

HOW TO DETECT news



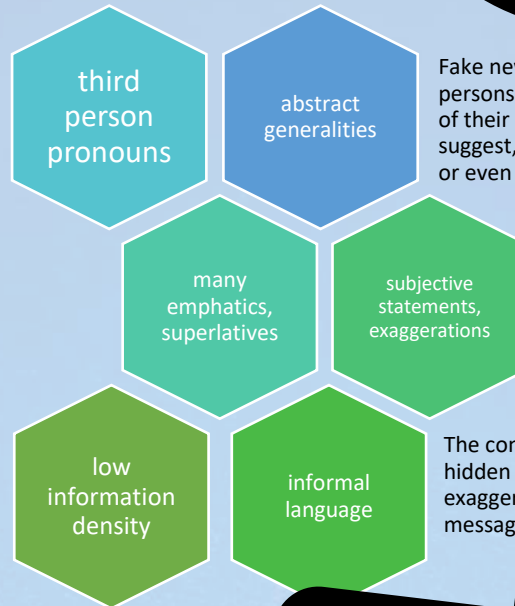
FAKE

The impact of fake news:

Hoaxes nowadays are often spread via social media, since users online aren't obliged to publish veritable news. These misinformation can also find their way into mainstream media and therefore manipulate politics etc.

Besides that, fake news are often spread in order to damage an institution, an individual, a firm or even to achieve financial benefits. More clicks result in higher revenue through advertising, so fake news often have deceiving headlines or thumbnails, which attract attention and lure the reader to click the link.

A recent exmple for the fast spreading of false information is the debate about the safety of vaccines.



Fake news often refer to specific persons with third person pronouns instead of their actual names. This can sometimes suggest, that they aren't correctly quoted or even completely fictitious.

The context may also be deliberately hidden and individual contents may be exaggerated in order to depict a certain message.

How to identify fake news:

Often times it's not easy to differentiate between real and fake news. A good indicator is the source: Is the website on which the article is published reliable? If you aren't sure you can also check the impressum/ imprint. A publishing firm in _____ for example might be suspicious. Furthermore actual news are normally being reported on several websites, so research the topic and look for other sources which verify these news.



filter bubble

Internet platforms customize their contents to individual users. Because a user is more likely to click on a post which confirms their beliefs, the sites only show posts which confirms their attitudes, in order to maximize their profits. This can falsely verify their views.

What you can do:

In order to avoid spreading these fake news yourself you should question posts and think about the impact these could have before blindly reposting or sharing them.



asses a source

- basics:**
- uncredible / no author named
 - no imprint
 - address/ post office abroad
 - clickbait headline

- fact-check:**
- no supporting sources
 - wording identical to others
 - more opinion than content

- photo:**
- originally other context
 - manipulation/ photoshop

→ more boxes checked equals less believable

for additional information go to:

www.mimikama.at or
www.politifact.com

www.hoaxsearch.com lets you trace back images and more