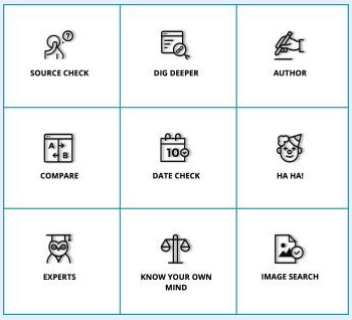
ARE YOU READY?

TIP: Use the toolbox and find the right tool to help you investigate whether the report is true or fake.



CHALLENGE 3:

WHAT'S THE POINT OF MONEY WHEN WE'RE DEALING WITH A PANDEMIC? ITALIANS THROW MONEY IN THE STREETS

There are lots of videos about the coronavirus on the video sharing app TikTok. In March 2020 , a post went viral that supposedly showed a street in Italy littered with bank notes as people made a point that money means nothing compared to the coronavirus. The video started as a Facebook post, then was taken over on TikTok and circulated in many other formats. Here's a screenshot from the video.

It shows a lot of bills on the pavement with the comment "In Italy they throw their money on the streets. A clear message to the whole world that money is not enough when health be in danger". It's easy to believe this could be true because many people were contaminated in Italy and Italians found themselves very sad about this. But did this scene really happen? Is it fact or fake? You'll need your tools again to complete this task.

Information about the source:

This is a screenshot of a Facebook post that was turned into a video that was posted on TikTok

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TASK A

Check to see where the video has been posted.

1. Take a close look at the source: What is the App best known for?

2. Can you trust this source? Explain your answer.

TOP TIP:

To check if a video is real, you have to look not only at the video itself, but also at the place where it appeared.

Important: There are sites that are more trustworthy than others: On social media sites like Tik Tok or Instagram anyone can upload something at any time. This also means that a lot of content is published by people who may not be that well-informed and often don't have the goal to inform you. That's why you will also come across a lot of false information on social media

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TASK B

1. Find out more about the author: who posted the video? Who made the video? What do you know about the people behind the video?

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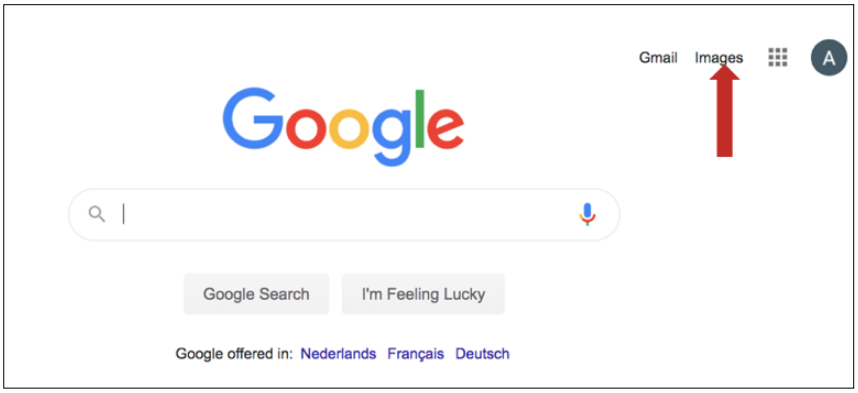
TASK C

You have already used the reverse image search when you investigated the penguin video. It's time to practice what you've learned. Use the same tool to examine this video. Since you already have a screenshot of this image, you can start at point 3 of the previous instructions you were given

- ☐ Save the image shown on the first page of this handout or take a photo of it. Save the image file, e.g. news-challenge.jpg. This will help you find it again more easily.
- ☐ Go onto the internet and find the page www.google.com
- ☐ Click on the word 'Images' on the top right-hand corner of the screen.



- ☐ You will see a small black camera under the Google logo. Now click on the camera, which will take you to the reverse image search tool.
- ☐ You can then upload the image (panic-buying.jpg).
- ☐ The reverse image search tool will now search the entire internet for your image.
- ☐ It's now time to take a good look at the results. This is really going to help you!

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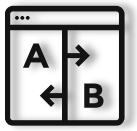
TASK D

You will see a long list of websites. Use the search results to help you find out the truth about the video.



1. What can you find out?

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

2. When was this video first posted?

_____

3. Use your common sense. Does the report make sense to you? Do you think this report is true or has it been made up?

   ☐ fact

   ☐ fake

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

TOP TIP:

Look at the following websites that are listed when you carried out the reverse image search.

- bbc.com/news/reality_check
- fullfact.org

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TASK E

Use your common sense and ask yourself:

Does the report make any sense to you?

Read through your previous answers again to tackle the following questions

1. Why do you think this video was created?

2. Why do you think it's important to check these kinds of reports before you share them with your friends? What kind of consequences could there be if people believe this report?

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TASK F

SUMMARY AND YOUR QUESTIONS

1. This was the third and final news challenge. Did you enjoy it? If so, why? If not, why not?

2. What surprised you the most?

So that's all for today. Thank you for taking part in these news challenges - you've been really young reporters

Until then! Best wishes from the Lie Detectors Team.

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Lie Detectors
CRITICAL THINKING

ANSWER SHEET

CHALLENGE 3:

WHAT'S THE POINT OF MONEY WHEN WE'RE DEALING WITH A PANDEMIC? ITALIANS THROW MONEY IN THE STREETS.

TASK A

1. Take a close look at the source here: What is this app best known for?
2. Can you trust this source? Explain your answer.

Answers to task A

1. Platforms such as TikTok, Instagram, and YouTube are primarily known for short, funny videos or great pictures. Anyone can upload whatever they want onto the site. Most of these uploads are funny and harmless—but this also leaves open the possibility for misinformation.
2. You need to be careful with this source, since anyone can upload to social media sites. This means that content can be published by people who don't really know what they're talking about, or who simply aren't trying to inform you.

TASK B

1. Who posted this report? What do you know about the people behind the video?

Answers to task B

1. The video was uploaded by channel@manishdaha148. We don't know about this user, because it was the first video that he (or she, or they) ever uploaded. We also don't know the real names of the people who run the channel, because they haven't shared anything about their background. So, as a result, we should be a bit suspicious, or at least very careful, about the content they post.

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TASK C:

There aren't any questions to answer here, but you've probably found lots of pictures and videos.

TASK D:

You're now seeing a number of different web sites. Read through the headlines.

1. What did you find out?
2. When was the video first posted?
3. True or false?

Answers to task D:

1. Whether you're working on a phone or a computer, a Google search will bring up more information, including several articles by Reuters, which is an international news organization that employs professional journalists. They spend their days writing stories and double-checking whether things on the internet are real or fake—including content like this video. As soon as you start reading, you'll probably quickly realize that the video has nothing to do with the coronavirus.
2. March, 2019
3. Fact or fake? This video about throwing money into the streets out of despair during the coronavirus epidemic is **fake**! This video is **misleading**—it's trying to make you believe false information. It's possible to detect a small kernel of truth in this report. The video does in fact show a bunch of money in the streets. But this happened a year ago—and on another continent—following a bank robbery. It has absolutely nothing to do with the coronavirus.

DID YOU KNOW?

…that you can earn a lot of money through clicks on the internet? This includes "clickbait," which is what it's called when you try to get people to read an article or share a video with a particularly crazy headline. This content often doesn't deliver on what the headline promises—you've probably come across this before. Some YouTube influencers, for example, earn very good livings this way. Fake news posts are usually especially crazy in order to attract a lot of attention and get a lot of clicks—and a lot of money.

TASK E:

1. Why do you think this video was created?

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2. Why do you think it's important to double-check a post like this, instead of immediately sharing it with friends?

Answers to task E

1. Why was this video created? There are many reasons. Maybe through videos like these someone wants:
   - ☐ to upset people
   - ☐ to make us afraid that soon there will be nothing more to buy or to eat
   - ☐ to attract attention. This video from a new TikTok account called "Viral Videos Germany" was clicked more than 4 million times. And on the internet, clicks mean money.
   - ☐ to create suspicion that supermarkets and even government authorities aren't properly prepared
   - ☐ to do nothing harmful on purpose. Many people share fake reports without any bad intentions. They personally have fallen for a fake, and they're just passing it along.
2. So why is it important to always double-check these kinds of reports before you share them? It's important because:
   - ☐ It can frighten people
   - ☐ It can upset people or make them feel extra hopeless for no reason
   - ☐ In this way, it can lead people to make bad or uninformed decisions
   - ☐ Even if it was supposed to be a joke, people could actually believe it
   - ☐ No one likes to fall for a lie!

DID YOU KNOW?

…The most common reasons people spread hoxes are for fun, for money, or for power.

- ☐ *Fun: Many people spread fake news by accident, or without any bad intentions. They're just trying to have fun. This doesn't sound like a big deal at first, but it can be dangerous.*
- ☐ *Money: On the internet, clicks mean money and fake news can bring in lots of clicks. This is how some people turn take news into a business. This includes "clickbait," which you've probably heard of, or come across before.*
- ☐ *Power: This is probably the biggest motivation. In many cases, fake news is used in politics or business to hurt someone else's reputation, or to make the person or people posting it look better.*

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