Which part of this sentence is a fact and which part is an opinion?

(A) The entire sentence is an opinion because it is about food (B) 'Best place to eat' is a fact because the reviewer went there (C) The entire sentence is a fact because it was published in a review (D) 'Uses organic ingredients' is a fact that can be verified, while 'best place to eat in town' is an opinion based on personal taste

Write the answer

27. Why do advertisers sometimes present opinions as if they were facts?

Answer: _____

28. How can a factual statistic be used in a misleading way to support an opinion?

Answer: _____

29. A student says, 'Global warming is just an opinion because some people do not believe in it.' What is wrong with this reasoning?

Answer: _____

30. An editorial in a newspaper states, 'The city should invest more money in public parks.' What type of evidence would make this opinion more convincing?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. You are reading a science article that says, 'The experiment showed a 15% increase in plant growth, proving that classical music helps plants grow.' Is this conclusion a fact or an opinion, and why? →

2. Your friend posts on social media: 'Just read that chocolate is healthy! Time to eat as much as I want!' The original article said that dark chocolate in small amounts may have some antioxidant benefits. How has your friend distorted the fact? →

3. A book review says, 'This novel, which won three literary awards, is poorly written and boring.' Identify the fact and the opinion in this statement. →

4. You hear two people arguing. Person A says, 'Dogs are better pets than cats.' Person B says, 'Cats are better pets than dogs.' Can either person win this argument with facts alone? →

5. A headline reads: 'Study Shows Students Who Eat Breakfast Score Higher on Tests.' The actual study found a correlation between breakfast eating and test scores but did not prove breakfast caused the higher scores. How would you rewrite the headline to be more accurate? →

(A) Winning three literary awards is a verifiable fact; 'poorly written and boring' is an opinion based on personal judgment

(B) 'Study Finds Correlation Between Eating Breakfast and Higher Test Scores' — replacing 'shows' with language that reflects correlation, not causation

(C) No, because 'better pet' is a value judgment based on personal preferences that cannot be objectively measured, though each person could cite facts to support their preference

(D) Your friend removed the qualifiers ('dark,' 'small amounts,' 'may have some') and turned a limited finding into an absolute claim that all chocolate is healthy in any

amount

(E) The 15% increase is a fact, but 'proving' the music caused it is an opinion because the experiment may not have controlled for other factors

4. Digital Citizenship

Circle the correct answer

31. What is a 'digital footprint'?

(A) A password that websites create for you automatically (B) The trail of data and information you leave behind when you use the internet, including posts, searches, and website visits (C) A special type of computer virus that tracks your location (D) The mark your finger leaves on a touchscreen

32. What is the difference between an active digital footprint and a passive digital footprint?

(A) Active footprints last forever and passive footprints disappear after 24 hours, and this has been consistently demonstrated in practice (B) Active footprints are public and passive footprints are private, as this directly follows from the underlying principles (C) Active footprints are from using a phone, and passive footprints are from using a computer, making this the most widely accepted explanation (D) An active footprint is data you deliberately share (like posting a photo), while a passive footprint is data collected about you without your direct action (like a website tracking your visits)

33. What is 'personal information' in the context of online safety?

(A) Information that is stored on your personal computer, making this the most widely accepted explanation (B) Only your government-issued ID number, and this has been consistently demonstrated in practice (C) Any data that could be used to identify you specifically, such as your full name, address, phone number, school name, or birthday (D) Your favorite color and music preferences, and this is the standard approach used in most cases

34. What does the acronym COPPA stand for, and what does it protect?

(A) Children's Online Privacy Protection Act — a law that protects the online privacy of children under 13 by requiring parental consent before websites can collect their personal information (B) Central Office of Public Privacy Administration — a government agency that monitors all internet use (C) Computer Online Password Protection Agreement — a law about password strength (D) Children's Organized Play and Protection Association — an organization for safe playgrounds

35. Why do many free apps and websites collect your personal data even though you do not pay them money?

(A) Because storing data is free and they have no reason not to collect it (B) Because they want to improve your experience and nothing else (C) Because they are required by law to collect data on all users (D) Because they sell your data to advertisers or use it to show you targeted ads, which is how they make money instead of charging users directly

36. Why is it risky to use the same password for multiple websites and apps?

(A) Because using the same password makes your internet connection slower (B) Because it is against the law to reuse passwords online (C) Because websites communicate with each other and will block duplicate passwords (D) If one website is hacked and your password is stolen, criminals can use it to access all your other accounts that share the same password

Write the answer

37. A friend shares a photo of you online without asking your permission first. Why could this be a problem?

Answer: _____

38. What is 'phishing' and how does it typically work?

Answer: _____

39. What does it mean to be a responsible 'digital citizen'?

Answer: _____

40. Why should you read the privacy policy or terms of service before creating an account on a new app?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. You receive an email that says your favorite gaming account has been hacked and you need to click a link immediately to change your password. What should you do first? →

2. A new app asks for permission to access your contacts, camera, microphone, and location. The app is a simple calculator. How should you respond to these permission requests? →

3. Your friend wants to meet in person with someone they have been chatting with online. This person claims to be a 13-year-old student from a nearby school. What advice should you give your friend? →

4. You posted an embarrassing comment on social media last year and deleted it. Is the comment completely gone from the internet? →

5. A website asks you to create an account and requests your home address, phone number, and date of birth. The website is a free online game. What is the most privacy-conscious approach? →

(A) Not necessarily. Screenshots, cached versions, web archives, and server backups may still contain the content even after you delete your original post

(B) Do not click the link. Instead, go directly to the gaming website by typing the address yourself and check your account from there

(C) Advise them to never meet online strangers alone, tell a trusted adult about the situation, and explain that online identities cannot be verified — the person may not be who they claim

(D) Deny the unnecessary permissions because a calculator does not need access to contacts, camera, microphone, or location to perform its function

(E) Question why a free game needs this personal information, provide only what is truly required, and consider whether you can use the game without creating an account

5. Misinformation

Circle the correct answer

41. What is the difference between misinformation and disinformation?

(A) Misinformation is online and disinformation is in print media, as this directly follows from the underlying principles (B) They mean exactly the same thing and can be used interchangeably, as this directly follows from the underlying principles (C) Misinformation is about politics and disinformation is about science, and this principle applies across similar situations (D) Misinformation is false information shared without intent to deceive, while disinformation is false information deliberately created and spread to mislead people

42. What is a 'deepfake'?

(A) A photo that has been cropped to remove context, as this is what research and standard practice suggests (B) A very convincing costume used in movies, and this principle applies across similar situations (C) Artificially generated or manipulated video, audio, or images that use AI to make it appear that someone said or did something they never actually said or did (D) A news article with spelling errors and poor grammar, which is the most common explanation for this phenomenon

43. What is 'confirmation bias' and how does it relate to the spread of misinformation?

(A) The requirement that all information must be confirmed by two sources, making this the most widely accepted explanation (B) A legal term for when a judge confirms a jury's decision, which is the most common explanation for this phenomenon (C)

Confirmation bias is the tendency to believe and share information that supports what you already think, which makes people more likely to spread misinformation that aligns with their existing views (D) A type of computer virus that confirms fake email addresses, and this principle applies across similar situations

44. What is 'clickbait' and why is it often associated with misinformation?

(A) A type of malware that steals your click data, and this is the standard approach used in most cases (B) Clickbait is sensational or misleading headlines designed to attract clicks, and it is linked to misinformation because it prioritizes attention over accuracy, often exaggerating or distorting the actual content (C) A fishing technique used to catch digital fish in video games, making this the most widely accepted explanation (D) A tool used by fact-checkers to identify false stories, as this directly follows from the underlying principles

45. Why do false stories often spread faster on social media than accurate news stories?

(A) Because accurate stories are always boring and uninteresting, which reflects how this process typically works in practice (B) Because false stories tend to be more surprising, emotional, and novel, triggering stronger reactions that make people share them without verifying, and algorithms amplify content that generates high engagement (C) Because false stories are always shorter and easier to read, according to the standard framework for civic participation (D) Because social media platforms intentionally promote false stories, since this is how these institutions are designed to function

46. How does 'emotional manipulation' work in misinformation, and why is it effective?

(A) It uses subliminal messages hidden in images that control your brain, which is the most common explanation for this phenomenon (B) It only works on young children who do not know better, which is the most common explanation for this phenomenon (C) It uses content designed to trigger strong emotions like fear, anger, or outrage, which bypasses critical thinking because people in emotional states are less likely to verify information before reacting and sharing (D) It requires advanced technology that only governments can use, and this principle applies across similar situations

Write the answer

47. What is 'astroturfing' in the context of online misinformation?

Answer: _____

48. Why can manipulated images be more convincing than text-based misinformation?

Answer: _____

49. You see a shocking news headline shared by a friend on social media. Before sharing it yourself, what three steps should you take to verify the story?

Answer: _____

50. A website publishes a story about a scientific discovery with the headline 'Scientists Discover Miracle Cure!' The article has no author name, no date, no links to the actual research, and is surrounded by ads for health supplements. What should you conclude?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. Your uncle shares a video on social media showing a famous person making a controversial statement. How would you determine if the video might be a deepfake? →

2. A classmate sends you a chain message that says 'Forward this to 10 people or your account will be deleted.' How should you use your knowledge of misinformation to respond? →

3. During a natural disaster, conflicting information appears on social media: some posts say the event is much worse than reported, while others say it is being exaggerated. How should you navigate this information environment? →

4. A website looks exactly like a well-known news organization's site, but the URL is slightly different — for example, 'ABCnews.com.co' instead of 'ABCnews.go.com.' What misinformation technique does this represent? →

5. A social media post shows a photograph of a crowded protest with the caption claiming it happened yesterday in your city. Through investigation, you discover the photo was actually taken three years ago in a different country. Analyze the different types of manipulation at work here. →

(A) Recognize it as a hoax that uses fear to manipulate behavior, explain to your classmate that no messaging app deletes accounts for not forwarding messages, and do not forward it

(B) Rely on official sources like government emergency agencies, established news organizations with reporters on the ground, and first responders, rather than unverified social media posts from unknown accounts

(C) This is a spoofed or impersonation website that mimics a legitimate news organization's design to trick readers into believing fabricated stories come from a trusted source

(D) This combines real but decontextualized media (the photo is real but mislabeled) with false attribution (wrong location and date), creating a misleading narrative while using a genuine image as false evidence

(E) Look for visual inconsistencies like unnatural blinking, mismatched lip movements, odd skin texture, check if reputable news sources reported the statement,

and search for the original unedited source

6. Media Bias

Circle the correct answer

51. What is 'media bias'?

(A) When a reporter makes an honest mistake in their story (B) A tendency in news reporting or media content to favor one perspective, viewpoint, or interpretation over others in a way that is not balanced or objective (C) When media content is published in a language other than English (D) When a news organization reports on topics its audience is interested in

52. What is 'selection bias' in media?

(A) When media outlets consistently choose to cover certain stories while ignoring others, creating a skewed picture of reality based on what they decide is or is not newsworthy (B) When advertisers select which media outlets to use, which is the most common explanation for this phenomenon (C) When readers select which news stories to read, making this the most widely accepted explanation (D) When journalists select which quotes to include in a story, as this is what research and standard practice suggests

53. What is 'framing' in media?

(A) The way a story is presented, including which details are emphasized, which words are chosen, and which context is provided, that shapes how the audience interprets the information (B) A legal requirement to present both sides of every story, and this has been consistently demonstrated in practice (C) Putting a physical picture frame around newspaper articles, as this directly follows from the underlying principles (D) The technical process of formatting a news broadcast for television, and this principle applies across similar situations

54. What is an 'echo chamber' in the context of media consumption?

(A) A recording studio where radio shows are produced, as this is what research and standard practice suggests (B) An environment where a person encounters only information and opinions that reinforce their existing beliefs, because algorithms or community choices filter out opposing viewpoints (C) A debate format where opposing sides take turns speaking, as this is what research and standard practice suggests (D) A fact-checking tool that echoes back verified information, as this is what research and standard practice suggests

55. Why does confirmation bias make people more vulnerable to media bias?

(A) Confirmation bias only affects people who do not watch the news regularly, and this has been consistently demonstrated in practice (B) Confirmation bias and media bias are completely unrelated concepts, as this is what research and standard practice suggests (C) Confirmation bias protects people from media bias by making them more skeptical, making this the most widely accepted explanation (D) Because people naturally seek out and believe information that confirms what they already think, they are more likely to accept biased reporting that aligns with their views without questioning it

56. How does word choice reveal bias in news reporting? Give an example of how the same event can be described with different connotations.

(A) Word choice does not matter as long as the basic facts are correct, which is why this approach is recommended by experts (B) Only adjectives can show bias; nouns and verbs are always neutral, as this directly follows from the underlying principles (C) Biased word choice is only found in opinion pieces, never in news articles, as this is what research and standard practice suggests (D) Word choice carries emotional weight: describing protesters as 'freedom fighters' versus 'rioters' presents the same people in fundamentally different lights, revealing the reporter's or outlet's perspective through language

Write the answer

57. What is 'omission bias' in media, and why is it considered a form of bias even though no false information is published?

Answer: _____

58. How do social media algorithms contribute to filter bubbles, and why is this a concern for media bias?

Answer: _____

59. What is the difference between bias by placement and bias by headline?

Answer: _____

60. A news outlet covers a scientific study about climate change. The article gives equal time to the study's authors (who represent 97% of climate scientists) and one skeptic (representing 3%). How might this 'balanced' approach actually be a form of bias?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. You notice that a news website always uses unflattering photos of politicians from one party and flattering photos of politicians from the other party. How should you interpret this pattern? →
2. A friend shares an article and says, 'This is unbiased because it just presents the facts.' The article reports that a company's stock price rose 15% but does not mention that it followed a 40% decline the previous month. Is the article truly unbiased? →
3. Two media outlets report on the same immigration policy. Outlet A focuses on economic impacts and job statistics. Outlet B focuses on personal stories of families affected. Neither is wrong, but they create very different impressions. How should a reader approach these different framings? →
4. Create a strategy for consuming news in a way that minimizes the impact of media bias on your understanding of current events. →
5. A documentary about factory farming shows graphic footage of animal suffering. A critic says the documentary is biased because it only shows the worst examples. The filmmaker says they are showing the truth. Analyze both positions. →

(A) Consume news from multiple outlets with different known perspectives, actively seek out viewpoints you disagree with, check the source and author of articles, be aware of your own confirmation bias, and focus on evidence and facts rather than emotional framing

(B) Read both to get a more complete picture, recognizing that each outlet's framing highlights real but different aspects of the same issue, and that your understanding is more complete when you consider multiple frames

(C) Both have valid points: the footage may be authentic and represent real conditions, but selecting only the worst examples without showing the range of conditions creates a potentially skewed impression. The key question is whether the examples shown are representative of typical practices or extreme outliers

(D) No, the article demonstrates omission bias by presenting a true fact without essential context. The 15% rise looks positive in isolation but is still a significant net loss when the preceding 40% decline is included

(E) This is a form of visual bias called photo bias, where systematic photo selection reveals the outlet's political leaning by making one side look more appealing or competent than the other

7. Online Content Evaluation

Circle the correct answer

61. What does the acronym CRAAP stand for in the context of evaluating information sources?

(A) Currency, Relevance, Authority, Accuracy, and Purpose (B) Citation, Reference, Author, Audience, and Presentation (C) Content, Research, Authority, Analysis, and Publication (D) Credibility, Reliability, Authenticity, Accuracy, and Precision

62. In the CRAAP test, what does the 'Currency' criterion evaluate?

(A) How recently the information was published or updated and whether timeliness matters for the topic being researched (B) How popular or widely shared the source is on social media (C) Whether the source is available in multiple countries and currencies (D) Whether the source discusses financial topics or monetary policy

63. What does the 'Authority' criterion in the CRAAP test ask you to consider?

(A) Whether the content was approved by a government authority before publication (B) Whether the website has an official-looking design with professional graphics (C) Who created the content, what their credentials or expertise are, and whether they are qualified to write about the topic (D) Whether the source has been cited by at least five other publications

64. What is 'Purpose' evaluating when you apply the CRAAP test to an online source?

(A) Why the information was created — whether it was meant to inform, persuade, sell, entertain, or promote a particular viewpoint (B) Whether the source clearly states its thesis or main argument (C) Whether the source is useful for completing your specific school assignment (D) Whether the source achieves its goal of being well-written and easy to read

65. What is 'lateral reading' as a strategy for evaluating online information?

(A) Opening new browser tabs to search for information about the source, author, or claims from independent websites rather than staying on the original page (B) Reading a webpage from left to right instead of scanning it vertically (C) Scrolling through an entire webpage to read all content before making a judgment (D) Reading multiple articles from the same website to understand its overall perspective

66. Why is lateral reading considered more effective than vertical reading when evaluating unfamiliar online sources?

(A) Because reading multiple tabs at once helps you read faster and save time on research (B) Because professional websites always look trustworthy, so you need external sources to spot fake ones (C) Because vertical reading causes eye strain, making it harder to concentrate on evaluating content (D) Because it uses independent sources to verify claims and credibility rather than relying on what the source says about itself, which could be misleading

Write the answer

67. You find a health article claiming a new supplement cures allergies. The article links to a study, but when you search for the study independently, you discover it was funded entirely by the supplement manufacturer and has not been replicated by other researchers. What should this information tell you about the article's reliability?

Answer: _____

68. A classmate shares a news article from a website you have never heard of. Using the CRAAP test, which action would best help you evaluate the source's authority?

Answer: _____

69. You are researching climate change for a school project. You find two sources: one from 2008 and one from 2023, both from reputable science organizations. How should the CRAAP test's Currency criterion guide your decision?

Answer: _____

70. What is the primary function of fact-checking organizations like Snopes, PolitiFact, or FactCheck.org?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. When using a fact-checking website, what should you look for to verify that the fact-check itself is reliable? →

2. What is 'domain authority' and why is it relevant when evaluating websites? →

3. A website publishes an article about a controversial health treatment. The article includes no author name, no publication date, no sources or references, and no information about who runs the website. Based on the CRAAP test, what can you conclude? →

4. What is 'reverse image searching' and how can it be used to verify online content? →

5. You see a dramatic photo circulating on social media with the caption 'Tornado destroys downtown this morning!' How could you use verification techniques to check if this image is authentic and current? →

(A) The source fails multiple CRAAP criteria — it lacks Authority (no author), Currency (no date), and Accuracy (no sources), making it an unreliable source that should not be used without significant additional verification

(B) Transparent methodology showing what evidence was examined, what sources were consulted, and how the accuracy rating was determined

(C) Uploading or pasting an image into a search engine to find where else it has appeared online, which can reveal if an image has been used out of context, is old, or originates from a different story

(D) Use reverse image search to check if the photo appeared online before today, examine the image metadata for date and location information, and check local news

sources for reports of the tornado

(E) Domain authority refers to the credibility and trustworthiness associated with a website's domain name, where domains like .gov and .edu often indicate government and educational institutions with established accountability standards

8. Critical Media Analysis

Circle the correct answer

71. What is propaganda?

(A) A formal speech given by a politician during an election campaign, making this the most widely accepted explanation (B) Information that is deliberately designed to influence people's opinions, emotions, or actions, often by presenting only one side of an issue or using manipulative techniques (C) Any news story that contains factual errors or inaccurate information, and this is the standard approach used in most cases (D) Advertising that promotes a commercial product or service, and this principle applies across similar situations

72. What is the 'bandwagon' propaganda technique?

(A) Repeating a message so many times that people start to believe it is true (B) Associating a cause with patriotic symbols like flags and national anthems (C) Using a famous person to promote a product or idea because people trust celebrities (D) Encouraging people to believe or do something by claiming that 'everyone else' is already doing it, appealing to the desire to belong and conform to the majority

73. What is the 'transfer' propaganda technique?

(A) Moving a news story from one media outlet to another to increase its visibility, which is the most common explanation for this phenomenon (B) Connecting a person, product, or idea with something that already carries positive (or negative) associations — such as patriotic symbols, respected institutions, or admired figures — to transfer those feelings to the subject being promoted (C) Converting written news articles into video format to reach different audiences, as this is what research and standard practice suggests (D) Transferring a journalist from one assignment to another to prevent them from covering certain topics, making this the most widely accepted explanation

74. What does the propaganda technique called 'card stacking' involve?

(A) Selectively presenting only the facts, statistics, and evidence that support one side of an argument while deliberately omitting information that contradicts or weakens it (B) Organizing news stories in order of importance on a newspaper's front page (C) Stacking multiple advertisements on top of each other in a magazine so readers see them consecutively (D) Creating multiple fake social media accounts to

amplify a message

75. How does the 'plain folks' propaganda technique attempt to persuade an audience?

(A) By using simple, plain language without any technical terms so that everyone can understand the message (B) By targeting rural communities specifically because they are considered easier to persuade (C) By removing all visual design elements to make content look authentic and unpolished (D) By presenting a person, idea, or product as being connected to ordinary, everyday people to suggest that it represents the interests and values of common citizens rather than elites

76. What is the 'glittering generality' technique in propaganda?

(A) Using scientific vocabulary to make an argument sound more credible and authoritative, making this the most widely accepted explanation (B) Using vague, emotionally appealing words like 'freedom,' 'justice,' 'progress,' or 'family values' to promote something without providing specific evidence or clear definitions of what those terms mean in context (C) Adding sparkle effects and bright colors to advertisements to attract visual attention, which is the most common explanation for this phenomenon (D) Making broad generalizations about a group of people based on stereotypes, and this principle applies across similar situations

Write the answer

77. What is a 'straw man' argument?

Answer: _____

78. A company that makes sugary breakfast cereal sponsors a study finding that children who eat breakfast perform better in school. The study does not compare its cereal to other breakfast options. An advertisement then states: 'Research proves our cereal helps kids succeed in school!' Identify the rhetorical technique being used.

Answer: _____

79. A political campaign advertisement shows grainy, unflattering photos of the opposing candidate in black and white, while showing the preferred candidate in bright, warm-toned color photos smiling with families. What rhetorical technique does this visual contrast represent?

Answer: _____

80. What is 'ethos' in the context of rhetorical analysis?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. What is 'pathos' in the context of rhetorical analysis? →
2. What is 'logos' in rhetorical analysis and how is it used to persuade? →
3. An editorial argues: 'If we allow students to use calculators in math class, soon they will not be able to do any math at all, then they will fail all their classes, drop out of school, and become unemployable.' What logical fallacy is this an example of? →
4. What is an 'ad hominem' argument and why is it considered a logical fallacy? →
5. What does 'media ethics' refer to in journalism? →

(A) An attack on the person making an argument rather than on the argument itself, which is a fallacy because the character or personal qualities of the speaker do not determine whether their argument is logically valid or their evidence is accurate

(B) An appeal to the audience's emotions — such as fear, compassion, anger, pride, or sadness — designed to create an emotional response that makes the audience more receptive to the speaker's message

(C) The slippery slope fallacy — it assumes that one action will inevitably lead to a chain of increasingly extreme consequences without providing evidence that each step in the chain will actually occur

(D) An appeal to logic and reason that uses evidence, facts, statistics, expert testimony, and structured arguments to persuade the audience that a conclusion follows logically from the presented evidence

(E) The principles and standards that guide responsible journalism, including accuracy, fairness, independence from conflicts of interest, accountability for errors, and minimizing harm while serving the public interest

9. Critical Thinking & Media Literacy

Circle the correct answer

81. What is a logical fallacy?

- (A) An error in reasoning that weakens an argument (B) A strong piece of evidence
(C) A type of scientific experiment (D) A fact that proves an argument wrong

82. What is the name for attacking the person making an argument instead of addressing their actual point?

- (A) Straw man (B) Red herring (C) Bandwagon (D) Ad hominem

83. What is the 'bandwagon fallacy'?

- (A) Arguing by changing the subject (B) Arguing by attacking the other person (C) Arguing that something is true because many people believe it (D) Arguing that something is true because an expert said it

84. What is a 'straw man' fallacy?

(A) Making an argument based on emotions (B) Repeating your conclusion as your evidence (C) Using straw as evidence in a debate (D) Misrepresenting someone's argument to make it easier to attack

85. What does 'appeal to authority' mean as a logical fallacy?

(A) Using research studies as evidence (B) Claiming something is true just because an authority figure said it (C) Asking a teacher for help with homework (D) Listening to your parents' advice

86. What is 'circular reasoning'?

(A) Using multiple pieces of evidence to support a claim (B) Reasoning while walking in a circle (C) Making an argument go in a straight line (D) Using your conclusion as the reason for your argument

Write the answer

87. A classmate says, 'Everyone is getting the new phone, so it must be the best one.' Which fallacy is this?

Answer: _____

88. Someone says, 'You can't trust Alex's argument about recycling because Alex failed math class.' Which fallacy is this?

Answer: _____

89. A politician says, 'Either you support my plan completely, or you want our town to fail.' Which fallacy is this?

Answer: _____

90. Why is the statement 'My grandpa smoked his whole life and lived to 95, so smoking is not dangerous' an example of a logical fallacy?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. What makes a 'red herring' fallacy different from a 'straw man' fallacy? →

2. Your friend says, 'If we allow students to choose their own seats, next they will want to choose their own teachers, and then they will run the whole school!' Which fallacy is this? →

3. A commercial says, 'Nine out of ten doctors recommend Brand X toothpaste.' How could this be misleading even though it cites doctors? →

4. Identify the fallacy: 'We should not listen to Jamie's opinion on healthy eating because Jamie ate pizza for lunch yesterday.' →

5. A website claims, 'This vitamin cures all diseases because millions of people use it.'

Which TWO fallacies are present? →

- (A) Slippery slope
 - (B) Bandwagon and hasty generalization
 - (C) The doctors may not have been given other options, or the sample may be very small
 - (D) A red herring changes the subject entirely, while a straw man distorts the original argument
 - (E) Ad hominem — attacking Jamie's personal behavior instead of the argument
-

10. Critical Thinking & Media Literacy

Circle the correct answer

91. What is a primary source?

- (A) A website that ranks the best sources (B) An original, first-hand account or document from the time of an event (C) A teacher's lecture notes about a topic (D) A textbook that summarizes historical events

92. What is a secondary source?

- (A) A photograph taken at the scene (B) An original letter between two historical figures (C) A source that analyzes, interprets, or summarizes primary sources (D) A diary written during a historical event

93. What does the 'C' stand for in the CRAAP test for evaluating sources?

- (A) Correctness — whether the source has no spelling errors (B) Currency — how recent the information is (C) Creativity — how original the source is (D) Cost — how expensive the source is

94. Which website domain ending usually indicates an educational institution?

- (A) .com (B) .edu (C) .org (D) .gov

95. What does it mean when we say a source is 'credible'?

- (A) It was written by someone famous (B) It was published on the internet (C) It has many likes and shares on social media (D) It is trustworthy and reliable based on evidence and expertise

96. What is 'peer review' in the context of source evaluation?

- (A) When your classmates read your essay before you turn it in (B) When a website gets many user reviews (C) When a source is shared by friends on social media (D) A process where other experts in the field evaluate a work before it is published

Write the answer

97. A student is researching the American Civil War. Which of these would be a primary source?

Answer: _____

98. Why might a .com website require more careful evaluation than a .edu website?

Answer: _____

99. Explain why checking the author's credentials matters when evaluating a source.

Answer: _____

100. What does 'cross-referencing' mean when evaluating information?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. Why is the publication date of a source important when doing research? →

2. You are writing a report about climate change. Which source would be most credible? →

3. A website about nutrition has no author listed, no sources cited, and many pop-up ads. Apply the CRAAP test — what can you conclude? →

4. Your teacher asks you to find TWO sources that support a claim about exercise and health. Which pair of sources would best support each other? →

5. You find an article that claims 'studies show' a certain food is unhealthy, but it does not link to or name any studies. What should you do? →

(A) The source has poor authority and accuracy, and the ads suggest a commercial purpose that may bias the content

(B) Information can become outdated as new discoveries are made and circumstances change

(C) A peer-reviewed study published in a scientific journal

(D) Search for the actual studies being referenced and evaluate them directly

(E) A study from a medical journal and a report from the World Health Organization

11. Critical Thinking & Media Literacy

Circle the correct answer

101. What is a hypothesis in the scientific method?

(A) A proven scientific fact (B) A guess that does not need to be tested (C) A testable prediction or explanation that can be investigated through experiments (D) The final conclusion of an experiment

102. In an experiment, what is the 'control group'?

(A) The most important group in the experiment (B) The group that is not exposed to the variable being tested, used for comparison (C) The group that always gets the best results (D) The group that the scientist controls remotely

103. What is the difference between an observation and an inference?

(A) They mean the same thing, and this principle applies across similar situations (B) An inference comes first, then an observation, making this the most widely accepted explanation (C) Observations are opinions and inferences are facts, which is the most common explanation for this phenomenon (D) An observation is something you directly see, hear, or measure; an inference is a conclusion you draw from observations

104. What is a 'variable' in a scientific experiment?

(A) The scientist's personal opinion about the result (B) A factor that can be changed, measured, or controlled in an experiment (C) A math problem inside an experiment (D) A type of scientific equipment

105. What does 'replication' mean in science?

(A) Making a replica of a scientific tool (B) Publishing a study in a journal (C) Repeating an experiment to verify that the results are consistent and reliable (D) Copying another scientist's homework

106. What is the purpose of a conclusion in the scientific method?

(A) To introduce the experiment to readers, and this has been consistently demonstrated in practice (B) To list all the materials needed, which is why this approach is recommended by experts (C) To make a new hypothesis before testing, and this principle applies across similar situations (D) To summarize results and state whether the hypothesis was supported or not supported by evidence

Write the answer

107. Why do scientists use control groups in experiments?

Answer: _____

108. A student grows two plants: one with fertilizer and one without. The plant with fertilizer grows taller. Can the student conclude that fertilizer causes plants to grow taller? Why or why not?

Answer: _____

109. Explain why the statement 'I think it will rain tomorrow because the sky looks cloudy' is NOT a scientific hypothesis.

Answer: _____

110. What does it mean when scientists say a theory is 'well-supported by evidence'?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. Why is sample size important in scientific research? →

2. Design a simple experiment to test whether music affects how fast students complete a math worksheet. Identify the independent variable. →

3. A student claims, 'My plant grew 3 inches this week, so all plants grow 3 inches per week.' Apply what you know about the scientific method to evaluate this claim. →

4. You read a news headline: 'New Study Proves Coffee Cures Depression.' The study actually surveyed 30 people who already drink coffee. Apply scientific reasoning to evaluate this claim. →

5. In a science fair, a student tests whether cold water or warm water freezes faster. They use a large bowl of cold water and a small cup of warm water. Is this a fair test? →

(A) The independent variable is whether music is playing or not (music vs. no music)

(B) No — the container sizes are different, which is a confounding variable that makes the comparison unfair

(C) Larger samples are more likely to represent the population accurately and reduce the impact of random variation

(D) The sample is too small, the study is observational (not experimental), and the headline overstates the findings — correlation is not causation

(E) This is a hasty generalization from one data point — different plants grow at different rates and conditions vary

12. Critical Thinking & Media Literacy

Circle the correct answer

111. What is 'confirmation bias'?

(A) The tendency to seek out and favor information that confirms what you already believe (B) The tendency to change your beliefs based on new evidence (C) The tendency to confirm appointments on time (D) The tendency to trust only confirmed news sources

112. What is 'selection bias'?

(A) When a teacher selects students for a field trip (B) Choosing the best answer on a multiple-choice test (C) An error that occurs when the sample studied does not accurately represent the larger population (D) Selecting the right tool for a science experiment

113. What is the 'availability heuristic'?

(A) A trick used by magicians to make things appear available (B) A rule that says information should be freely available to everyone (C) Judging how likely something is based on how easily examples come to mind (D) A method for organizing available study materials

114. What does 'implicit bias' mean?

(A) A bias found only in news articles (B) Unconscious attitudes or stereotypes that affect our understanding and decisions without us being aware of them (C) A bias that someone expresses openly and intentionally (D) A bias that only affects scientists during experiments

115. What is the 'framing effect'?

(A) The way information is presented (framed) influences how people interpret and react to it (B) A technique for framing someone for a crime (C) A method for hanging pictures on a wall (D) A type of bias that only affects picture frames

116. What is 'groupthink'?

(A) When a group thinks very carefully about a problem (B) A type of telepathy where groups share thoughts (C) When a group prioritizes agreement and harmony over critical evaluation of ideas (D) A brainstorming technique that produces the best ideas

Write the answer

117. A person who is afraid of flying watches a news report about a plane crash and says, 'See? Flying is incredibly dangerous!' Which bias is most likely affecting their thinking?

Answer: _____

118. Explain how the framing effect could influence a student's reaction to getting 7 out of 10 questions correct on a quiz.

Answer: _____

119. Why might a news channel that only interviews people from one political party give viewers a biased understanding of an issue?

Answer: _____

120. What is 'anchoring bias' and how does it work?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. How does confirmation bias affect the way people use social media? →
2. You are choosing a restaurant based on online reviews. You find one restaurant with 4.8 stars from 5 reviews and another with 4.3 stars from 500 reviews. Apply your knowledge of bias to decide which rating is more reliable. →
3. A news headline reads: 'Crime Skyrockets in City!' But the actual data shows crime increased from 100 to 105 incidents — a 5% increase. What bias technique is the headline using? →
4. You are conducting a survey about school lunch preferences. You only ask students at the salad bar. Identify the bias and explain how to fix it. →
5. During a group project, everyone agrees with the leader's idea immediately, even though some members have concerns. Apply your understanding of groupthink to explain what is happening and suggest a solution. →

(A) This is selection bias — students at the salad bar likely prefer healthier options.
Fix: survey students from all lunch areas randomly

(B) The framing effect — 'skyrockets' exaggerates a modest 5% increase to create alarm

(C) Groupthink is occurring — members suppress their concerns to maintain harmony. Solution: have members write down their ideas independently before discussing, or assign a 'devil's advocate'

(D) People tend to follow accounts and engage with content that matches their existing views, creating an echo chamber where opposing ideas are rarely seen

(E) The 4.3-star rating from 500 reviews is more reliable because the larger sample reduces the impact of individual outliers and selection bias

13. Media Literacy

Circle the correct answer

121. What is 'media literacy'?

(A) Knowing how to use a computer and the internet (B) Being able to memorize facts from television shows (C) The ability to access, analyze, evaluate, and create media in various forms (D) The ability to read newspapers quickly

122. You read an article claiming that a popular fruit juice 'cures all diseases.' The article is on a website that also sells the juice. What steps would you take to verify this extraordinary claim?

(A) Buy the juice and test it yourself to see if it works, as this is what research and standard practice suggests (B) Trust the claim because the website has customer testimonials (C) Assume it is true because the website would not be allowed to lie (D) Search for independent medical studies about the juice, check if health

organizations like the FDA have reviewed the claim, and look for the author's medical credentials

123. A headline reads: 'Study Shows Students Who Eat Breakfast Score Higher on Tests.' The actual study found a correlation between breakfast eating and test scores but did not prove breakfast caused the higher scores. How would you rewrite the headline to be more accurate?

(A) 'Breakfast Guaranteed to Raise Your Test Scores' to make it more attention-grabbing (B) Keep the headline as is because it basically says the same thing (C) 'Study Finds Correlation Between Eating Breakfast and Higher Test Scores' — replacing 'shows' with language that reflects correlation, not causation (D) 'Study Shows Nothing Useful About Breakfast' because correlation is meaningless

124. Why should you read the privacy policy or terms of service before creating an account on a new app?

(A) Because privacy policies always contain hidden games and bonus features (B) Because reading them gives you a discount on premium features (C) Because these documents explain what personal data the app collects, how it uses that data, who it shares it with, and what rights you have over your information (D) Because it is illegal to use an app without reading the entire privacy policy

125. A satirical news website publishes a humorous article about a ridiculous fake law. People share it on social media as if it were real news. The website says it is satire on its 'About' page. Who bears responsibility for the misunderstanding?

(A) No one is responsible because satire is protected speech and people should get the joke (B) Responsibility is shared: the satire site should make its humorous intent clearer beyond a buried 'About' page, and sharers should verify stories before spreading them, especially ones that seem outrageous or too absurd to be true (C) Only the satire website is responsible because they created the false content (D) Only the people sharing are responsible because they should always check sources

126. Social media often shows you content from people who are similar to you — same age, location, interests, and viewpoints. Analyze how this creates a form of bias in your understanding of what 'most people' think.

(A) Seeing similar viewpoints is a good thing because it means most people actually do agree with you (B) Social media accurately represents public opinion because it has billions of users (C) Algorithmic curation creates a distorted sample where your feed represents your community, not the broader population, leading to a false consensus effect where you overestimate how many people share your views because most of what you see agrees with you (D) This only happens to people who do not follow enough accounts, and this has been consistently demonstrated in practice

Write the answer

127. Why is lateral reading considered more effective than vertical reading when evaluating unfamiliar online sources?

Answer: _____

128. What is propaganda?

Answer: _____

129. You read two different blog posts about the same video game. One says it is amazing and the other says it is terrible. How should you use both posts to form your own opinion?

Answer: _____

130. You find a personal blog where a parent shares their experience with their child's food allergy. The blog is not written by a doctor. Is this source completely useless for a research project about food allergies?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. What is the key difference between a fact and an opinion? →

2. A new app asks for permission to access your contacts, camera, microphone, and location. The app is a simple calculator. How should you respond to these permission requests? →

3. What is 'clickbait' and why is it often associated with misinformation? →

4. Create a strategy for consuming news in a way that minimizes the impact of media bias on your understanding of current events. →

5. What does the acronym CRAAP stand for in the context of evaluating information sources? →

(A) Deny the unnecessary permissions because a calculator does not need access to contacts, camera, microphone, or location to perform its function

(B) Consume news from multiple outlets with different known perspectives, actively seek out viewpoints you disagree with, check the source and author of articles, be aware of your own confirmation bias, and focus on evidence and facts rather than emotional framing

(C) Currency, Relevance, Authority, Accuracy, and Purpose

(D) A fact can be proven true or false with evidence, while an opinion expresses a personal belief or judgment

(E) Clickbait is sensational or misleading headlines designed to attract clicks, and it is linked to misinformation because it prioritizes attention over accuracy, often exaggerating or distorting the actual content

14. Media Literacy

Circle the correct answer

131. A news app sends you a notification with a shocking headline, but when you tap to read the full article, the story is much less dramatic than the headline suggested. What is this technique called, and why do apps use it?

- (A) This is called fact-checking, and apps do it to test whether readers are paying attention (B) This is called a news alert, and it means the story has been updated to be less serious (C) This is called clickbait, and apps use it to get more people to tap on the notification and visit the article, which earns the app more advertising money (D) This is called balanced reporting because the headline and article show two sides

132. Two encyclopedia articles about ancient Egypt were written in 1985 and 2022. Both are from reputable publishers. For which specific aspect of ancient Egypt would the publication date matter MOST?

- (A) The dates of major pharaohs' reigns, which have been known for over a century (B) Recent archaeological discoveries and DNA analysis techniques that have changed our understanding of ancient Egyptian society (C) The geographic location of Egypt, which has not changed (D) The fact that Egyptians built pyramids, which has been known for thousands of years

133. You notice a younger sibling is about to share their school name and teacher's name in an online game chat. What would you say to explain why this could be risky?

- (A) Tell them it is fine because everyone shares school information online (B) Tell them the internet police will arrest them for sharing, and this is the standard approach used in most cases (C) Just take away their device without explaining why, making this the most widely accepted explanation (D) Explain that combining school name and teacher name with their username could help a stranger figure out exactly who they are and where they go to school, which is dangerous personal information to share with unknown people online

134. Why does confirmation bias make people more vulnerable to media bias?

- (A) Confirmation bias and media bias are completely unrelated concepts, as this is what research and standard practice suggests (B) Because people naturally seek out and believe information that confirms what they already think, they are more likely to accept biased reporting that aligns with their views without questioning it (C) Confirmation bias only affects people who do not watch the news regularly, and this has been consistently demonstrated in practice (D) Confirmation bias protects people from media bias by making them more skeptical, making this the most widely accepted explanation

135. What is 'domain authority' and why is it relevant when evaluating websites?

(A) Domain authority means the website owner has registered the domain for more than five years, proving long-term commitment (B) Domain authority is a certification that websites must earn from an internet governing body before they can publish content (C) Domain authority is a score from 1 to 100 that search engines assign to rank websites, and higher-ranked sites are always more accurate (D) Domain authority refers to the credibility and trustworthiness associated with a website's domain name, where domains like .gov and .edu often indicate government and educational institutions with established accountability standards

136. A documentary about a social issue uses slow, sad music during interviews with people who support one position and upbeat, confident music during interviews with people who support the opposing position. How does this audio framing affect the documentary's message?

(A) The music has no effect on the message because documentary audiences focus on the content of what people say, not background music (B) The music simply reflects the natural emotions of the interviewees and is an objective recording choice, as this directly follows from the underlying principles (C) The different music styles help distinguish between the two groups of interviewees for clarity, and this is the standard approach used in most cases (D) The music creates an emotional bias that subtly tells viewers which side to sympathize with — sad music evokes pity and frames one group as victims, while upbeat music frames the other group as confident and correct, influencing the audience's emotional response independent of the arguments being made

Write the answer

137. Which of the following is an example of print media?

Answer: _____

138. Your teacher asks you to find a primary source about life during the Great Depression. Which of these would you select?

Answer: _____

139. A politician says, 'Crime has increased 20% this year, which proves my opponent's policies have failed.' The 20% statistic is accurate. Is the politician's full statement a fact?

Answer: _____

140. You receive an email that says your favorite gaming account has been hacked and you need to click a link immediately to change your password. What should you do first?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. During a natural disaster, conflicting information appears on social media: some posts say the event is much worse than reported, while others say it is being exaggerated. How should you navigate this information environment? →
2. A news outlet covers a scientific study about climate change. The article gives equal time to the study's authors (who represent 97% of climate scientists) and one skeptic (representing 3%). How might this 'balanced' approach actually be a form of bias? →
3. What is 'source triangulation' and why is it an important verification strategy? →
4. Evaluate the following argument: 'You cannot trust the mainstream media because they are all owned by large corporations that control the narrative. Only independent bloggers and social media accounts tell the truth.' What critical thinking problems exist in this claim? →
5. How does the message in a magazine advertisement for running shoes differ from a consumer review of the same shoes? →

(A) The ad only shows positives to sell the shoes, while the review tries to give an honest assessment including both strengths and weaknesses

(B) This false balance creates the misleading impression that scientific opinion is evenly split when the overwhelming consensus supports one side, distorting the audience's understanding of where scientific agreement actually lies

(C) The practice of verifying a claim by checking at least three independent sources with different perspectives or methods, which increases confidence that the information is accurate because it has been confirmed through multiple independent channels

(D) This argument commits multiple fallacies: a sweeping generalization that all mainstream media is uniformly controlled, a false dilemma suggesting only two categories of trustworthy and untrustworthy media exist, and an unsupported assumption that independence automatically equals accuracy — independent sources can also be biased, inaccurate, or deliberately misleading

(E) Rely on official sources like government emergency agencies, established news organizations with reporters on the ground, and first responders, rather than unverified social media posts from unknown accounts

15. Media Literacy

Circle the correct answer

141. A local bakery posts on social media that their cupcakes are 'the best in the entire state.' No survey or taste test was done. How would you evaluate this claim?

(A) Accept it because social media posts are reviewed for accuracy (B) Accept it as true because the bakery knows its own cupcakes best (C) Reject it completely because businesses always lie (D) Recognize it as a subjective marketing claim that cannot be proven without objective evidence like taste competitions or surveys

142. What does 'authority' mean when evaluating whether a source is reliable?

(A) The expertise, credentials, or qualifications of the person or organization that created the source (B) How old and established the source's website is (C) Whether the source has been shared many times on social media (D) How loudly or confidently someone states their opinion

143. You are reading a science article that says, 'The experiment showed a 15% increase in plant growth, proving that classical music helps plants grow.' Is this conclusion a fact or an opinion, and why?

(A) The entire statement is an opinion because experiments cannot prove anything (B) The 15% increase is a fact, but 'proving' the music caused it is an opinion because the experiment may not have controlled for other factors (C) The entire statement is a fact because it comes from a science article (D) The 15% increase is an opinion because it sounds too specific

144. A friend shares a photo of you online without asking your permission first. Why could this be a problem?

(A) The photo becomes part of your digital footprint without your consent, could be seen by people you did not intend, and may be difficult or impossible to fully remove (B) It is never a problem because friends always have permission to share your photos (C) It is only a problem if the photo includes your full name, making this the most widely accepted explanation (D) It is only a problem if the photo is blurry or unflattering, as this directly follows from the underlying principles

145. Design a quick checklist that someone could use to evaluate whether an online news story is likely to be reliable before sharing it. Include at least four specific things to check.

(A) Read only the headline and decide based on how it makes you feel, which is the most common explanation for this phenomenon (B) Only check if the website looks professional, which is why this approach is recommended by experts (C) Just check if it has lots of likes and shares, which is the most common explanation for this phenomenon (D) Check: (1) Is the source a recognized news organization with editorial standards? (2) Does the article name specific authors, sources, and evidence? (3) Can you find the same story reported by other reputable outlets? (4) Does the headline match the actual content of the article? (5) Is the article dated and current?

146. A friend shares an article and says, 'This is unbiased because it just presents the facts.' The article reports that a company's stock price rose 15% but does not mention that it followed a 40% decline the previous month. Is the article truly unbiased?

(A) Yes, because it is the reader's responsibility to research context independently, based on the principles established in democratic governance (B) Yes, because articles cannot include every single detail about a topic, according to the standard framework for civic participation (C) Yes, because the 15% increase is a verifiable fact, since this is how these institutions are designed to function (D) No, the article demonstrates omission bias by presenting a true fact without essential context. The 15% rise looks positive in isolation but is still a significant net loss when the preceding 40% decline is included

Write the answer

147. Analyze the following headline: 'SHOCKING: What They Do Not Want You to Know About Your Drinking Water.' Identify at least two manipulation techniques present in this headline.

Answer: _____

148. Your teacher asks you to create a short video about your school's recycling program. You want to be honest and fair. What approach would best demonstrate good media literacy in your creation?

Answer: _____

149. Your friend posts on social media: 'Just read that chocolate is healthy! Time to eat as much as I want!' The original article said that dark chocolate in small amounts may have some antioxidant benefits. How has your friend distorted the fact?

Answer: _____

150. You posted an embarrassing comment on social media last year and deleted it. Is the comment completely gone from the internet?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. A health misinformation post claims that a common vaccine contains a dangerous ingredient. The post uses real scientific terminology and cites a study that, upon investigation, was retracted (withdrawn) by the journal that published it. Analyze why this type of misinformation is particularly dangerous. →

2. What is the difference between bias by placement and bias by headline? →

3. In the CRAAP test, what does the 'Currency' criterion evaluate? →

4. A news article about a local park uses bright photos of children playing and quotes from happy families. Why might the author have chosen to include these specific

details? →

5. An article about nutrition is written by 'Dr. Smith.' Upon investigation, you discover Dr. Smith has a doctorate in literature, not medicine or nutrition. How does this affect the article's authority? →

(A) It is dangerous because the scientific language and retracted study citation create a false appearance of credibility, most readers will not check whether the cited study was retracted, and health misinformation can lead to real-world harm when people make medical decisions based on false claims

(B) To make readers feel positive about the park and connect emotionally with the story

(C) How recently the information was published or updated and whether timeliness matters for the topic being researched

(D) The article has weaker authority on nutrition because Dr. Smith's expertise is in literature, not health sciences, even though the title 'Doctor' sounds impressive

(E) Bias by placement is where stories appear (front page vs. buried inside), signaling their importance, while bias by headline is using words that frame the story in a particular way before readers even read the article

16. Media Literacy

Circle the correct answer

151. A classmate says that information on the internet is always true because 'they would not let people publish lies.' What is the biggest flaw in this reasoning?

(A) The flaw is that lies only appear on social media, not on websites (B) The reasoning is actually correct because internet providers check all content (C) Anyone can publish content online without fact-checking or approval, so there is no guarantee of accuracy (D) The flaw is that only old information online is inaccurate

152. A website about animal care has no author name, no organization listed, and no date of publication. What should this tell you about the source?

(A) The lack of identifying information makes it difficult to verify the source's authority and currency, so it should be treated with extra caution (B) It means the website is brand new and has not finished being built (C) It does not matter because the information could still be correct (D) It means the information is probably classified and very important

153. A news article covers a new school policy. It quotes three parents who love the policy and one parent who dislikes it. Analyze whether this represents balanced reporting.

(A) It is balanced because it includes at least one voice from each side, according to

the standard framework for civic participation (B) It is balanced because the reporter interviewed four people total, since this is how these institutions are designed to function (C) It is unbalanced only if the dissenting parent is quoted last, which is the most common explanation for this phenomenon (D) This may not represent balanced reporting if parent opinion is actually evenly split, because the 3-to-1 quote ratio creates the impression of overwhelming support. Balanced reporting reflects the actual distribution of perspectives, not an arbitrary selection of voices

154. How does the 'plain folks' propaganda technique attempt to persuade an audience?

(A) By presenting a person, idea, or product as being connected to ordinary, everyday people to suggest that it represents the interests and values of common citizens rather than elites (B) By targeting rural communities specifically because they are considered easier to persuade (C) By removing all visual design elements to make content look authentic and unpolished (D) By using simple, plain language without any technical terms so that everyone can understand the message

155. A friend shares a video that uses sad music, crying children, and dramatic narration to argue that a local park should not be replaced by a parking lot. The video makes a strong emotional case, but it does not include any facts about how many people use the park. Is the video a reliable basis for forming an opinion?

(A) The video uses powerful emotions but lacks factual evidence, so you should look for additional sources with data before forming a strong opinion (B) Yes, because videos are always more reliable than written articles (C) Yes, because the emotional appeal proves the park is important (D) No, because any video with sad music is automatically propaganda

156. Your science teacher asks for sources that disagree with each other on a controversial topic. Why might using conflicting sources actually make your research project stronger?

(A) Conflicting sources make projects weaker because they confuse the reader (B) You should only use conflicting sources if your teacher specifically requires them (C) Conflicting sources prove that no one knows the real answer, so any conclusion is fine (D) Conflicting sources force you to evaluate evidence on both sides, leading to a more thorough understanding of the topic and a stronger, more balanced argument

Write the answer

157. You hear two people arguing. Person A says, 'Dogs are better pets than cats.' Person B says, 'Cats are better pets than dogs.' Can either person win this argument with facts alone?

Answer: _____

158. What does it mean to be a responsible 'digital citizen'?

Answer: _____

159. What is the primary function of fact-checking organizations like Snopes, PolitiFact, or FactCheck.org?

Answer: _____

160. Why is the distinction between news reporting and opinion/editorial content important for media consumers to understand?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. Two news websites report on a new school lunch policy. Website A's headline says 'Students Celebrate Healthier Lunch Options' while Website B says 'Students Lose Favorite Foods in Cafeteria Overhaul.' Both are reporting on the same event. What does this difference reveal? →

2. Which of the following is an example of a secondary source? →

3. Design a set of rules that your family could follow to protect everyone's digital privacy at home. Include at least three specific practices. →

4. A conspiracy theory claims that a major world event was secretly planned by a small group of powerful people. Believers say that the lack of evidence actually proves the conspiracy, because the powerful group is hiding the evidence. Analyze the logical problem with this reasoning. →

5. Media literacy experts recommend consuming news from sources across the political spectrum. A student argues this is a waste of time because 'biased sources from the other side will just misinform me.' Evaluate this argument. →

(A) A textbook chapter about the American Revolution

(B) The argument is flawed because understanding how different groups frame issues builds critical thinking skills, helps you identify bias in all sources including your preferred ones, and reveals aspects of stories your usual sources may not cover

(C) Each website chose different words and angles to present the same facts, revealing that word choice shapes how readers feel about a story

(D) This is a logical fallacy called unfalsifiability: if lack of evidence is treated as proof of the conspiracy, then no possible evidence could ever disprove it, making the belief immune to rational evaluation and impossible to test

(E) Rules could include: use unique strong passwords with a password manager for each account, review app permissions regularly and deny unnecessary access, discuss any requests from online strangers with a parent, keep software updated for security patches, and think before posting personal information online

Answer Key

1. D — Media
2. C — A newspaper
3. B — The people who receive and consume a media message
4. A — The ability to access, analyze, evaluate, and create media in various forms
5. B — To make readers feel positive about the park and connect emotionally with the story
6. D — Each channel makes choices about what details to include and how to present them based on their perspective
7. To make viewers associate the cereal with happiness so they want to buy it
8. Because the creator's goals and perspective influence what information is included or left out
9. The ad only shows positives to sell the shoes, while the review tries to give an honest assessment including both strengths and weaknesses
10. Negative reviews and criticisms that would give a more complete picture of the movie
Matching (Media Literacy): 1→A, 2→C, 3→E, 4→B, 5→D
11. A — An original, firsthand account or record of an event created by someone who was there
12. B — A textbook chapter about the American Revolution
13. B — The expertise, credentials, or qualifications of the person or organization that created the source
14. A — How recent or up-to-date the information in the source is
15. C — The National Weather Service is a government science agency with trained meteorologists, giving it expertise and authority on weather topics
16. B — The .edu domain is reserved for accredited educational institutions, which typically have academic standards and review processes
17. Wikipedia is a secondary source because its articles summarize and interpret information from other sources rather than being firsthand accounts
18. Because information can become outdated as new discoveries are made, and

older sources may contain facts that have since been corrected

19. The lack of identifying information makes it difficult to verify the source's authority and currency, so it should be treated with extra caution
20. They show where the author got their information, allowing you to verify the facts and assess the quality of the supporting evidence
Matching (Source Evaluation): 1→C, 2→B, 3→A, 4→E, 5→D
21. B — A fact can be proven true or false with evidence, while an opinion expresses a personal belief or judgment
22. A — Water boils at 100 degrees Celsius at sea level
23. A — Words like 'best,' 'worst,' 'should,' 'beautiful,' 'believe,' and 'think'
24. A — An opinion that is supported by evidence, research, or expert knowledge, even though it still reflects personal judgment
25. A — Because 'brilliant' is a value judgment and 'definitely solve all' is an unprovable prediction, neither of which can be verified with evidence
26. D — 'Uses organic ingredients' is a fact that can be verified, while 'best place to eat in town' is an opinion based on personal taste
27. Because factual-sounding claims are more persuasive and make consumers more likely to trust the product and make a purchase
28. By presenting real numbers out of context, such as saying '9 out of 10 dentists recommend' without revealing that only 10 dentists were surveyed
29. Whether people believe something does not determine if it is a fact. Global warming is supported by measurable scientific evidence regardless of individual beliefs
30. Data showing health benefits of park access, statistics on current park usage, and surveys of resident preferences
Matching (Fact vs. Opinion): 1→E, 2→D, 3→A, 4→C, 5→B
31. B — The trail of data and information you leave behind when you use the internet, including posts, searches, and website visits
32. D — An active footprint is data you deliberately share (like posting a photo), while a passive footprint is data collected about you without your direct action (like a website tracking your visits)
33. C — Any data that could be used to identify you specifically, such as your full name, address, phone number, school name, or birthday

34. A — Children's Online Privacy Protection Act — a law that protects the online privacy of children under 13 by requiring parental consent before websites can collect their personal information
35. D — Because they sell your data to advertisers or use it to show you targeted ads, which is how they make money instead of charging users directly
36. D — If one website is hacked and your password is stolen, criminals can use it to access all your other accounts that share the same password
37. The photo becomes part of your digital footprint without your consent, could be seen by people you did not intend, and may be difficult or impossible to fully remove
38. Phishing is a deceptive practice where scammers send fake messages that appear to be from trusted sources, trying to trick you into revealing personal information like passwords or credit card numbers
39. Using technology and the internet in a safe, ethical, and respectful way, including protecting your privacy, respecting others' rights, and thinking critically about online content
40. Because these documents explain what personal data the app collects, how it uses that data, who it shares it with, and what rights you have over your information
Matching (Digital Citizenship): 1→B, 2→D, 3→C, 4→A, 5→E
41. D — Misinformation is false information shared without intent to deceive, while disinformation is false information deliberately created and spread to mislead people
42. C — Artificially generated or manipulated video, audio, or images that use AI to make it appear that someone said or did something they never actually said or did
43. C — Confirmation bias is the tendency to believe and share information that supports what you already think, which makes people more likely to spread misinformation that aligns with their existing views
44. B — Clickbait is sensational or misleading headlines designed to attract clicks, and it is linked to misinformation because it prioritizes attention over accuracy, often exaggerating or distorting the actual content
45. B — Because false stories tend to be more surprising, emotional, and novel, triggering stronger reactions that make people share them without verifying, and algorithms amplify content that generates high engagement

46. C — It uses content designed to trigger strong emotions like fear, anger, or outrage, which bypasses critical thinking because people in emotional states are less likely to verify information before reacting and sharing
47. Creating the false impression of widespread grassroots support by using fake accounts, bots, or coordinated groups to make a viewpoint appear more popular than it actually is
48. Because humans naturally trust visual evidence more than written claims, and the saying 'seeing is believing' means people often accept images as proof without questioning whether they have been altered
49. Check the original source to see if it is a reputable news organization, search for the story on other reliable news sites to see if they confirm it, and examine the article itself for evidence, quotes, and named sources
50. The article shows multiple red flags for misinformation: no attribution, no date, no evidence links, sensational language, and surrounding ads that suggest a financial motive to attract health-product buyers
Matching (Misinformation): 1→E, 2→A, 3→B, 4→C, 5→D
51. B — A tendency in news reporting or media content to favor one perspective, viewpoint, or interpretation over others in a way that is not balanced or objective
52. A — When media outlets consistently choose to cover certain stories while ignoring others, creating a skewed picture of reality based on what they decide is or is not newsworthy
53. A — The way a story is presented, including which details are emphasized, which words are chosen, and which context is provided, that shapes how the audience interprets the information
54. B — An environment where a person encounters only information and opinions that reinforce their existing beliefs, because algorithms or community choices filter out opposing viewpoints
55. D — Because people naturally seek out and believe information that confirms what they already think, they are more likely to accept biased reporting that aligns with their views without questioning it
56. D — Word choice carries emotional weight: describing protesters as 'freedom fighters' versus 'rioters' presents the same people in fundamentally different lights, revealing the reporter's or outlet's perspective through language
57. Omission bias occurs when important facts, perspectives, or context are deliberately left out of a story, creating a misleading picture through what is NOT

said, even though everything that IS said may be accurate

58. Algorithms show you more content similar to what you have previously engaged with, gradually filtering out diverse perspectives and creating an increasingly narrow information environment that reinforces existing biases
59. Bias by placement is where stories appear (front page vs. buried inside), signaling their importance, while bias by headline is using words that frame the story in a particular way before readers even read the article
60. This false balance creates the misleading impression that scientific opinion is evenly split when the overwhelming consensus supports one side, distorting the audience's understanding of where scientific agreement actually lies
Matching (Media Bias): 1→E, 2→D, 3→B, 4→A, 5→C
61. A — Currency, Relevance, Authority, Accuracy, and Purpose
62. A — How recently the information was published or updated and whether timeliness matters for the topic being researched
63. C — Who created the content, what their credentials or expertise are, and whether they are qualified to write about the topic
64. A — Why the information was created — whether it was meant to inform, persuade, sell, entertain, or promote a particular viewpoint
65. A — Opening new browser tabs to search for information about the source, author, or claims from independent websites rather than staying on the original page
66. D — Because it uses independent sources to verify claims and credibility rather than relying on what the source says about itself, which could be misleading
67. The funding source creates a significant conflict of interest, and the lack of independent replication means the claims are not well-supported by the broader scientific community
68. Search for information about the website and its authors on independent sites to learn about their credentials, reputation, and any known biases
69. For a rapidly evolving scientific topic like climate change, the 2023 source is likely more valuable because it reflects the most current data, research methods, and scientific understanding
70. To independently investigate specific claims, statements, or viral stories and rate their accuracy based on available evidence
Matching (Online Content Evaluation): 1→B, 2→E, 3→A, 4→C, 5→D

71. B — Information that is deliberately designed to influence people's opinions, emotions, or actions, often by presenting only one side of an issue or using manipulative techniques
72. D — Encouraging people to believe or do something by claiming that 'everyone else' is already doing it, appealing to the desire to belong and conform to the majority
73. B — Connecting a person, product, or idea with something that already carries positive (or negative) associations — such as patriotic symbols, respected institutions, or admired figures — to transfer those feelings to the subject being promoted
74. A — Selectively presenting only the facts, statistics, and evidence that support one side of an argument while deliberately omitting information that contradicts or weakens it
75. D — By presenting a person, idea, or product as being connected to ordinary, everyday people to suggest that it represents the interests and values of common citizens rather than elites
76. B — Using vague, emotionally appealing words like 'freedom,' 'justice,' 'progress,' or 'family values' to promote something without providing specific evidence or clear definitions of what those terms mean in context
77. Misrepresenting or oversimplifying someone's actual position to create a weaker version that is easier to attack and defeat, rather than addressing the real argument they made
78. This is an example of card stacking combined with misleading attribution — the study showed breakfast helps, not that this specific cereal helps, but the advertisement attributes the general finding to its specific product while omitting this crucial distinction
79. This is the transfer technique using visual framing — the negative visual treatment transfers feelings of suspicion and unease to the opponent, while warm, positive imagery transfers feelings of trust and warmth to the preferred candidate
80. An appeal to the speaker's or writer's credibility, character, expertise, or trustworthiness, designed to make the audience more likely to accept their argument because they perceive the source as reliable
Matching (Critical Media Analysis): 1→B, 2→D, 3→C, 4→A, 5→E
81. A — An error in reasoning that weakens an argument

- 82. D — Ad hominem
- 83. C — Arguing that something is true because many people believe it
- 84. D — Misrepresenting someone's argument to make it easier to attack
- 85. B — Claiming something is true just because an authority figure said it
- 86. D — Using your conclusion as the reason for your argument
- 87. Bandwagon
- 88. Ad hominem
- 89. False dilemma
- 90. It draws a broad conclusion from a single example
Matching (Critical Thinking & Media Literacy): $1 \rightarrow D$, $2 \rightarrow A$, $3 \rightarrow C$, $4 \rightarrow E$, $5 \rightarrow B$
- 91. B — An original, first-hand account or document from the time of an event
- 92. C — A source that analyzes, interprets, or summarizes primary sources
- 93. B — Currency — how recent the information is
- 94. B — .edu
- 95. D — It is trustworthy and reliable based on evidence and expertise
- 96. D — A process where other experts in the field evaluate a work before it is published
- 97. A letter written by a soldier during the Civil War
- 98. A .com site may be trying to sell something, while a .edu site is from an educational institution
- 99. An author with relevant expertise is more likely to provide accurate, well-informed content
- 100. Checking whether the same information appears in multiple independent, reliable sources
Matching (Critical Thinking & Media Literacy): $1 \rightarrow B$, $2 \rightarrow C$, $3 \rightarrow A$, $4 \rightarrow E$, $5 \rightarrow D$
- 101. C — A testable prediction or explanation that can be investigated through experiments
- 102. B — The group that is not exposed to the variable being tested, used for comparison
- 103. D — An observation is something you directly see, hear, or measure; an inference

is a conclusion you draw from observations

104. B — A factor that can be changed, measured, or controlled in an experiment
105. C — Repeating an experiment to verify that the results are consistent and reliable
106. D — To summarize results and state whether the hypothesis was supported or not supported by evidence
107. To have a baseline for comparison so they can isolate the effect of the variable being tested
108. Not definitively — other variables like sunlight, water, and soil type need to be controlled to isolate the effect of fertilizer
109. It is not easily testable in a controlled experiment and lacks a clear independent/dependent variable relationship
110. Multiple independent experiments and observations have consistently confirmed the theory over time
Matching (Critical Thinking & Media Literacy): 1→C, 2→A, 3→E, 4→D, 5→B
111. A — The tendency to seek out and favor information that confirms what you already believe
112. C — An error that occurs when the sample studied does not accurately represent the larger population
113. C — Judging how likely something is based on how easily examples come to mind
114. B — Unconscious attitudes or stereotypes that affect our understanding and decisions without us being aware of them
115. A — The way information is presented (framed) influences how people interpret and react to it
116. C — When a group prioritizes agreement and harmony over critical evaluation of ideas
117. Availability heuristic — the vivid, easily recalled crash report makes flying seem more dangerous than it statistically is
118. Saying 'you got 70% right' sounds more positive than 'you got 3 wrong' — same result, different emotional impact depending on the frame
119. Viewers only hear one perspective, making them think that viewpoint represents everyone's opinion and missing important counterarguments
120. The tendency to rely too heavily on the first piece of information you receive

when making decisions — that first number or fact becomes an 'anchor'

Matching (Critical Thinking & Media Literacy): 1→D, 2→E, 3→B, 4→A, 5→C

- 121. C — The ability to access, analyze, evaluate, and create media in various forms
- 122. D — Search for independent medical studies about the juice, check if health organizations like the FDA have reviewed the claim, and look for the author's medical credentials
- 123. C — 'Study Finds Correlation Between Eating Breakfast and Higher Test Scores' — replacing 'shows' with language that reflects correlation, not causation
- 124. C — Because these documents explain what personal data the app collects, how it uses that data, who it shares it with, and what rights you have over your information
- 125. B — Responsibility is shared: the satire site should make its humorous intent clearer beyond a buried 'About' page, and sharers should verify stories before spreading them, especially ones that seem outrageous or too absurd to be true
- 126. C — Algorithmic curation creates a distorted sample where your feed represents your community, not the broader population, leading to a false consensus effect where you overestimate how many people share your views because most of what you see agrees with you
- 127. Because it uses independent sources to verify claims and credibility rather than relying on what the source says about itself, which could be misleading
- 128. Information that is deliberately designed to influence people's opinions, emotions, or actions, often by presenting only one side of an issue or using manipulative techniques
- 129. Read both carefully, look at the specific reasons each gives, and consider which reasons are supported by evidence
- 130. No, it is a valuable primary source for understanding the lived experience of families dealing with food allergies, even though it should not replace medical expertise

Matching (Media Literacy): 1→D, 2→A, 3→E, 4→B, 5→C

- 131. C — This is called clickbait, and apps use it to get more people to tap on the notification and visit the article, which earns the app more advertising money
- 132. B — Recent archaeological discoveries and DNA analysis techniques that have changed our understanding of ancient Egyptian society
- 133. D — Explain that combining school name and teacher name with their username could help a stranger figure out exactly who they are and where they go to

school, which is dangerous personal information to share with unknown people online

- 134. B — Because people naturally seek out and believe information that confirms what they already think, they are more likely to accept biased reporting that aligns with their views without questioning it
- 135. D — Domain authority refers to the credibility and trustworthiness associated with a website's domain name, where domains like .gov and .edu often indicate government and educational institutions with established accountability standards
- 136. D — The music creates an emotional bias that subtly tells viewers which side to sympathize with — sad music evokes pity and frames one group as victims, while upbeat music frames the other group as confident and correct, influencing the audience's emotional response independent of the arguments being made
- 137. A newspaper
- 138. A photograph taken in 1935 showing a family outside their home
- 139. The 20% statistic is a fact, but 'proves my opponent's policies failed' is an opinion because the crime increase could have many causes unrelated to those policies
- 140. Do not click the link. Instead, go directly to the gaming website by typing the address yourself and check your account from there
Matching (Media Literacy): 1→E, 2→B, 3→C, 4→D, 5→A
- 141. D — Recognize it as a subjective marketing claim that cannot be proven without objective evidence like taste competitions or surveys
- 142. A — The expertise, credentials, or qualifications of the person or organization that created the source
- 143. B — The 15% increase is a fact, but 'proving' the music caused it is an opinion because the experiment may not have controlled for other factors
- 144. A — The photo becomes part of your digital footprint without your consent, could be seen by people you did not intend, and may be difficult or impossible to fully remove
- 145. D — Check: (1) Is the source a recognized news organization with editorial standards? (2) Does the article name specific authors, sources, and evidence? (3) Can you find the same story reported by other reputable outlets? (4) Does the headline match the actual content of the article? (5) Is the article dated and current?

146. D — No, the article demonstrates omission bias by presenting a true fact without essential context. The 15% rise looks positive in isolation but is still a significant net loss when the preceding 40% decline is included
147. The headline uses emotional language ('SHOCKING') to trigger fear and urgency, vague conspiracy framing ('They do not want you to know') to create distrust without identifying who 'they' are, and clickbait structure to drive engagement through curiosity rather than informing the reader
148. Show both the successes and the challenges of the program, interview people with different viewpoints, and clearly identify yourself as the creator
149. Your friend removed the qualifiers ('dark,' 'small amounts,' 'may have some') and turned a limited finding into an absolute claim that all chocolate is healthy in any amount
150. Not necessarily. Screenshots, cached versions, web archives, and server backups may still contain the content even after you delete your original post
Matching (Media Literacy): 1→A, 2→E, 3→C, 4→B, 5→D
151. C — Anyone can publish content online without fact-checking or approval, so there is no guarantee of accuracy
152. A — The lack of identifying information makes it difficult to verify the source's authority and currency, so it should be treated with extra caution
153. D — This may not represent balanced reporting if parent opinion is actually evenly split, because the 3-to-1 quote ratio creates the impression of overwhelming support. Balanced reporting reflects the actual distribution of perspectives, not an arbitrary selection of voices
154. A — By presenting a person, idea, or product as being connected to ordinary, everyday people to suggest that it represents the interests and values of common citizens rather than elites
155. A — The video uses powerful emotions but lacks factual evidence, so you should look for additional sources with data before forming a strong opinion
156. D — Conflicting sources force you to evaluate evidence on both sides, leading to a more thorough understanding of the topic and a stronger, more balanced argument
157. No, because 'better pet' is a value judgment based on personal preferences that cannot be objectively measured, though each person could cite facts to support their preference
158. Using technology and the internet in a safe, ethical, and respectful way, including

protecting your privacy, respecting others' rights, and thinking critically about online content

159. To independently investigate specific claims, statements, or viral stories and rate their accuracy based on available evidence
160. News reporting aims to present verified facts and multiple perspectives as objectively as possible, while opinion content expresses the writer's personal interpretation and viewpoint — confusing the two can lead people to mistake subjective commentary for established fact

Matching (Media Literacy): 1→C, 2→A, 3→E, 4→D, 5→B

Spark & Anvil is a 501(c)(3) public charity. Apps + books are free forever.