1. What type of bias are Sally and Henry engaging in? (2pts)

Consider the debate over gun control. Let's say Sally is in support of gun control. She seeks out news stories and opinion pieces that reaffirm the need for limitations on gun ownership. When she hears stories about shootings in the media, she interprets them in a way that supports her existing beliefs.

Henry, on the other hand, is adamantly opposed to gun control. He seeks out news sources that are aligned with his position. When he comes across news stories about shootings, he interprets them in a way that supports his current point of view.

Answer\_\_\_\_Confirmation Bias\_\_\_\_\_

2. Fill in the blank. (2pts)

Let’s say a woman smokes cigarettes despite knowing it can lead to lung cancer. She continues to do it because she tells herself she needs the cigarettes to help her deal with anxiety. Or maybe she’ll say she doesn’t smoke nearly enough cigarettes for them to cause serious harm. In this example, she’s reducing \_\_ Cognitive Dissonance \_\_by convincing herself the behavior is okay in her mind.

3. Put the 4 main media outlets that we discussed in class below according to their liberal/conservative lean. (I helped you with the first one!) (2pts)

**Left Wing**

Liberal/Progressive (Toronto Star, Globe and Mail)

**Right Wing**

Conservative (National Post, Toronto Sun)

4. Write “Liberal” or “Conservative” beside each headline and briefly explain how you came to that conclusion. (12pts)

A) *Budget Cuts*

“Ontario Cuts Will Help the Economy” \_\_\_\_ Conservative \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

“Prime Minister Justin Trudeau warns cuts will hit municipalities hard” \_\_\_\_ Liberal \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

B) *LGBTQ Issues*

“Ford takes heat for plans to skip Pride Toronto's parade this year” \_\_\_ Conservative \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

“Premier Doug Ford says he will attend Pride events, just not the parade" \_\_\_\_ Conservative \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

C)*Drug Legalization*

“Deeply concerned: Marijuana legalization moving too fast for most Canadians, poll suggests” \_\_\_\_ Liberal \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

“At first cannabis store in Toronto, ‘everything we planned for is happening’ — while supplies last” \_\_\_\_ Conservative \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

5. Where do you fall on the political spectrum? Please give me 3 reasons why. (5pts)

I am falling more on the Liberal party. This is because some 3 main reasons:

First, establish a $15 per hour federal minimum wage, which will rise with inflation. This will improve the quality of life of everyone, especially students like me.

Second, increase the wage subsidy to $7,500 per person in the Student Work Placement Program for post-secondary students while expanding employers' access to the program by $239.8 million. This will create conditions for new graduates to have more opportunities to access jobs.

Third, reduce financial pressure on families who intend to send their children to college. As everyone knows, the amount of money needed to pay for college is a lot, and it also takes a lot of time after graduation to pay off debt and restore a family's finances.

6. Explain 2 specific examples of how mass media uses “manipulation” to influence public perceptions? (4pts)

The first way that mass media uses “manipulation: to influence public perceptions is they control of what we can see. They control of what type of information that we get such as point of view of a problem that happening. Word is really powerful, depend on how the information is transfer to us, it controls how we understand about that problem and that how they control our point of view. This led to a really big problem which called “Fake news”.

The second way that they use is they analyze our behavior. Everything that we have searched, chosen, and typed on their application; they can see it. Based on the data that they collected on us, they set up their application in a way that attract us the most and spend more time on it.

7. Explain in detail 2 things that you learned from the documentary “The Creepy Line”. Do you think your in your own home? Why or why not? (8pts)

The first thing that I learned from "The creepy line" documentary is that we must learn how to protect ourselves as well as our privacy. The second thing that I have learned is that we must be alert to every piece of information we read on the internet. No one can guarantee that information is true. The current situation of fake news is happening extremely strongly. I think our online behavior should be as private as our offline behavior. Because in the current era of science and technology, it is extremely easy to find out our personal information through just a few personal information on the internet. If we do not know how to protect such online information, it can lead to unnecessary risks for us.

Bonus: (2pts)  
What is a false dichotomy? Give an example.

A false dichotomy is typically used in an argument to force your listener into an extreme position by making the assumption that there are only two positions.

Examples: If you want better service, you have to pay more.