

Introduction to Media Literacy and Conspiracy Theories

Media Literacy · Practice Test · 12 Questions

1. What is the most reliable way to verify if a claim about a major historical event is true?

- A) Checking how many people shared it on social media
- B) Looking for evidence from multiple independent, credible sources
- C) Asking a stranger for their opinion
- D) Believing the first source that appears in a search engine

2. Which term describes an unproven explanation that suggests a secret group is working behind the scenes to control an event?

- A) Hypothesis
- B) Conspiracy theory
- C) Scientific law
- D) Peer review

3. What is 'confirmation bias'?

- A) The tendency to ignore facts that don't match what you already believe
- B) The process of testing a theory in a lab
- C) The act of interviewing experts
- D) Reading only books from the library

4. Why is 'peer review' important in scientific research?

- A) It makes the research paper look more expensive
- B) It allows other experts to check the work for errors before it is published
- C) It helps the author make more money
- D) It ensures the research is only read by students

5. What is a reliable sign that a news article might be unreliable?

- A) The article cites specific dates and locations
- B) The author uses emotional language instead of facts
- C) The article includes a bibliography
- D) The website ends in .edu or .gov

6. Which of these is a hallmark of a credible scientific study?

- A) It relies on the opinions of celebrities
- B) It uses data that can be tested and reproduced by others
- C) It keeps all methods a secret
- D) It claims to explain every mystery in the world instantly

7. What does it mean to 'debunk' a claim?

- A) To share a claim without checking it
- B) To prove that a claim is false using evidence
- C) To create a new conspiracy theory
- D) To ignore the claim entirely

8. Why should you check the date of an online article?

- A) To see if it was written during the weekend
- B) To ensure the information is current and hasn't been replaced by new facts
- C) To calculate how old the author is
- D) To see if it was written in the morning

9. Which of these is considered a 'primary source' of information?

- A) A social media post about an article
- B) A textbook written 50 years after an event
- C) An eyewitness account or original document from the time of the event
- D) A movie based on historical events

10. What is a logical fallacy?

- A) A type of scientific experiment
- B) An error in reasoning that weakens an argument
- C) A way to prove a theory is true
- D) A technique for writing poetry

11. When evaluating a website, what does the 'domain' (like .gov or .org) tell you?

- A) The physical size of the website
- B) The type of organization that publishes the information
- C) The quality of the website's graphics
- D) The location of the person who wrote the article

12. What is the goal of media literacy education?

- A) To memorize every news story ever written
- B) To help people identify, analyze, and evaluate messages in media
- C) To encourage people to stop using the internet
- D) To ensure everyone has the same political opinion