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**LEIA O TEXTO E RESPONDA ÀS PERGUNTAS QUE O SEGUEM**

**Fake news: tips on how to spot it**

A year after his election victory, President Trump's frequently used phrase "fake news" is now a very popular concept.

It was even named “word of the year”, by the dictionary publisher Collins.

But being aware of fake news does not mean we can always spot it.

So how do you detect fake news? Here are 9 pieces of advice from Dr Philip Seargeant, a specialist in this issue, who lectures in Applied Linguistics at the Open University.

**1 - Check the source website**

First up, says Dr Seargeant, it's absolutely crucial to check the source or website of the story and decide if it's reputable.

This can mean making sure you know exactly which website you are looking at. So, check the URL.

And be sceptical if the story comes from a news organisation you have never heard of, says Dr Bell.

**2 - Is it just on one website?**

Next, check if it's reported elsewhere or just by one website.

"If everything's coming from the same source, it is probably suspicious," says Dr Seargeant.

"But if have two or three media organisations reporting the story, that would be more convincing."

**3 - What's the agenda?**

"All media has a perspective, a bias, but usually specifically fake news sites have a particular agenda," says Dr Seargeant.

Considering the motivations of the author can help you make up your mind. You should also consider who shared it to your timeline and why, he says.

**4 - Go beyond the headline**

Some fake news is produced for comic effect. So, read it properly and be sure it's not a leg-pull.

Daft bylines, along the lines of April Fools stories, can give the game away.

**5 - 'You won't find this on mainstream media'**

Some people believe the "mainstream media is entirely biased", Dr Seargeant says.

"So, anything that puts itself in opposition to that, that's their way of finding some kind of authority.

"If mainstream media isn't reporting it, the likelihood is that it's out on a limb somewhere."

**6 - Data sources**

Make sure you know whose figures are being reported.

"You can probably trust it if the number is taken from a national or international statistical office report, or a survey conducted by a renowned research company or a scientific institution," says Dr Bell

"You should be more sceptical if you have never heard about the source or know that it has a particular agenda."

**7 - Big isn't always better**

A large sample does not always mean the result is correct.

If the people surveyed are not representative of the population we're interested in, the results will not be accurate, says Dr Bell.

For example, in 1936 a poll of 2.4 million people for a magazine got the US general election result completely wrong.

This was because the survey was sent to magazine subscribers, who were generally richer than most Americans.

**8- Is it what it says on the article?**

Check if the thing being measured is what the news article says it is.

For example, in 2015 a Sun headline claimed one in five British Muslims sympathised with jihadis.

But last year the Independent Press Standards Organisation claimed the headline was "significantly misleading" as it had been based on a poll that had not mentioned jihad at all.

**9- Check the context**

"Just because a number looks dramatic, doesn't mean it is," says Dr Bell.

"For example, the Bank of England recently increased interest rates, for the first time in 10 years - but rates were only increased to what they had been until August of last year, where they'd stayed since March of 2009.

"That rate, of 0.5%, was the lowest in the bank's history, dating back to the 17th Century."

Adapted from: [**http://www.bbc.com/news/education-41902914**](http://www.bbc.com/news/education-41902914)

**Glossary**: Being aware= estar consciente de algo; elsewhere= em outros lugares; bias= tendência (ideológica, por exemplo); beyond= além; leg pull=pegadinha; April Fools stories= “pegadinhas” de Primeiro de Abril; mainstream media= media tradicional; sample= amostra; misleading= enganosos; poll= pesquisa; rate= taxa.

1- O texto tem o propósito comunicativo principal de: (Marque a resposta certa, 1,5 ponto)

A. ( ) criticar os usuários que divulgam notícias falsas.

B. ( X ) oferecer dicas sobre como reconhecer notícias falsas.

C. ( ) mostrar de que maneira notícias falsas enganam o leitor.

D. ( ) dar exemplos de notícias falsas de várias fontes.

2. Dr Philip Seargeant, mencionado na parte inicial do texto, : (Marque a resposta certa. 1 ponto)

A. ( ) é uma possível vítima de notícias falsas na Open University.

B. ( ) dá aulas específicas sobre notícias falsas na Open University.

C. ( X ) é um especialista em *fake news* que trabalha na Open University.

D. ( ) faz Pós-Graduação em Linguística Aplicada na Open University.

3- Entre as noves dicas listadas no artigo, quais são aquelas que tratam da natureza da fonte ou website que divulga as notícias falsas? Escreva o número dos itens em questão. (1 ponto)

Resposta: 1,2 e 6

4- Marque cada um dos enunciados abaixo como falso (F) ou verdadeiro (V). (1 ponto)

De acordo com o texto,

A- toda mídia é de algum modo tendenciosa . V ( X ) F ( )

B- *notícias falsas* podem ter objetivos humorísticos. V ( X ) F ( )

C- para os dados da notícia serem confiáveis, eles devem ser quantitativamente significativos. V ( ) F ( X )

D- o termo “fake news” foi cunhado pelo Dicionário Collins. V ( ) F ( X )

5- Entre as noves dicas listadas no artigo, quais são aquelas que fornecem exemplos para ilustrar o ponto argumentado? Escreva o número dos itens (ou dicas) em questão. (1 ponto)

Resposta: 7,8 e 9

6- A primeira coluna, abaixo, lista 4 conselhos retirados de quatro itens (dicas), entre aqueles apresentados no texto. Na segunda coluna, a seguir, têm-se os assuntos tratados em cada um desses quatro itens. Relacione a segunda coluna de acordo com a primeira. (1,5 ponto)

(1)- Check if it's reported elsewhere or just by one website

(2)- Check if the thing being measured is what the news article says it is.

(3)- Make sure you know whose figures are being reported.

(4)- Go beyond the headline

( 1 )- A(s) fonte(s) da notícia: há mais de um website reportando-a?

( 2 )- A pertinência e veracidade dos dados

( 3 )- A confiabilidade da fonte dos dados da notícia

( 4 )- O propósito comunicativo da notícia: nem sempre tem o intuito de informar

7- Identifique, entre as 15 palavras do quadro abaixo (retiradas do texto), os sinônimos das 4 palavras (também retiradas do texto), na tabela logo a seguir. Copie, no local indicado na tabela, os sinônimos identificados. (1 ponto)

*organization; source; figures; mainstream; rates; claim; looks; heard; report; detect; tip; headline; interest; poll;* *probability*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Palavra** | **Sinônimo** (no sentido do texto) |
| likelihood | probability |
| spot | detect |
| advice | tip |
| numbers | figures |

8- Sublinhe o núcleo dos seguintes sintagmas nominais (retirados do texto): ( 1 ponto)

A- word of the year

B- the source of the story

C- international statistical office report

D- a renowned research company

9- Em relação ao significado verbal, o enunciado “*a news organisation you have never heard of*” significa “uma organização de notícias da qual (Marque a resposta certa, 1 ponto)

A, ( ) você nunca terá que falar”.

B. ( ) você nunca quis falar”.

C. ( ) você nunca ouvirá falar”.

D. ( X ) você nunca ouviu falar”.