

Quiz: News Literacy

Faculty member: Katherine Reed

1. **True or False: News literacy refers to a person's ability to read the news.**
 - a. True
 - b. False

2. **The Founding Fathers thought a free press was important because: (check all that apply)**
 - a. They wanted to control the message about the new country
 - b. They wanted citizens to be equipped with the information they needed to make decisions about governance.
 - c. They wanted the press to be able to criticize the government
 - d. They wanted to protect the people from tyranny.

3. **According to research by the Pew Research Center, an increasing number of people are getting their news from:**
 - a. TV
 - b. Newspapers
 - c. Magazines
 - d. The Internet

4. **What is an easy way to discern the difference between fact and opinion in a newspaper?**
 - a. Look up the opinion writer's charitable and political contributions.
 - b. Try to determine what the person's bias is, based on word choices.
 - c. Look for labels like "op-ed," "analysis," or "opinion" with the content.
 - d. None of the above.

5. **Which of the following is *NOT* an example of something a journalist can do to promote transparency during the reporting process?**
 - a. Explain that the information they're publishing is really just a rumor.
 - b. Explain that there are still some unknowns or uncertainties about an event.
 - c. Publish corrections.
 - d. Explain how the reporting was accomplished.

6. **Effective communication of news and information requires synthesis of multiple sources into meaningful context and comprehension of its impact. What's an example of a way that a news organization is helping create context?**
 - a. Including a sentence that instructs the reader to read all of the background before continuing
 - b. Hyperlinking absolutely everything in the story except attribution.
 - c. Creating timelines and "backgrounders" like Vox's "card stacks."
 - d. None of the above.

- 7. Journalists have an important duty to verify information gathered in reporting. How do journalists do that?**
- By making the best possible guess about whether something is likely to be true.
 - By determining whether other news sources are reporting something as factual.
 - By seeking out independent sources with firsthand knowledge to confirm whether information is factually correct.
 - By leaving the story in the hands of a good editor whose job it is to figure it out.
- 8. If the city council is considering whether to approve the building of a halfway house for recovering drug addicts in a neighborhood called The Heights, who are the primary stakeholders in the decision? (check all that apply).**
- A city council member who lives in another town
 - The mayor because he's running for re-election
 - Homeless drug addicts in the city
 - People who live in The Heights
- 9. Climate change is a good example of a problem that some people deny exists in spite of consensus among scientists all over the world who say human beings are causing the planet to warm with catastrophic effects. This is because:**
- A handful of scientists who deny climate change have done better research than all the other scientists who accept it as a fact.
 - Scientific consensus often turns out to be totally wrong.
 - For some people, belief is more important than the findings of science.
 - All of the above
- 10. True or False: It's okay to "share" rumors and conjecture on Twitter because everyone knows that Twitter is full of misinformation.**
- True
 - False