## **Staying Safe Online – Fake News & Scams**



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

1. Check the word 'scam' in the dictionary and write the meaning here:	W	0	r	K	S	n	0	

There are a lot of scams online where people try to access your personal information. Be very careful when you are online and don't give your personal information to anyone. Check your emails carefully and don't believe everything you read online or message you receive.



2. Put these 12 words into alphabetical order:

fake	news scams		password		online	true	
bias	messages		trick	safe	check	real	

1.				
11.	 			
12				

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lame	Date	W				



## 3. Fake Emails and Messages

Fron	n: asda customer service
To: c	ustomer@assda.co.uk
Re: 1	hank you for shopping with Asda
Dear	custommer,
To sa any A	k you for being a loyal customer with us.  Bying thank_you we would like to reward you with a £20 voucher to spend in Asda store.
	ceive your voucer please click on the link below and enter your bank accounls. Then we will sending you £20.
	the link: <u>asda.reward.zyyytzmm</u>
Alex	wishes, Customer Service
	s sometimes have a lot of mistakes in them. t 4 mistakes in the email above and write them here:
asswords asswords asswords :	should be a mixture of capital and small letters (upper and lower case), symbols hey should not be family names or words you can remember easily.
asswords asswords asswords :	should be a mixture of capital and small letters (upper and lower case), symbols

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### 5. Online Scams

People sometimes pretend to be someone else online. They make you trust them and then trick you into doing bad things. Read about Zara. What do you think she should do?



Zara is 23 and moved to the UK recently. She doesn't have a lot of friends. She spends a lot of time on her computer. She meets Zac online and chats to him most evenings for a few weeks. Zac sends Zara a

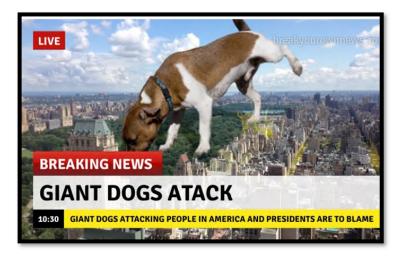
photo and she thinks he looks nice. This is the photo Zac sends:

Zac messages Zara and says he would like to meet her but he doesn't have a lot of money, so can she send him £500 so he can meet her.



### 6. Fake News

Fake news are stories online that are not true. They are often presented to the reader as if they are true stories. Sometimes it is easy to spot fake news because it is so stupid:





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But sometimes stories are more convincing and look and sound real:



You must think about the stories you read online and ask yourself if they are real or fake. DO NOT BELIEVE EVERYTHING YOU READ!

Think about who wrote the stories and why they want you to believe them.

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### Read the text on page 6 and answer the questions:

- 1. What is the purpose of the text?
  - a. To give you advice on how to tell if a news story is fake
  - b. To tell you how to write a fake news story
  - c. To sell you a newspaper
- 2. What are the features of the text?
  - a. Bullet points and italic
  - b. Columns and block capitals
  - c. Logos and numbers
- 3. What type of text could this be?
  - a. A poster or leaflet
  - b. A letter or email
  - c. A newspaper or magazine article
- 4. What is the language and style?
  - a. Confusing and unclear
  - b. Messy and disorganised
  - c. Clear and easy to read
- 5. What does this image represent?
  - a. The author
  - b. The date
  - c. The location



6.	Check the	word	'bias'	in the	e dictionar\	≀ and	write t	he me	eaning l	nere:	

7. In the 'Is It A Joke?' section why does the text tell you to research the site?

- a. It may be written a long time ago
- b. It may be written by a librarian
- c. It may be written as a joke
- 8. In the 'Check Your Biases' section what does it advise you to do?
  - a. Think about stories you have read in the past
  - b. Think about if your personal opinions change the way you think about a story
  - c. Think about if the author is a reliable person
- 9. In the 'Read Beyond' section what does it tell you?
  - a. Headlines are the most important part of the story
  - b. Headlines tell you who wrote the story
  - c. Headlines are written to attract your attention

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# How to Spot FAKE NEWS



### CONSIDER THE SOURCE

Click away from the story to investigate the site, its mission and its contact info.



### READ BEYOND

Headlines can be outrageous in an effort to get clicks. What's the whole story?



### CHECK THE AUTHOR

Do a quick search on the author. Are they credible? Are they real?



### SUPPORTING SOURCES?

Click on those links. Determine if the info given actually supports the story.



### **CHECK THE DATE**

Reposting old news stories doesn't mean they're relevant to current events.



### IS IT A JOKE?

If it is too outlandish, it might be satire. Research the site and author to be sure.



### **CHECK YOUR BIASES**

Consider if your own beliefs could affect your judgement.



### **ASK THE EXPERTS**

Ask a librarian, or consult a fact-checking site.

Source: https://guides.library.harvard.edu/c.php?g=868129&p=6229710 and www.factcheck.org