

5 STEPS TO BE

MEDIA LITERATE

1 Start with the source

Before you even read the content, be sure the source is unbiased, trustworthy, and has procedures in place to check its facts and sources. Does it have a code of ethics, editorial processes and/or a peer-review system? Use media bias lists (<https://bit.ly/2H3Clmk>) to see if the source is a known fake-news or conspiracy theory producer.

2 Read

Read the whole article or report, not just the headline or caption. Intent and context matter so you need to identify the type of information. Is it: News? Opinion? Analysis? Joke or satire? Conspiracy theory? Research report? Viral image or meme? If necessary, go back to step 1.

3 Take advantage of fact-checkers

Has the article, publisher, image, or rumor already been fact-checked? (<https://bit.ly/2H3Clmk>)

4 Look inside

Click on links to see related information such as cited sources, quotes, and data that verify what the author is saying. Look for an author, publisher, and dates.

5 Look outside

Use several outside sources to verify facts and put the story in context. Reverse check images to find the original source.