

INSTRUCTIONS FOR UNDERSTANDING LINKS DISCUSSION

Your team is given a link to a case. You are to assess this link, following the 7 steps below. Unlike CASE DISCUSSIONS, this discussion need not be done in Canvas. Only the results of the discussion must be posted by the Team Lead. But **I suggest each of you post any final work that you contributed to the discussion, just to make certain your work gets counted.**

Someone has to step up to be team lead. Team Lead role should rotate.

To do this assignment, you must read my CRITICAL READING notes which define and explain the concepts of the 7 different steps.

7 STEPS

1. Establish Provenance, if source is an online news source, is there a parent commercial news resource?
2. Identify unknown terms or people or groups that the reporter has not explained.
3. Note any vagueness or ambiguity.
4. Note any speculation.
5. Identify one month background history of the event. Local (Silicon Valley) event? American event? Foreign event? Recent event or over 6 months ago? The closer the event is to you now in time & place, the less extra background history you have to find.
6. Note tone: upset, angry, sarcastic, or cool and objective?
7. Note terms of probability, possibility, and conditionality.

TEAM LEAD:

There are, at most, 7 members of your team, and there are 7 steps, each step should be contributed by one student and Team Lead must put that student's name on the side of his contributed step, like this:

SAMPLE FORMAT OF RESULT

TEAM 3

1. **Provenance** (Joseph Tan). This website is commercially published by The New Beach Daily Mail in Miami, Florida. The link is reporting news of EFF, an organizational group with strong bias in favor of user rights and free speech. Yes guys, EFF is local, of course.; etc. . . .
2. **Unknown Terms** (Mia Smith) **4th Amendment** statement: *The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.* Jeff Bezos: is CEO of Amazon. (be sure guys to actually look up any wording of laws mentioned in a case.) etc.
3. **Vagueness/Ambiguity** (Allen Lopez) stated the vagueness, explained it, etc.

4. **Speculation** (Chris Vo) stated the speculation and explained why it is speculative.
5. **Background History** (Gene Johnson) place and time of event, added any needed info.
6. **Tone** (May Li) stated whether there was anger, hostility, sarcasm, etc.
7. **Modality** (Preet Singh) stated terms of probability, possibility, or conditionality if any

Be patient with me on this one, please everyone, it is a new assignment, a “fighting bad journalism and fake news” exercise, and I expect it will need some tweaking. You are my test for a new approach to critical thinking courses, one that doesn’t just look at argumentation, but also at reporting of facts.

This assignment will not get any specified days of feedback like Case Analysis Discussions do. Instead, especially the first week, I will read through your UNDERSTANDING LINKS discussions and give some warnings early on if I see any problems, so ask in the discussion if you are having problems, especially in the first week of the discussion.