

knowfake.eu



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# **KNOW FAKE RULES & GAME INSTRUCTIONS**

# **GAME INSTRUCTIONS**

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#### Unmask the Fakes with KNOW FAKE!

Sharpen your critical thinking skills with KNOW FAKE, a fun and educational card game that challenges you to spot disinformation. Through a series of engaging questions and informative answers,

you'll learn to identify misleading information and navigate today's complex information landscape.

# Good luck uncovering the fakes!

# **Game Components**

42 Playing cards (21 matching pairs)
Instruction Manual

KNOW FAKE



# Gameplay

- 1. Preparation: Shuffle all cards face down, ensuring only the backs are visible. Arrange the shuffled deck individually on a flat surface.
- 2. Starting the Game: The youngest player begins by revealing two cards, reading aloud the text on them.
- 3. Matching Pairs: If the revealed cards form a thematically linked question-and-answer pair, the player successfully identifies a potential instance of disinformation and keeps both cards. This player receives another turn to reveal two more cards.
- 4. Non-Matching Pairs: If the revealed cards are not thematically linked, they are returned face down to their original positions. To continue the game, the next player takes his/her turn.

#### WINNING THE GAME



The game continues until all 21 matching pairs have been revealed. Players then calculate their scores by counting the number of pairs they have successfully identified. The player with the most correctly matched pairs wins.

Tip: A good memory helps you win!

# **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**



Information literacy refers to the ability to effectively search for, evaluate, use, and communicate information. It requires background knowledge for anyone who wants to teach it, especially to adolescents. This game manual provides easily understandable and relevant information. By understanding the concepts yourself, you can confidently guide adolescents as they develop their critical information literacy skills.

The manual not only provides important information but also includes suggestions and simple exercises for everyday life, aimed at continually enhancing information literacy among children. The content presented in the card game is condensed and adapted for gameplay, while the manual elaborates on these topics in more detail.



# PROJECTWEBSITE: knowfake.eu \_ □ ×

Complementary to the analog cards, a web-based 6 multilingual app can be used.

The combination of analog play and digital support promote information literacy in a variety of ways and facilitate integration into different linguistic and cultural contexts. Using this app promotes sustainable thinking and creates an opportunity for intergenerational learning within the family.

# ABOUT PHILOSOPHIZING WITH CHILDREN AND YOUTH — □ ×

"Philosophy and democracy call us to use our judgment, to choose the best form of political and social organization for ourselves, to recognize our own values, in short, to become in a comprehensive way what each of us is, namely a free person." Federico Mayor, Secretary General of UNESCO (Source: https://kinderphilosophie-gesellschaft.uni-graz.at/en/philosophize-with-children-and-teenagers/)

Philosophizing is based on fundamental and current socio-political questions and promotes the thinking and personality development of children and youth. Starting from your own world of experience, answering questions, getting to know different perspectives and reflecting together, it's about the relationship with yourself, with other people and with the world. It encourages you to ask questions, reflect on your own thinking and search for answers actively thinking together. It promotes critical, creative and caring thinking, as well as the ability to dialogue, to argue and to judge. Through joint reflection and dialogue, young people get to know new ways of thinking. They discover new areas of action and experience that go hand in hand with new forms of communication and changed roles, which also contributes to improving basic skills.

Philosophical questions help understand various concepts and perspectives. In addition, philosophizing develops a variety of skills, competencies and intellectual abilities that are necessary for intercultural, cosmopolitan, sustainable and digital education.

In summary, philosophizing is a possibility:

- 1. to promote critical thinking and good judgement
- 2. to understand the origins and effects of FAKE NEWS





- 3. to get to know new areas of action and experience
- 4. to improve basic skills

#### WHAT ARE FAKE NEWS

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Fake News represent deceptive and non-genuine news. Usually written with an eye-catching headline, these news consist of false images, statements, and information and spread lies and propaganda. People's opinions can be easily swayed by them, resulting in a negative impact on society. The goal of fake news is to gather reactions from people so that the news spread quickly and increases revenue. Criminals also use fake news for various fraud attempts, such as virus activation links (known as phishing). Because of this, people need to be very careful with recognizing fake news.

# TYPES OF FAKE NEWS



The technical possibilities are constantly evolving, and it's difficult to predict what new types of disinformation and potential for misuse may arise. Here are just a few current examples.

# False political claims

For example, in 2016, a false claim spread that the FBI accused Hillary Clinton of deleting private emails. This led to widespread speculation and political controversy. (Source: The Washington Post - "The real story behind that fake FBI agent and the plot to frame Hillary Clinton," 2017).

#### Clickbait and sensational headlines

Stories with flashy headlines that often don't reflect the actual content are common. An example might be an exaggerated health claim that is intended to attract attention but is not based on scientific fact. This has particularly occurred during the Corona pandemic and lockdowns. (Source: BBC News - "Clickbait and impact: how academia has been hacked," 2017).

# Manipulated images and videos

In 2018, there were cases of fake images being presented as evidence of certain events. One example was a manipulated image that was supposed to depict a refugee scandal. The spread of manipulated images and videos make it difficult for these media to be reliable as a verified source (Source: The Guardian - "Manipulated images of child abuse scandal in Germany spread on social media," 2018).



#### Conspiracy theories

A well-known example is the moon landing conspiracy theory, which claimed that the Apollo moon landing in 1969 was staged. This theory has been supported by various groups, although it has been scientifically refuted. This area has also increased significantly. (Source: NASA - "Moon Landing," n.d.)

#### Social media rumors

Rumors often spread after natural disasters. For example, after Hurricane Katrina in 2005, a false rumor spread that wild animals from the local zoo had escaped and caused chaos. This often happens at breakneck speed, especially on social media (Source: Snopes - "Katrina Zoo Animals," 2005).

#### Deepfakes

Advanced technology can be used to create deepfakes, which use artificial intelligence to create realistic videos or audio files that make people say or do things they never actually said or did (Source: Example of artificially produced speech by Chancellor Olaf Scholz on an AfD ban procedure, https://afd-ban.de/).

These examples are historical in nature, and new cases require individual review. It is advisable to obtain current news from trustworthy news sources and always critically examine those distributed via social media or other channels.

# WHY IS DISINFORMATION DANGEROUS $\square$ $\vee$

Disinformation is dangerous for several reasons:

# Distorted image of reality

Disinformation leads to a distorted view of reality. When people receive false or misleading information, they may make decisions based on incorrect assumptions.

# Influencing public opinion

Disinformation can influence and divide public opinion. By spreading false information, disagreements can be intensified, and social unrest can be fueled.

# Threat to democracy

Disinformation can influence and divide public opinion. By amplifying disagreements, trust in public institutions can be undermined.

# Economic impact

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False information can have an economic impact by influencing investment decisions, distorting market conditions, or undermining consumer and investor confidence.

#### Health risks

Disinformation can lead to serious risks, particularly in the area of health. Incorrect medical advice or misleading information about health crises can put people at risk and undermine trust in medical professionals.

#### Social Impact

Disinformation can also increase social tensions, promote prejudice and affect coexistence in communities. The spread of false information can exacerbate existing conflicts.

#### Security risks

In certain cases, disinformation can also pose direct security risks. For example, incorrect information about military affairs or international relations could lead to misunderstandings, tensions and conflicts.

It is also important that disinformation is problematic not only through false reports, but above all through the targeted dissemination of this information in order to achieve certain goals. The impact of disinformation can be far-reaching and long-term, which is why combating and educating on disinformation plays an important role in today's interconnected world.

# HOW DO I RECOGNIZE FAKE NEWS



Detecting fake news requires attention, critical thinking and the use of certain strategies. Here are some tips that can help you identify fake news:

# Check the source

Look at the source of the information. Has news from this source been reliable in the past? Unknown or questionable sources should be treated with caution. Reputable news agencies and recognized media companies often check their sources several times.

#### Check other sources

Verify information from multiple trusted news sources. If only one source spreads the news, it could be fake news.

# Pay attention to the writing style

A factual and balanced writing style is often a sign of authenticity. Sensationalism or one-sided reporting should be viewed with caution.

#### Check the release date

Sometimes old news are presented as current events. Check the publication date to ensure the information is current. Older photos



taken out of context often appear in reports. Google image search, for example, can help here.

#### Check the facts

Use fact-checking sites to find out whether the information has already been verified for accuracy. Websites like FactCheck.org or Correctiv.org often offer free fact checks on widely held claims.

# Question images and videos

Incorrect or out of context images and videos can be misleading. Use reverse image search tools to verify the origin of images.

#### Education and media literacy

Continuous awareness of new developments in the area of fake news is important. Education and media literacy make it possible to stay informed and effectively combat misinformation.

It is important to emphasize that no method offers absolute security. Using multiple verification approaches together, combined with critical awareness and ongoing information education, is the best way to protect yourself from fake news.







CONSIDER THE SOURCE Click away from the story to investigate the site, its mission and its contact info.



CHECK THE DATE
Repositing old news stories doesn't
mean they're relevant to current events.



READ BEYOND Headlines can be outrageous in effort to the clicks. What's the whole story?



IS IT A JOKE?
If it is too outlandish, it might be satire.
Research the site and author to be sure.



CHECK THE AUTHOR

Do a quick search on the author. Are
they credible? Are they real?



CHECK YOUR BIASES Consider if your own beliefs could affect your judgement.



SUPPORTING SOURCES? Click on those links. Determine if the info given actually supports the story.



ASK THE EXPERTS Ask a librarian, or consult fact-checking site.

IFLA International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions

# WHAT TO DO WHEN I ENCOUNTER FAKE NEWS

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When you encounter Fake News, there are several steps you can take to ensure you receive accurate information and help curb the spread of misinformation:

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#### Search for fact-checks

There are fact-checking websites specialized in verifying the accuracy of information. Check if there are fact-checks on the specific news you found. Websites like FactCheck.org or Correctiv.org can be helpful.

#### Use different sources

Get information from various sources to gain a balanced perspective. Avoid relying solely on one source, especially if it is known to be unreliable.

#### Critical thinking

Critically question the plausibility of the information. If something sounds too good to be true or makes extreme claims, it may be worth taking a closer look.

#### Report Fake News

Platforms and social media often have mechanisms to report fake information. Report the Fake News so that platforms can take action.

#### Do not share unverified information

Avoid spreading unverified information. By sharing Fake News, you contribute to the spread of false information. Instead, share facts and inform others that the information may not be correct.

# Education and awareness

Educate yourself about disinformation and Fake News to better recognize them. Also, raise awareness about this issue among others in your environment.

By following these steps, you help curb the spread of Fake News and promote an informed and fact-based public discussion.

# FAKE PHOTOS AND DEEPFAKES $-\square \times$

Deepfakes are deceptively real fake images or videos created using artificial intelligence and are difficult to distinguish from real pictures or videos.

These Deepfakes can be used, for example, to put false statements into the mouths of politicians. If a statement in a video seems strange to you, verify it, for example, by searching for media reports from reputable sources and whether these statements have been confirmed.



# HOW CAN I RECOGNIZE DEEPFAKES — □ ×

#### Is the video available elsewhere?

If something seems odd in a video, you can always search to see if you can find the video again – perhaps on another website. If not, it's suspicious. This applies to all information on the internet!

#### Pay attention to details

It's about the little things – for example, pay attention to whether the ears or hair are strangely shaped, whether the person's eyebrows are the same, or any distinguishing features like freckles, moles, etc.

#### Pay attention to transitions

Pay attention to the transitions on the body — especially the transitions between the face and neck or hair and face can be blurry in deep fakes. Sometimes the inside of the mouth is also blurry when a person is speaking.

#### Pay attention to image sharpness

Does the quality and sharpness of the face match the rest of the video? If the body or background is of lower quality, it may indicate a deep fake. You can tell if a video has low resolution by the image being noisy or blurry in dark areas.

# Does the person blink?

If the person in the video doesn't blink, it's clearly a deep fake. Because we humans have an automatic reflex to blink every few seconds — it happens unconsciously.

# WHAT DOES PHISHING MEAN

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Phishing is a form of cyber-attack in which fraudsters attempt to steal sensitive information from individuals by posing as trusted entities. This typically occurs through fake emails, websites, messages, or social media. The term "Phishing" is derived from "fishing," as the fraudsters cast out "bait" to catch victims.

Typically, a phishing attack occurs in the following steps:

- 1. The scammer creates fake communication that appears to come from a trusted source. This could be a fake email from a bank, a government agency, a social network, or another online service.
- 2. The fake communication often contains a pretext that convinces





- the victim to click on a link or disclose personal information. This could be, for example, a fake warning about an account or security issue.
- If the victim falls for the bait, they are directed to a fake website that often looks deceptively real. Here, personal information such as usernames, passwords, credit card numbers, or social security numbers is requested.
- 4. The stolen information is used by the fraudsters to cause financial harm, commit identity theft, or engage in other criminal activities.

Phishing poses a significant threat because fraudsters are highly skilled at deceiving their victims. To protect yourself from phishing, it is crucial to be cautious of emails or messages from unknown senders. Avoid disclosing personal information via unverified communication channels, and always verify the authenticity of websites and links before clicking or entering information. Additionally, it is advisable to use security software and tools to reliably detect and block phishing attempts.

#### Signs of phishing attempts

Recognizing phishing requires attention and skepticism towards unexpected or suspicious emails, messages, and websites. Here are some common signs of phishing attempts:

- 1. Unknown sender: Be cautious of emails or messages from unknown senders or addresses that seem strange.
- Phishing email salutation: Phishing emails often use generic salutations like "Dear customer" instead of your name or personal greeting.
- 3. Urgency and threats: Phishing emails often try to pressure you by claiming that immediate action is required, such as your account being locked or that you need to pay a fine.
- 4. Unsolicited attachments or links: Never open attachments or click on links in emails or messages unless you are absolutely sure they are legitimate.
- 5. Check the URL: Hover over links to display the actual URL in the browser's status bar. Look out for suspicious or mismatched URLs.
- 6. Spelling and grammar: Phishing emails often contain spelling errors, grammar mistakes, and odd phrasing.
- 7. Request for sensitive information: Legitimate organizations will never ask for sensitive information like passwords, credit card numbers, or social security numbers via email or message.

- 8. Check website security: Make sure websites you intend to visit have "https://" in the URL and display a padlock icon in the browser's address bar.
- 9. Verify the sender's address: Carefully check the sender's email address. Sometimes, phishing emails come from addresses that look similar but have slight variations, e.g., "support@yourbank.com" vs. "support@yourbankk.com".
- 10. Be skeptical of too-good-to-be-true offers: If an offer seems too good to be true, it may not be genuine.
- 11. Use security software: Install antivirus and anti-phishing software to help detect and block phishing attempts. Use two-factor authentication (2FA): Enable 2FA for important online accounts to provide additional security.
- 12. Report suspicious emails or messages: If you receive a phishing email, report it to your email provider or the organization allegedly sending the email.
- 13. Keep your software up to date: Regularly update your operating system, browser, and security software to patch vulnerabilities.

By following these guidelines and carefully scrutinizing emails and messages, you can minimize the risk of falling victim to phishing attacks. It is essential to remain vigilant as phishing scammers continually develop new tactics and tricks to deceive their victims.

# WHAT ARE SOCIAL BOTS, FILTER BUBBLES, AND ALGORITHMS, AND HOW DO THEY INFLUENCE MY ONLINE BEHAVIOUR □□

Social Bots / Also known as "Social Media Bots."

Social bots are automated software programs or scripts used on social media platforms such as X, Facebook, and Instagram to mimic human behaviour and perform certain tasks. These bots can automatically create posts, react to posts, gain followers, or share content.

While some social bots are used for legitimate purposes, such as spreading news or answering customer inquiries, there are also those used for dishonest intentions. These can serve to manipulate opinions





or spread misinformation.

#### Filter Bubble

The filter bubble describes the tendency of online platforms and algorithms to present users with personalized content and information based on their previous activities and interests. As a result, users may be trapped in a "bubble" of information that reinforces their existing views and opinions, as divergent viewpoints or diverse perspectives are rarely shown to them.

This limitation can restrict the diversity of information users are exposed to and foster the formation of echo chambers. In such chambers, people mainly interact with like-minded individuals and reject alternative viewpoints.

#### **Algorithms**

Algorithms are complex mathematical instructions and rules used by computer programs to perform tasks or calculations. In the context of social media and the internet in general, algorithms are used to select and display content that matches the individual preferences and behaviours of users.

These algorithms can prioritize information based on factors such as likes, clicks, interactions, and other data points to create personalized feeds and search results.

These concepts can collectively influence online behaviour and the dissemination of information. They have both positive and negative effects, as they offer the possibility of receiving personalized and relevant content but also pose the risk of limiting the diversity of opinions and information or spreading misinformation. It is important to be aware of the role of algorithms and social bots and to critically question the information and opinions one is exposed to online.

Algorithms, filter bubbles, and social bots can influence your online behaviour in various ways:

#### 1. Personalized content:

Algorithms analyze your online behaviour, including the websites you visit, searches you conduct, and interactions on social media. Based on this data, they select content intended to match your interests. This can lead to your online feed mainly showing content that aligns with your existing views and interests, as algorithms tend to prioritize similar content. It is important to be aware that content personalization by



algorithms can lead to a filter bubble, where diverse viewpoints may be less prominently displayed.

#### 2. Filter bubble:

Filter bubbles can trap you in a bubble of information that reinforces your existing opinions and views. You may see less diverse or divergent perspectives. This can influence your (online) behaviour by reinforcing your preferences and beliefs and making you less willing to accept alternative viewpoints or interact with people who hold different opinions. It is important to be aware of this dynamic influence and actively seek out ways to create a more diverse information base.

#### 3. Influence of social bots:

Social bots can influence your interactions on social media by generating likes, comments, and shares on posts or spreading fake information. If you interact with fake accounts or bots, you may be tempted to spread misinformation or become involved in discussions manipulated by bots or trolls. It is important to be aware that such bots can affect the dynamics and authenticity of online interactions, and therefore, one should be critical of which accounts they interact with.

#### 4. Information overload:

Algorithms can overwhelm you with a flood of information and content as they attempt to create personalized feeds. This can influence your online behaviour by directing your attention to specific content and making it more difficult to filter and select relevant information. It is important to be aware of this dynamic and take steps to maintain control over the flow of information and ensure a balanced information base.

To positively influence your online behaviour and protect yourself from the potentially negative effects of algorithms, filter bubbles, and social bots, it is important to think critically, verify information, use different sources, and actively seek out diverse perspectives. It is also helpful to be aware of how algorithms and personalized content work and, if necessary, adjust your settings to receive a broader range of information. By adopting this conscious approach, you can maintain control over your online experience and ensure that you receive diverse and reliable information.





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