

## ILE LISTENING STAGE

Listen to the radio interview about how false information spreads and do the exercises to practise and improve your listening skills.

### Preparation BEFORE YOU LISTEN

Match the vocabulary with the correct definition and write a–j next to the numbers 1–10. WRITE NUMBER AND LETTER IN YOUR SHEET

- |                                 |                                                                    |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1..... inaccuracies             | a. to prove that something is true                                 |
| 2..... to vaccinate             | b. to write or say the words of a writer, book, etc.               |
| 3..... to cite                  | c. an African mammal with a long nose that eats ants               |
| 4..... measles                  | d. a plan to trick or deceive someone                              |
| 5..... an aardvark              | e. to intentionally damage property belonging to others            |
| 6..... a hoax                   | f. to change something so that it doesn't work as intended         |
| 7..... to vandalise             | g. statements that are not correct                                 |
| 8..... to verify                | h. not based on facts or proof                                     |
| 9..... to tamper with something | i. to give a person an injection to prevent them getting a disease |
| 10..... unfounded               | j. an infectious disease which covers the body in small red spots  |

### Check your understanding: multiple choice

Write the best answer to these questions. WRITE FULL SENTENCE IN YOUR SHEET

1. Which statement about circular reporting is true?

- a. It is the spread of true information.
- b. It is when false information is validated by one other source only.
- c. It only occurs with information on Wikipedia.
- d. It may involve several publications.

2. Which statement is true about journalists?

- a. They are not permitted to copy information from Wikipedia.
- b. They refuse to copy information from Wikipedia.
- c. As soon as they include information in an article, they verify the information.
- d. Many journalists may publish inaccuracies in several articles.

3. Which statement is correct?

- a. Another name for a coati is a Brazilian aardvark.
- b. The American student changed the information on Wikipedia to what he believed to be the truth.
- c. Many people believed that a Brazilian aardvark was the same as a coati.

d. When writers wrote about the Brazilian aardvark they knew it was a joke.

4. Which statement is true about Wikipedia?

- a. Some people add false content to a Wikipedia entry intentionally.
- b. Updating information on Wikipedia is against the law.
- c. There is hardly any true information on Wikipedia.
- d. Many true facts on Wikipedia initially appear as false information.

5. What is true about childhood vaccines and autism?

- a. There is a clear connection between childhood vaccines and autism.
- b. Circular reporting incited many parents not to vaccinate their children.
- c. The claims that they were connected first appeared on Wikipedia.
- d. The media proved early on that the claims about vaccines and autism were false.

6. Which statement is correct?

- a. Generally speaking, it's easy to identify false information.
- b. If the original source is Wikipedia or the media, the information is almost always false.
- c. Reflecting critically on what we read is something most people often do.
- d. Lack of time to think and investigate can cause us to believe things that aren't true.

Check your understanding: gap fill Complete the expressions from the audio with a phrase from the list: WRITE THE FULL SENTENCE IN YOUR SHEET

- a. take things at face value
- b. by any means
- c. spread like wildfire
- d. In a nutshell
- e. thought nothing more of it
- f. in no way

1. \_\_\_\_\_ (using as few words as possible), it's the confirmation of false information.

2. ... and \_\_\_\_\_ (not at all) is obvious as being false.

3. ... then he forgot about it and \_\_\_\_\_ (spent no time thinking about it).

4. That's not to say that all information on Wikipedia is false \_\_\_\_\_ (not at all).

5. ... unsupported claims were picked up by the media and \_\_\_\_\_ (became known by lots of people very quickly).

6. We often \_\_\_\_\_ (accept things as they appear, rather than thinking carefully about them).