EFL LESSONS

Can you spot digital lies?

ନ୍ଦ୍ରି A A Speaking

1 Put the words in a-c in the correct order to make a sentence.

Example: information bad all of us impacts.

bad information impacts all of us.

b. political democracy our misinformation weakens.

a. finances threaten our scams all.

c. health lives all our threatens misinformation.

2 Discuss these questions in pairs:

- Do you agree or disagree with these statements? Why/why not?
- Have you ever believed something online and then found out it is fake?



Vocabulary

3 Match the word in bold (1-7) with its correct definition (a-g).

Word 1 Journalists should apply a lot of scrutiny to their writing before they publish an article. <u>b</u> (example)	Definition a To try to (secretly) influence people and change things.
2 Some trolls try to meddle in political campaigns and elections to change the result.	b Careful examination of something to get information about it.
3 People can be overwhelmed by the amount of information they have	c To warn somebody about something, often so they can take action.
4 Some people are more susceptible to bad news than others	d To prove something is true.
5 The FBI tipped off Facebook about the fake account	e Easily influenced or harmed by something.
6 There are lots of ways to verify information online	f To try to deal with a problem.
7 Social media sites need to tackle the spread of misinformation on their platforms	g Feel something is too much and you can't handle the situation.

4 You are going to watch a video called 'can you spot digital lies?' Use the space below to write down any words you think you might hear in the video related to the topic.

) Watching

5 Watch the video and tick off any words from exercise 4 that you hear or see.

6 Read statements a-f below. Watch the video again and write if the statements are (T), false (F) or not mentioned (NM). If they are false, write down why under the statement.

Example: Laura Walters wrote her story about Chinese influence on the 2016 US presidential elections. F – she wrote her story about Chinese influence on New Zealand.

a The news organisation which contacted Laura was part of the same troll farm that meddled in the 2016 US presidential elections.

b Facebook is the biggest spreader of misinformation.

c You cannot simply verify information online by typing "fact check" + "something you think is misinformation" into a search engine*.

d Some generations are more susceptible to bad information or misinformation than others.

e "Deepfakes" are an old form of technology.

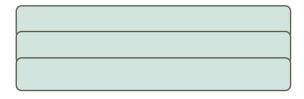
f Professor Harith Alani is hopeful that the spread of misinformation can potentially be stopped.

*Have you heard of the search engine Ecosia? If not, try it out because it "plants trees while you search the web": https://www.ecosia.org/

Thinking

7 What's your reaction to the video? Write down three words to describe how you feel after watching it.

Example: overwhelmed.



ζæ Speaking

8 Share and compare your words from 7 with your partner. Explain why you chose them.

Example: I feel a bit overwhelmed because I thought I was good at spotting digital lies but now I'm not so sure ...

9 Has your opinion on the four statements in exercise 1 changed after watching the video? In pairs, discuss why or why not.



Reflection

Take a few minutes to think about questions 1-3 below. Reflecting on these things can help your learning.

Glossary

the internet.

recording

and looks real.

information.

Acronyms

of 'trolls' (see above).

Misinformation: wrong

AI = artificial Intelligence VFX = visual effects

A troll: a person who leaves intentionally mean messages on

A troll farm: an organised group

A deepfake: a video or sound

that

someone's face and/or voice

replaces

1 What is one thing you will take away from this lesson?

2 Which of these activities did/didn't you like? Why?

3 What are two or three words you would like to learn and try to actively use in your English?



Group Project

Design a poster to warn people about the issues covered in the video. Think about:

- Your target audience
- Key message
- Where the poster will go (print or digital?)