# Most Students Don't Know When News Is Fake

Teens absorb social media news without considering the source; parents can teach research skills and skepticism

*FROM: https://www.wsj.com/articles/most-students-dont-know-when-news-is-fake-stanford-study-finds-1479752576*

Read the extracts and match them with the headings below. There are 2 extra headings you will not need:

**EXTRACT 1.**

Facebook Inc. and Alphabet Inc.'s Google are taking steps to prevent sites that disseminate fake news from using their advertising platforms, and Twitter Inc. is moving to curb harassment by users. But that won't get rid of false or biased information online, which comes from many sources, including deceptive advertising, satirical websites and misleading partisan posts and articles.

**EXTRACT 2.**

Today's students are not being equipped with the critical thinking and analysis skills they need to successfully navigate our media-saturated environment. That is why a growing number of schools are teaching students to be savvy about choosing and believing various information sources." A free Stanford social-studies curriculum that teaches students to judge the trustworthiness of historical sources has been downloaded 3.5 million times, says Sam Wineburg, a professor in Stanford University's Graduate School of Education.

**EXTRACT 3.**

Many students multitask by texting, reading and watching video at once, hampering the concentration needed to question content and think deeply, says Yalda T. Uhls, a research psychologist at the Children's Digital Media Center at the University of California, Los Angeles.

**EXTRACT 4.**

Teens also can learn basic skills used by professional fact-checkers, Dr. Wineburg says. Rather than trusting the "about" section of a website to learn about it, teach them "lateral reading"—leaving the website almost immediately after landing on it and research the organization or author. Also, explain to teens that a top ranking on Google doesn't mean an article is trustworthy. The rankings are based on several factors, including popularity.

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**EXTRACT 5.**

Scott Secor has tried to instill in his three children, ages 20, 18 and 16, a habit of noticing the sources of information they read online and learning about their viewpoint or goals. He encourages them to read deeply before forming an opinion. "A rule of thumb at our house is that if an article on a serious topic is less than 100 words," the length of some fake-news items, more research is needed, says Mr. Secor, of Raleigh, N.C.

**EXTRACT 6**

Some 82% of middle-schoolers couldn't distinguish between an ad labeled "sponsored content" and a real news story on a website, according to a Stanford University study of 7,804 students from middle school through college. The study, set for release Tuesday, is the biggest so far on how teens evaluate information they find online. Many students judged the credibility of newsy tweets based on how much detail they contained or whether a large photo was attached, rather than on the source.

**EXTRACT 7**

However, fewer schools now have librarians, who traditionally taught research skills. And media literacy has slipped to the margins in many classrooms, to make room for increased instruction in basic reading and math skills.

| | HEADINGS | EXTRACT |
|---|---|---|
| A | Media literacy lessons are gaining importance at schools. | |
| B | Overall, teens´ criteria to assess news credibility relies on visual impact. | |
| C | A lost profession which helped students examine information. | |
| D | Popularity does not mean credibility. | |
| E | Online Media Coorporations are developing new policies against the spread of fake news. | |
| F | Reading the news online might lead to short-term memory loss issues. | |
| G | Performing simultaneous tasks has been proven to work against attentive close reading. | |
| H | The length of a news story published online may reveal its trustworthiness. | |
| I | Online news websites contain more fake news that newspapers. | |

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