**TEN QUESTIONS FOR NEWS DETECTION**

*Use the questions below to assess the likelihood that a piece of information is fake news. The more red flags you circle, the more skeptical you should be!*

1. **Gauge your emotional reaction:**
   - Is it **strong**? Are you **angry**? Are you intensely **hoping** that the information turns out to be true? False?

2. **Reflect on how you encountered this.** Was it promoted on a website? Did it show up in a social media feed? Was it sent to you by someone you know?

3. **Consider the headline or main message:**
   - Does it use excessive punctuation(!!) or ALL CAPS for emphasis?
   - Does it make a claim about containing a secret or telling you something that "the media" doesn’t want you to know?
   - Don’t stop at the headline! Keep exploring.

4. **Is this information designed for easy sharing, like a meme?**

5. **Consider the source of the information:**
   - Is it a well-known source?
   - Is there a byline (an author’s name) attached to this piece?
   - Go to the website’s "About" section: Does the site describe itself as a "fantasy news" or "satirical news" site?
   - Does the person or organization that produced the information have any editorial standards?
   - Does the “contact us” section include an email address that matches the domain (not a Gmail or Yahoo email address)?
   - Does a quick search for the name of the website raise any suspicions?

6. **Does the example you’re evaluating have a current date on it?**

7. **Does the example cite a variety of sources, including official and expert sources?** Does the information this example provides appear in reports from (other) news outlets?

8. **Does the example hyperlink to other quality sources?** In other words, they haven’t been altered or taken from another context?

9. **Can you confirm, using a reverse image search, that any images in your example are authentic (in other words, sources that haven’t been altered or taken from another context)?**

10. **If you searched for this example on a fact-checking site such as Snopes.com, FactCheck.org or PolitiFact.com, is there a fact-check that labels it as less than true?**

   **REMEMBER:**
   - It is easy to clone an existing website and create fake tweets to fool people.
   - Bots are extremely active on social media and are designed to dominate conversations and spread propaganda.
   - Fake news and other misinformation often use a real image from an unrelated event.
   - Debunk examples of misinformation whenever you see them. It’s good for democracy!