

Evaluating Online Information

1. Check the date.

Is it old news?

2. What are your first impressions?

Does the website look professional? Do the images seem photoshopped or edited? Does it appear to be valid? Does it seem “too good to be true”?

3. Who created the website?

Search for information about the creator. Are they a trained professional in this topic? Are they credible?

4. Go beyond the headline.

Read the text. Do the facts support the headline? Think critically about the content. What questions do you have?

5. Check other sources and fact-check the information.

Using reliable sources, find out if the facts presented in the story are verifiable and accurate. Consider a reverse image search, if possible.

6. Question the humour.

Does it seem like parody (humorous exaggeration) or is it meant to be a joke?

7. Is it an example of misinformation or disinformation?

Does the author make mistakes without realizing it? Or is the information false and misleading on purpose?