Gold experience B1- Units 11 and 12

- **Reading comprehension**

How to spot fake news

Every time you're online, you are bombarded by pictures, articles, links and videos trying to tell their story. Unfortunately, not all of these stories are true. Sometimes they want you to click on another story or advertisement at their own site, other times they want to upset people for political reasons. These days it's so easy to share information. These stories circulate quickly, and the result is … fake news.

There is a range of fake news: from crazy stories which people easily recognise to more subtle types of misinformation. Experts in media studies and online psychology have been examining the fake news phenomenon. Read these tips, and don't get fooled!

1. Check the source Look at the website where the story comes from. Does it look real? Is the text well written? Are there a variety of other stories or is it just one story? Fake news websites often use addresses that sound like real newspapers, but don't have many real stories about other topics. If you aren't sure, click on the 'About' page and look for a clear description of the organisation.

2. Watch out for fake photos Many fake news stories use images that are Photoshopped or taken from an unrelated site. Sometimes, if you just look closely at an image, you can see if it has been changed. Or use a tool like Google Reverse Image search. It will show you if the same image has been used in other contexts.

3. Check the story is in other places Look to see if the story you are reading is on other news sites that you know and trust. If you do find it on many other sites, then it probably isn't fake (although there are some exceptions), as many big news organisations try to check their sources before they publish a story.

4. Look for other signs There are other techniques that fake news uses. These include using ALL CAPS and lots of ads that pop up when you click on a link. Also, think about how the story makes you feel. If the news story makes you angry, it's probably designed to make you angry. If you know these things about online news, and can apply them in your everyday life, then you have the control over what to read, what to believe and most importantly what to share. If you find a news story that you know is fake, the most important advice is: don't share it!

Tasks

Task 1

Circle the best title for the text.

a. Experts share dangers of fake news

b. Experts share top tips for resisting fake news

c. How to create fake news: a guide

d. Tips on how to read the news online

Task 2

Circle the correct answers.

1. Which reason is NOT given for an online fake news story?

a. To convince people of a political view

b. To make people angry or sad

c. To plant a virus in your computer

2. The text says some fake news ...

a. is easy to recognise as fake.

b. is funny.

c. comes from the political right.

3. Which of these may mean that a news site should not be trusted?

a. The text is well written.

b. The site has a variety of other stories.

c. The site's 'About' page does not clearly describe the organisation.

4. Some images on fake news ...

a. are real images, but come from a different website.

b. are images that have been changed.

c. both the above

5. Fake news stories ...

a. are usually only on fake news sites or social media.

b. are not on any websites, only in social media.

c. are often hidden on real news sites.

6. Many fake news stories are written ...

a. without capital letters and with terrible spelling.

b. in a way that makes people upset.

c. inside of advertisements that pop up on your screen.

7. What should you do with fake news?

a. Report it to the police

b. Make a note of it for reference

c. Not show it to other people online

8. What is the purpose of this article?

a. To complain

b. To inform

c. To entertain

- **Vocabulary**

Find the suspects and write the names under the texts.

Sherlock Holmes and James Watson are great detectives and they can catch thieves easily, but they are very busy nowadays. Let's help them to find four suspects.

Somebody robbed Mr. Carter's house last night. The burglar was tall and slim. He had long hair. He was wearing glasses.

The suspect is .....

A man robbed the City Bank yesterday. He was fat and short. He had dark hair and a moustache.

The suspect is .....

An attractive woman stole Mrs. Hayley's bracelet yesterday. The thief was of medium height. She had long, curly and dark hair.

The suspect is .....

A pretty girl stole 2000$ from the market. She was short and slim. She had long, straight and dark hair.

The suspect is .....

Mel

Sam

Oliver

Terry

Linda

Mike

Sandra

Pam

- **Grammar**
- **Present simple and past simple passive.**

Complete the sentences. Use the verbs in brackets and the passive form of the tenses given.

1. Action films.....(watch) daily in Netflix by people all over the world.
2. Today, English.....(speak) all over the world.
3. Last class, the mistakes.....(correct) by the teacher.
4. In nationa parks, wild animals .....(protect) by park rangers.
5. Last night, two peole.....(take) to hospital after the accident.
6. Two days ago, the railroad.....(damage) by the storm.
7. I.....(bite) by a dog a few days ago.
8. The beach.....(clean) every morning.

- **Past perfect simple**

Put the verbs into the correct form (past perfect simple).

1. The storm destroyed the sandcastle that we (build).....
2. He (not / be)..... to Cape Town before 1997.
3. When she went out to play, she (do / already)..... her homework.
4. My brother ate all of the cake that our mum (make).....
5. The doctor took off the plaster that he (put on)..... six weeks before.

6. The waiter brought a drink that I (not / order)……..
7. I could not remember the poem we (learn)…… the week before.
8. The children collected the chestnuts that (fall)…… from the tree.

- **Have/ get something done**

Complete the sentences.

1. Yesterday, (I / my hair/ cut)……..
2. Every Friday, (Joe / his car/ wash) ……..
3. Two weeks ago, (she / her shower/ repair)……..
4. Each Saturday, (we / a pizza/ deliver)…… to our home.
5. Last year, (Bob / his house/ clean)…… by a charwoman (mujer de la limpieza).

- **Writing**

Choose ONE of the following writing tasks. Write about 100 word.

a.Write a description of a place. You can use the photo below, or choose somewhere in your country.

Historic site in Peru: Machu Picchu

b. Write a true story called "The worst day ever".

When did the story take place? Where did you go and why? Who were you with? What did you do first? What other things did you do? What happened at the end of the day?

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