

One reason misinformation can be successful is because it combines lies, half-truths and emotive content so people react without thinking. This activity uses the Six thinking hats approach to practice slowing down and considering an example of misinformation from different perspectives.

This activity is designed to follow on from GAP's Misinformation video lesson, but can also be included in other courses on critical thinking and media literacy.

Thinking hats



White = facts



Yellow = positivity



Red = emotions



Green - action



Black = criticality



Blue = metacognition
(for instructions & discussion)

Activity aim:

Explore recent examples of misinformation from several different perspectives.

You will need:

- 1 printed copy of all pages of this document, single-sided
- 5 devices, 1 per group

Time needed: 45 - 60 minutes

Connections to learning outcomes

JC CSPE	2.10, 3.12, 3.13
JC SPHE	1.3, 1.7, 2.7, 2.8, 4.9
LC CASD	2.5
LC Computer Science	1.12

To do:

- Create 5 stations. At each station, place a set of questions (from pages 2 - 6) and a post (from pages 7-11).
- Arrange students into 5 groups, 1 at each station.
- Using your blue hat, give instructions. Each group should:
 - Read the context for the post (under 1)
 - Scan and watch the post (under 2)
 - Discuss the post using the questions on their hat.
- Give the group 3-5 minutes to discuss the post using their questions, then give a signal for students to move (e.g. clockwise) to the next station. They will now discuss the same post using different questions.
- Repeat until students have discussed one post using 5 different hats.
- Discuss in plenary.

Questions? Comments?
Broken links? Better examples?

[Leave feedback here](#) or at the QR code!

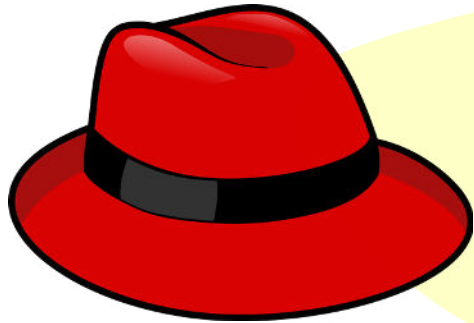




White hat

Thinking about facts

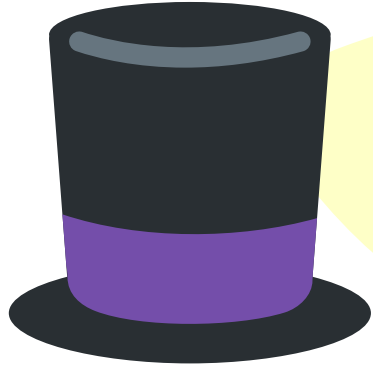
- What is the source of this post?
- How reliable is the source?
- What in this post can be proven or disproven?
- What might be a better source for this?



Red hat

Thinking about emotions

- How did this post make me feel?
- What emotions might others feel?
- What words and images are used to create these emotions?



Black hat

Thinking critically

- What assumptions or stereotypes does this post rely on?
- What is the narrative behind this post?
- Who might benefit if people accept this narrative? Who might suffer?



Yellow hat

Positive thinking

- Who deserves support in this situation?
- How might I show solidarity with them?
- Can I say something positive about the person who posted this? What is that?



Green hat

Thinking about action

- How might I respond in a useful way?
- How can I connect with the people affected by this post?
- Who is working on this issue already? Can I support them?

1.

- This is a screenshot purporting to be the headline and image from a news article. The headline reads “A recent study shows that people who identify as LGBTQ have a lower IQ than average”.
- **The article is very likely fake.** The image contains no author, publisher or date, and a keyword search of online databases yielded no results.
- **There seems to be no study** that suggests that LGBTQ+ people have a lower than average IQ.

2.



Michael Dennis Obonyo on Facebook

1.

- The video purports to show security camera footage of a classroom where a teacher is leading children in islamic prayer.
- **This video is definitely faked** using AI. When the teacher sits back, a chair appears behind her. Many of the children have blurry or transparent heads, glitches common in AI-generated footage.
- **False claims are often shared** about children being “indoctrinated into Islam” in schools in anti-Muslim or anti-migrant groups.

[thejournal.ie](https://www.thejournal.ie)

2.



@DaveAtherton20 on X

1.

- The video shows President Trump changing the medical advice that doctors can give to pregnant women. In future, they won't prescribe acetomenaphin or Tylenol (we call it paracetamol) as he claims it is linked to increased autism rates in children.
- **There is no scientific evidence** to suggest that paracetamol usage while pregnant is linked to autism in children.
- Women can experience fevers and pains during pregnancy that, if untreated, can cause problems for them or their child.
- Autism has a variety of genetic and environmental factors and there is no single simple cause..

2.



@latimes on Youtube

1.

- The post has video of a Kneecap gig in Cuba and images of a hospital without power. The text suggests that the concert caused a power outage which consequently led to the deaths of patients on ventilators.
- Kneecap were in Cuba supporting an international effort to bring aid to the country, and the night they played a concert there was an energy blackout. **There is no evidence people in the hospital died.**
- Cuba is currently being blocked from receiving oil shipments by the United States, a more likely cause of the blackout.

2.

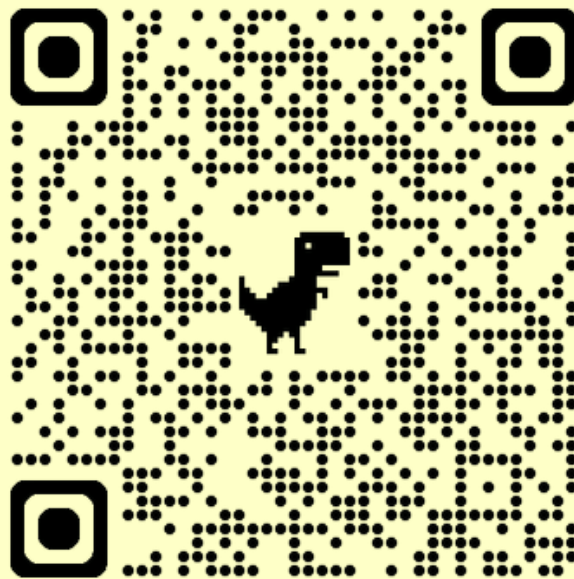


@Rightanglenews on X

1.

- The video shows a woman presenting 5 different kinds of men and their qualities, dividing them into alpha, beta, delta, gamma and sigma types.
- There's **no scientific basis** for dividing people into these five categories; it's based on observations of animals but is considered an oversimplification when applied to humans.
- Dividing people in this way can denigrate certain personality traits, for instance empathy and cooperation, as weak or negative. It values and promotes other behaviours, such as aggression and assertiveness.

2.



@WFFNews on Tiktok