NewsFeed Defenders

Name:

A. Pros and Cons Relying on Social Media for news and information has its benefits and drawbacks. Brainstorm the positives and negatives in the space below.

B. How to make the most of Social Media news consumption. Pick two drawbacks from your list and suggest ways that you might address these?

C. What makes news... news? Read each of the following elements of high-quality journalism and pick the one you think is the most important. Explain why.

Accuracy. News stories should provide accurate and verifiable information. Sources should be credited and sited.

Transparency. Content must clearly communicate its purpose, especially when it's not a news article. Ex: opinion pieces, advertisements, sponsored content.

Trustworthiness. It's important to know the source of what you read. Make sure the source is legitimate, whether a network or expert.
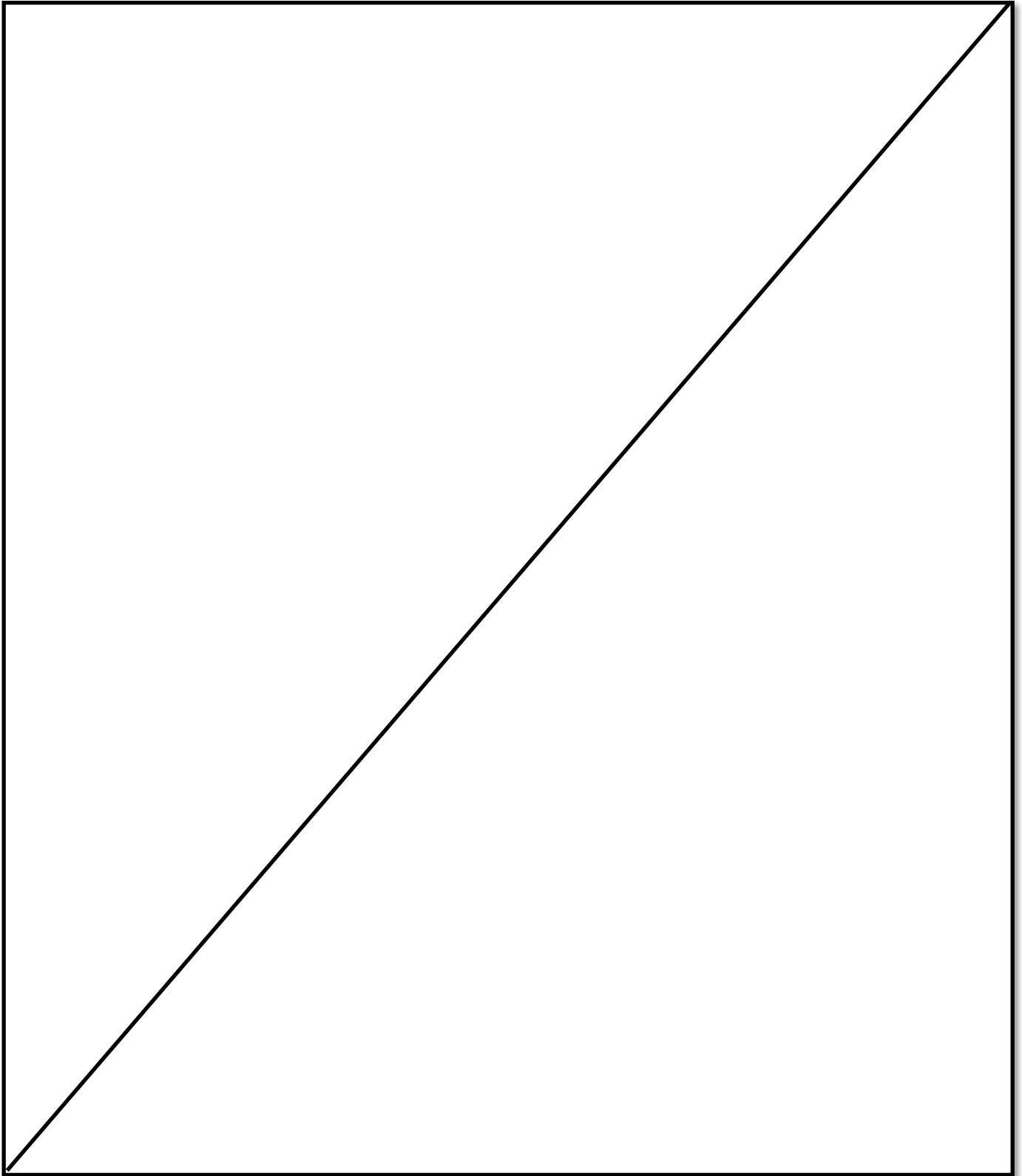
Impartiality. News stories should not show bias in the coverage of an event or topic. If there are multiple sides to a story, they should be provided.

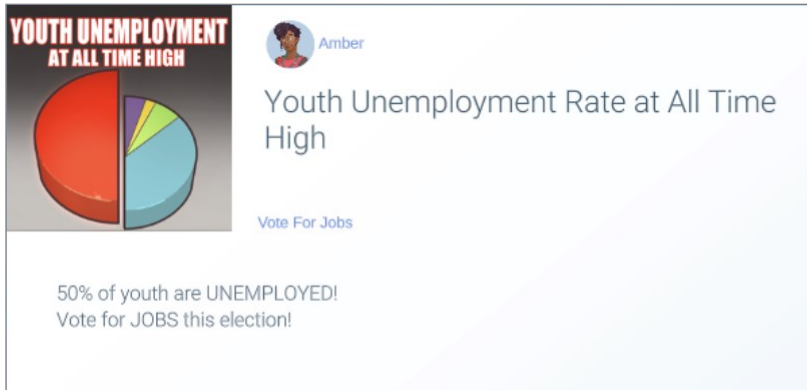Which is most important to you? Why?

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D. But wait, there's more... Sketch a PSA (Public Service Announcement) poster warning people about bots and site mirroring. Be sure to include tips to avoid these deceptive practices.

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E. Digging Deeper Read the two problematic items below and answer the questions to create a plan for further investigation.

This is a deceptive infographic post. What looks or seems "off" about it that might make you want to dig deeper? List all of the things you can think of below:

1. What would you need to know about this post before you felt you could confirm that it was legitimate news?

2. How would you go about answering the questions you've posed?

3. What could be at risk if people believe and spread this false information?

This is a deceptive post that looks like a helpful warning. What looks or seems "off" about it that might make you want to dig deeper? List all of the things you can think of below:

1. What would you need to know about this post before you felt you could confirm that it was legitimate news?

2. How would you go about answering the questions you've posed?

3. What could be at risk if people believe and spread this false information?

NewsFeed Defenders Mini-Quiz

Name:

A. Covering all the Bases . Match each of the four rules of journalism to which aspects of an article, story, or social media post it impacts. You may have more than one answer for a rule.

<u>Elements of a story</u>

_____ 1. The source of the information (*within* a story, like a cited report or interview)

_____ 2. The source of a story (the publisher, network, or website)

_____ 3. The author of the story (who wrote it)

_____ 4. The subject of the story (what is the story about, how is it covered)

<u>The Rules</u>

A - Accuracy

B - Transparency

C - Trustworthiness

D - Impartiality

B. Multiple Choice. Select the best answer for each question.

___ 5. Mirrored news sites deceive readers by creating content that is false and...

    a. taking over the original site for an advertisement.

    b. turning every website into a webcam.

    c. presenting it on a fake version of a credible website.

    d. increasing the traffic for the original site.

___ 6. Internet bots can sway public opinion by:

    a. Inflating the impact of a social media post through faked likes, retweets, etc.

    b. Creating and blasting biased content to inflame people's opinions on an issue

    c. Creating fake popularity and reputations of people who by the bot traffic

    d. All of the above

C. True or False? Select the best answer for each question. Write *true* or *false* in the space

_____ 7. Everything you read online is either 100% false or 100% real. It's easy to spot.

_____ 8. There are no credible sources on the internet. It's impossible to trust what you read.

_____ 9. It is difficult to create deceptive content on the internet and share it.

10. Select one false statement and rewrite it, correcting the mistake below.

D. Now What? Based on what you have learned from playing NewsFeed Defenders, create a 3- to 5-step plan for checking out a post on social media for the next time you encounter something rotten.