# News Literacy Checklist

*Use this checklist to help you assess the news source and identify the news type.*

**News Types:** Traditional | Biased | Clickbait | Satire | Fake News

## 1. How are you feeling?
- What kind of reaction are you having to the news?
- Did the author intend to anger or shock you to get more shares?

## 2. Where is it from?
- How many detailed facts are provided by the news source? Do you need to investigate further? Is only one side of the story presented?

## 3. Check the headline
- Is the headline directly related to the content of the article? Does it shock or draw you in?

## 4. Consider the source
- What is the caliber of the news organization? Has it been around for many years?
- What does the About Us section tell you?
- Who is the author? What can you find out about them?
- What is the method for contact? Does the email address look legitimate?
- Has the URL been manipulated to resemble a more legitimate news source?

## 5. Studies show...
- If the news source is citing other sources, can you find the original study that they are citing? What do you think the original study is saying?

## 6. Triangulation
- Can you use Google to find at least three separate sources that echo this same piece of news?

## 7. Non-partisan websites
- How do these websites assess the news?
  - politifact.org
  - factcheck.org

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Source: Adapted from Erinn Salge’s presentation “News Literacy: Truthiness and the Truth and Everything in Between”, shared online in December 2016.