

English

Grade 12

Comparing texts and sources

Judge how reliable a source is and compare how two texts present the same topic.



I can evaluate sources and compare perspectives.



1 Complete the table

Fill in the empty boxes.

Question to ask	What it tells you
Who is the author?	
When was it published?	
What is the purpose?	
What evidence is given?	
Can it be cross-checked?	

2 Pick the answer

Circle the right answer.

1. Which source is usually most reliable for a scientific claim?

A A peer-reviewed journal article

B An anonymous social media post

C An advert for a product

2. Two articles report the same event with different tone. This most likely shows...

A that one is fake

B different perspectives or purposes

C a printing error

3

**Quick check**

Circle true or false.

1. A source can be biased and still contain correct facts.
2. If a website looks professional, it is always reliable.
3. A primary source is always more reliable than a secondary source.
4. Finding out who paid for a study can reveal a conflict of interest.
5. A satirical article is meant to be read as serious news.
6. Photos can be edited or taken out of context.

True

False

True

False

True

False

True

False

True

False

True

False

4

**Primary or secondary?**

Write each source in the right column.

A letter written by a factory worker in 1900

A history textbook chapter about factories

A photo taken at the event

A documentary made 50 years later

An interview with an eyewitness

An encyclopedia article

Primary source**Secondary source**

5



What is the purpose?

Draw a line from each text to its main purpose.

☐

Product advert

☐

Encyclopedia entry

☐

Opinion column

☐

Satirical website

☐

Road-safety poster



● A. to change how people behave

● B. to sell something

● C. to entertain with humour

● D. to inform

● E. to persuade readers of a view

6



Source vocabulary

Use each word once: sponsored, bias, cross-check, anonymous, date.

1. An article paid for by a company but made to look like news is _____ content.
2. When a text unfairly favours one side, it shows _____.
3. To _____ a claim, look for the same information in other independent sources.
4. A post with no name and no sources is _____, so it is hard to judge.
5. For fast-changing topics such as technology, always check the publication _____.

7



Compare two headlines

Headline A: "Council approves new cycle lanes on Main Street." Headline B: "Council forces drivers off Main Street with costly cycle lanes." Circle the best answer.

1. Which headline is more neutral?

A Headline A

B Headline B

C They are equally neutral

2. Which words in headline B are loaded?

A "forces" and "costly"

B "Council" and "Main Street"

C "cycle" and "lanes"

3. Headline B most likely aims to...

A inform in a neutral way

B make readers angry about the decision

C sell bicycles

4. What should you do before trusting either headline?

A Read only the headline

B Read both articles and check the facts in other sources

C Share them straight away

8



Think and write

Find two texts about the same news topic. Compare their purpose, tone and use of evidence.

How did it go?



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Answer key

Comparing texts and sources

Judge how reliable a source is and compare how two texts present the same topic.



I can evaluate sources and compare perspectives.



1



Complete the table

Fill in the empty boxes.

Question to ask	What it tells you
Who is the author?	expertise and possible bias
When was it published?	whether it is up to date
What is the purpose?	to inform, persuade, sell or entertain
What evidence is given?	how well claims are supported
Can it be cross-checked?	whether other sources agree

2



Pick the answer

Circle the right answer.

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True

False

True

False

True

False

True

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Write each source in the right column.

A letter written by a factory worker in 1900

A history textbook chapter about factories

A photo taken at the event

A documentary made 50 years later

An interview with an eyewitness

An encyclopedia article

Primary source

A letter written by a factory worker in 1900, A photo taken at the event, An interview with an eyewitness

Secondary source

A history textbook chapter about factories, A documentary made 50 years later, An encyclopedia article

5



What is the purpose?

Draw a line from each text to its main purpose.

B Product advert ●

D Encyclopedia entry ●

E Opinion column ●

C Satirical website ●

A Road-safety poster ●

● **A.** to change how people behave

● **B.** to sell something

● **C.** to entertain with humour

● **D.** to inform

● **E.** to persuade readers of a view

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