Name _____ Date _____

Misinformation: Checking a Claim Before You Share

Directions: In every question, someone runs into a claim online, and all of the claims are made up. Read each situation carefully before choosing the best answer.

1. Uma sees a post saying the town pool will close for good tomorrow. She feels upset and wants to share it with all her friends right away. What should she do first?

A. Add an angry comment, then share it.

B. Share it fast so everyone hears in time.

C. Share it, since it's only about a pool.

D. Pause and hold off on sharing until she knows whether it's true.

2. Ruben gets a screenshot from a friend that says his school will be closed on Friday. Which is the best place for him to check whether that's true?

A. Another friend who got the same screenshot

B. The comments under the screenshot

C. The school's own website or messages from the school

D. The number of times the screenshot was shared

3. Vince sees a post saying the city zoo is getting a baby giraffe next week. The post doesn't say where the news came from. What is a good way to check it?

A. Trust it, since giraffe news is happy news.

B. See whether reliable sources, like the zoo itself or local news, are reporting the same thing.

C. Check how many likes the post has.

D. Share it and ask friends whether they heard the same thing.

4. Wyatt sees a post that says the skate park is closing, with a link to a news story. When he opens the story, he notices it was published three years ago. What does that tell him?

A. The skate park has closed three times.

B. The information may be out of date, so he should look for newer reports.

C. Old stories are always false.

D. The story must be true, since it has been online for years.

5. Emeka sees this post: "The town library is giving away free tablets to every kid, today only! Share this before it gets deleted!" Which three are warning signs? Choose 3.

☐ A. It doesn't say where the news came from.

☐ B. It is about the town library.

☐ C. It sounds too good to be true.

☐ D. It pushes people to share fast, before it gets deleted.

☐ E. It is only two sentences long.

6. Zane sees a headline that says "Bikes Banned in Town" and wants to share it with his bike club. What should he do before sharing?

A. Share the headline, since headlines tell the whole story.

B. Share it, since most people only read headlines anyway.

C. Change the headline so it sounds even bigger.

D. Read the whole article to see what it actually says.

7. Bianca sees a photo of a moose walking through a grocery store. The caption says it happened at a store in her town this morning. What is a good way to check the caption?

A. Share it, since a photo always shows the truth.

B. Check how many people liked the photo.

C. Search for the photo online to see where and when it first appeared.

D. Add a funny caption of her own and share it.

8. Cyrus sees a post from a company that sells snow shovels. It says, "The biggest blizzard in 100 years hits this weekend! Buy your shovel now!" What should he do?

A. Buy a shovel right away, just in case.

B. Share it so his neighbors buy shovels too.

C. Check a weather service's forecast, since the company may want to sell more shovels.

D. Trust it, since stores always know the weather.

9. Daphne sees an article titled "Local Goldfish Wins Spelling Bee" on The Chucklehorn Herald, a site that says it posts only made-up funny stories. How should she understand the article?

A. It's a joke from a site that makes up funny stories, not real news.

B. She should share it as real news so others hear it.

C. It means goldfish can now enter spelling bees.

D. It's true, since it looks like a news site.

10. Tia's cousin shared a post saying the town fair is canceled. Tia checked the fair's official page, and it says the fair is still happening. What should Tia do?

A. Make fun of her cousin in the comments.

B. Say nothing and share the false post too.

C. Kindly tell her cousin and share the link to the official page.

D. Post that her cousin always gets things wrong.