

NAVIGATING THE NEWS ONLINE: REAL VS. FAKE

1. How many viral news-related posts — whether articles, videos or photographs — do you encounter online on each week? These could be current events / political posts, celebrity gossip, “weird” news stories, even satirical news articles.

How many on average do you click on in a week?

How many on average do you share on social media?

2. How often do you check to make sure what you are sharing or commenting on is real?

How do you go about finding that out?

3. How much do you care if a story purporting to be real actually is? Explain.

4. How much more careful are you with online sources when you are doing work for school than when you are simply surfing the web for fun?

How do you decide what is a reliable source for your schoolwork?

Do you use similar methods outside of school?

5. What sources of news do you usually trust? What sources do you rarely trust? Why?

6.. Can embellished, or outright fake, stories have real-world consequences? What examples can you give?

7. In a world where news can be reported by anyone with a cellphone, how do you decide what is true? What questions should you ask to find out? What personal rules might you develop to decide what news you post and when you post it?