





## TEN QUESTIONS FOR NEWS DETECTION

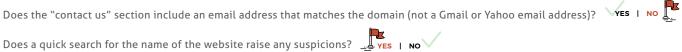
Use the questions below to assess the likelihood that a piece of information is fake news. The more red flags you circle, the more skeptical you should be!



1. Gauge your emotional reaction: Is it strong? Are you angry? Are you intensely hoping that the information turns out to be true? False? VES I NO



- 2. Reflect on how you encountered this. Was it promoted on a website? Did it show up in a social media feed? Was it sent to you by someone you know?
- 3. Consider the headline or main message:
  - a. Does it use excessive punctuation(!!) or ALL CAPS for emphasis? VES | NO
  - b. Does it make a claim about containing a secret or telling you something that "the media" doesn't want you to know? VES I NO
  - c. Don't stop at the headline! Keep exploring.
- 4. Is this information designed for easy sharing, like a meme? VES | NO
- 5. Consider the source of the information:
  - a. Is it a well-known source? YES I NO
  - b. Is there a byline (an author's name) attached to this piece? VES I NO
  - c. Go to the website's "About" section: Does the site describe itself as a "fantasy news" or "satirical news" site? YES | NO
  - Does the person or organization that produced the information have any editorial standards? YES I NO



- Does the example you're evaluating have a current date on it? VES I NO
- Does the example cite a variety of sources, including official and expert sources? Does the information this example provides appear in reports from (other) news outlets?
- 8. Does the example hyperlink to other quality sources? In other words, they haven't been altered or taken from another context? YES | NO
- 9. Can you confirm, using a reverse image search, that any images in your example are authentic (in other words, sources that haven't been altered or taken from another context)? YES | NO
- 10. If you searched for this example on a fact-checking site such as Snopes.com, FactCheck.org or PolitiFact.com, is there a fact-check that labels it as less than true?





## **REMEMBER:**

- It is easy to clone an existing website and create fake tweets to fool people.
- Bots are extremely active on social media and are designed to dominate conversations and spread propaganda.
- Fake news and other misinformation often use a real image from an unrelated event.
- Debunk examples of misinformation whenever you see them. It's good for democracy!