

HELPSHEET

User this sheet to help you decide if a story is real or fake:

- real
- evidence
- ask and add it all up
- look around

You can use the journalist's tool for investigating stories - "The 5Ws and how":

- where has it come from?
- who wrote it / sent it?
- when was it written?
- what is the background to it? Maybe a joke, a mistake, satire or rumour
- why are you interested in it (check your own beliefs)
- how many other sources are telling the same story?

You can also use this checklist:

- check the source
- check other news outlets
- check the image
- check your biases
- check your instinct