



MEDIA AND ME

FOLLOW-UP RESOURCES FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

Outcomes

General Curriculum priorities:

- Literacy
- Critical and creative thinking, *and*
- Information Communication Technology capability.

Media literacy is suitable across all subjects and particularly complements English, Media Arts and Technologies with potential connections to other learning areas, the general capabilities and cross-curriculum priorities.

MEDIA AND ME

FOLLOW-UP RESOURCES FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

NEWS MEDIA FACT CHECKER TASK

Answer these questions about **3 different claims** made in the media on AAP site link below:

1. Are there any claims by news outlets there that you initially believed?
2. After reading the fact checker, are you more sceptical about these claims?
3. Why do you think the claim was made and who did it benefit



Have a look at the AAP Fact Check website: <https://www.aap.com.au/news-media-claims>

MOVIE TECHNIQUE ANALYSIS TASK – WRITE YOUR OWN BLOG

Write a blog or review a film clip from the NFSA website. Explain your own opinion and what you like or dislike about the media.

Make sure you address what techniques were used. You could consider music, language, acting, script, sound, camera angles or voice-over. How did these techniques affect you?

For example, look at one of the clips here: <https://www.nfsa.gov.au/collection/curated-australian-film-music-and-soundtracks> and write a blog analysing:

- How did the use of music affect you as a viewer?
- What were the most effective aspects of the clip?
- What was the storyline of the clip?
- What was happening for the central character/s?
- What tools did the filmmaker use to influence the viewer and affect their emotions?

MEDIA AND ME

FOLLOW-UP RESOURCES FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

ANALYSING NEWS MEDIA TASK

Find a news article online. Write a short paragraph about the facts that it presents in the article. Using the 8 questions in the checklist below, see if any inconsistencies appear.

For example, if you click away from the story and read beyond, can you find any other perspectives on the story? Is the story accurate, recent and credible and what makes you think this?

HOW TO SPOT FAKE NEWS

This checklist is from the **International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)**:

1. Consider the source

Click away from the story to navigate the site, check its mission and contact information.

2. Read beyond

Headlines can be outrageous to attract clicks ('clickbait'). What's the whole story?

3. Check the author

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

4. Investigate supporting sources

Click on those links. Determine if the information supports the story being

5. Check the date

Reposting old news stories doesn't make them relevant to current events.

6. Ask if it is a joke

If the story is outlandish, it might be satire.
Research the entire story and author to be sure.

7. Check your biases

Are your personal beliefs affecting your judgement?

8. Ask the experts

Ask a librarian or consult a fact-checking site.



MEDIA AND ME

THE 5 STEPS FOR FINDING AND USING RELIABLE MEDIA

Step 1: Think carefully

- Think carefully about what information you want and what question you're trying to ask.
- Use this preparation to help you frame the right questions, keywords or search terms.
- **BE CAREFUL!** Knowing what question you want to answer is not the same as knowing what answer you want! If we start looking for only one kind of solution, we're not likely to find anything else (even if it's true, relevant and useful to us). **This is a type of bias.**

Step 2: Narrow your search

- Narrow your online search as much as possible and make it specific. For example: If you only want content from Australia, you can limit your search results to only pages from Australia by adding site .au to your search.
- If searching a phrase or name, put it in quote marks (" ") so only sites with all those terms are returned (not every site with one of those words).
- Use sites or search engines where you can search collections of information specifically about your question or topic (rather than just searching the whole internet through Google).

MEDIA AND ME

THE 5 STEPS FOR FINDING AND USING RELIABLE MEDIA

Step 3: Look beyond online resources

- Try libraries and archives, where there are lots of different media accessible for free and people whose job it is to help you find what you're looking for.
- Ask experts who may have first-hand knowledge.
- Listen and look for relevant resources on TV, radio, streaming services, magazines, newspapers and elsewhere.
- Identify reliable sources of quality information you can use regularly.
- Note good resources so you can easily find and use them again.
- Credit your information source if you share it with anyone else.

Step 4: Assess your information

Even when we search carefully and use reliable sources, we can be left with a mixture of information, some of which is relevant or good quality, some not.

Ask these questions to analyse the information:

- Why was the information used?
- What was its purpose?
- What expectations can I reasonably have of information from this type of media?
- Who used this information and where does it come from and is it from a generally reliable source?
- How is the source funded and are they accountable to anyone?
- What is the tone of the information, is the language moderate or sensational?
- What music or imagery is used?

MEDIA AND ME

THE 5 STEPS FOR FINDING AND USING RELIABLE MEDIA

Step 5: General overview of the information

- What is the general quality of the piece?
- Is it well or poorly produced?
- Is it comprehensive and clear or is there information missing? Does it contain obvious errors (like spelling mistakes)?
- Are the claims supported by evidence or reference to other sources that you could fact check?
- What might motivate the reader to believe the information?
- Is this a primary or secondary source of information for the question I want to answer and do I have access to at least one primary source?
- Are you able to check the information anywhere else? Can you find another source making the same claim?



The C.R.A.P. Test

This tool was devised by Education Co-ordinator/Librarian Molly Beestrum.

Apply the CRAP test for quality of sources when researching:

- Currency
- Reliability
- Authority
- Purpose or point of view.

Further activities and resources:

<https://www.abc.net.au/education/media-literacy/>

<https://medialiteracylab.org.au/>

<https://www.moadoph.gov.au/learning/classroom-resources/media-literacy/>

For more information visit: <https://www.nfsa.gov.au/learning>