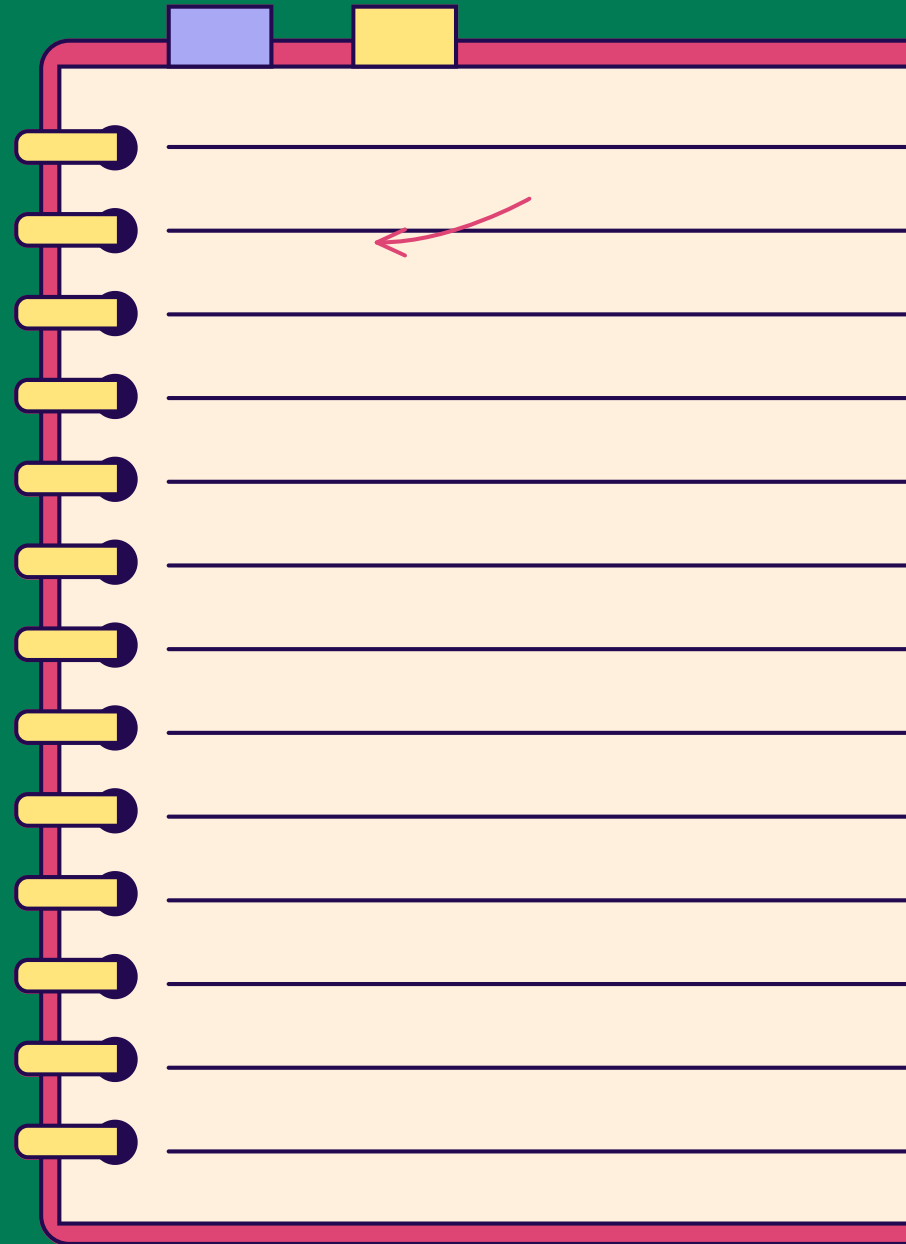


MODULE 3 - INFORMATION PROCESSING

CHAPTER 1

LES FAKE NEWS



INTRODUCTION

There is so much information circulating on the Internet that it is sometimes difficult to sort out the true from the false. Despite the risk of being trapped, many do not take the time to check the reliability of information before sharing it and it spreads in the blink of an eye when... everything is false! In this module, we present you with different tips to recognize false information, also called Fake News and avoid taking part in sharing it.

1 WHAT IS FALSE INFORMATION?

INFORMATION CAN BE FALSE FOR SEVERAL REASONS:

First, it may simply be a mistake. The author may have made a mistake unintentionally.

But false information can also be written deliberately to mislead and disseminated in widely-read media.

Also known by its American name “fake news”, false information is defined by its desire to deceive the reader. It is often disguised as a serious site, but under its appearance of official media, hides a lie.

Fake news can also be videos, doctored photos, this is increasingly the case with artificial intelligence



2 HOW TO VERIFY INFORMATION ONLINE?

SOME SIGNS TO LOOK OUT FOR

OBSERVE THE DETAILS

The title, the dates, the structure of the site... In fake news, the title is often catchy, can be written in capital letters, with exclamation marks. If the article does not mention a specific date or place, there is reason to doubt.

CHECK THAT IT IS A RELIABLE SOURCE

The credibility of a website can be verified by its reputation. Some publish parody articles like Le Gorafi or Nord Presse. In case of doubt, the tools Décodex, CitizenEvidence, TinEye allow you to verify the reliability of a source of information.

FAVOR RECOGNIZED SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Ministries, scientific journals, NGOs... They can be identified with URLs such as .gouv.fr, .org, .asso.fr for France, the sites .belgium or .be for Belgium or .gov.pt for Portugal. Blogs and personal sites should be watched with greater vigilance.

VARY THE SOURCES OF INFORMATION

By consulting other articles on the same subject, we can compare and cross-reference data. If the same information is mentioned in several places, citing different or similar sources, it is more likely that it is true.

DECRYPTING THE IMAGES

Find the source of an image to contextualize it, pay attention to its construction (are there no small bugs indicating retouching?) to verify that it is real.

TO REMEMBER

Fake News 10 Tips to Spot Them

Beware of word of mouth
How did I get this information?

Look beyond the title
Is this a very catchy title?

Identify the source of the information
Who, where and when?

Go back to the source of the information
Where does the information come from in the first place?

Read the comments
Did someone write that this was false information?

Ask a specialist
Can I ask an expert for advice?

Cross-reference multiple sources
Several reliable sites have the same opinion?

Don't share because you're asked to
Am I being pushed to share?