

How false news can spread

Name:

Class:

VOCABULARY

1. Study the sentences and complete the definitions below with the underlined adjectives.

- We should not tolerate this biased media coverage.
 - The newspaper has been accused of publishing sensationalist stories of the murders.
 - The report presented fabricated evidence which was really ridiculous.
 - There are so many pseudoscientific beliefs, for example astrology.
 - Judges need to be impartial to make objective decisions.
- a) _____: falsely or mistakenly claimed or regarded as being based on scientific method
- b) _____: something false which is invented or produced in order to deceive someone
- c) _____: preferring one person, thing, or idea to another in a way that is unfair
- d) _____: not connected to or influenced by one particular person or group
- e) _____: presenting events in a way that makes them seem as exciting or shocking as possible

2. Discuss the following questions?

- How do you keep up with the news?
- Do you trust the information you get?
Are media in your country biased?
- How can you know that the information you've read/heard is not fabricated?
- What do you know about fake news?



3. Read the text below and answer the questions below.

Circular reporting (κυκλική μετάδοση ειδήσεων) can occur when:

"(...) publication A publishes misinformation, publication B reprints it, and publication A then cites B as the source for the information. It's also considered a form of circular reporting when multiple publications report on the same initial piece of false information, which then appears to another author as having been verified by multiple sources."

source: <https://ed.ted.com/lessons/how-false-news-can-spread-noah-tavlin#watch>

1. In your own words, what is circular reporting?
2. How do you think it can be avoided?
3. How can it affect our everyday lives?

VIDEO & DISCUSSION

4. Before watching the video, explain what a quote (λόγια) attributed (που αποδίδονται) to Mark Twain (διάσημος Αμερικάνος συγγραφέας, *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*) means.

"A lie can travel half way around the world while the truth is putting on its shoes."

5. Watch the video and answer the questions.

https://youtu.be/a8ie_iMLdBY



- What examples of circular reporting does the speaker mention?
- How do wikis contribute to circular reporting?
- What should we do to avoid circular reporting according to the video?
- Have you seen people sharing fake news on social media pages? What types of behaviors did you notice when it happened?
- What is the best way to deal with fake news?

6. How can we help students identify fake news?

7. Watch the video and answer the following question.

What are the five Cs of critical consumption? Take notes.

<https://youtu.be/xf8mjbVRqao>



8. Watch the following video and write down 3 things you found interesting.

(στο τετράδιο ή στο φύλλο εργασίας)

a.

b.

c.

<https://youtu.be/aHAAPvHZ6XE>



HOMEWORK

1. Write a short text about fake news and post it on the padlet:

<https://padlet.com/sotsironiedu/social-media-grkaa026233i2tp>

You can also include pictures or videos in your post.

You can use the information from this worksheet and/or the key words: **fake news**, **how to deal with misinformation**, **consequences of fake news**, **media literacy** to find information.

2. Read your fellow students' posts and write one thing you liked about them.

Checking Your Sources: The Five C's of Critical Consuming

#1: **Context** - Look at the context of the article.

When was it written?

Where does it come from?

Could events changed since then? How?

Where could you find new information that could change your perspective, and what types of questions about this topic might you ask to determine this new information?

#2: **Credibility** - Check the credibility of the source.

Does the site have a reputation for journalistic integrity?

Does the author cite credible sources? Or is it satirical? Is it on a list of fake news sites?

Could it be an advertisement posing as a real news story?

What could the author or the article's sponsors stand to gain by disseminating the information in this article?

#3: **Construction**. Analyze the construction of the article.

Is the tone of the article objective, or biased? What words helped you draw that conclusion? Look for "loaded words" and propaganda techniques.

If you identified a bias, what is the bias?

Does the article leave out information that's important to helping the reader draw conclusions?

Does the author make it easy to distinguish between the facts and opinions? Or is it simply all speculation?

#4: **Corroboration**: Corroborate the information with other credible news sources.

Make sure it's not the only source making the claim. Where else have you confirmed this information?

#5: **Compare**: Compare it to other news sources to get different perspectives.

Find other credible sources from other side of the issue to get a bigger picture of what's actually happening. List these sources here.