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## Claims

- 1) Your best friend tells you that peaches are packed with antioxidants, and can therefore make you taller.
- 2) Your aunt reposts an article that claims that global temperatures won't rise by 2050.
- 3) Your friend tells you that social media makes everyone depressed.
- 4) Your dad tells you that you should go back-to-school shopping on Amazon because they have a promotion where everything is 90% off.
- 5) A peach farmer puts up a lawn advertisement claiming that, because peaches are packed with antioxidants, they can make you taller.
- 6) A news site funded and operated by fossil fuel companies posts an article claiming that global temperatures are set to increase by 0.5 degrees Celsius in the next 50 years.
- 7) A social media platform publishes a report that establishes that screen time and social media have no effect on attention span and focus.
- 8) Your teacher tells you that peaches are packed with antioxidants, and can therefore help reduce the risk of cancer.
- 9) A webpage operated by an elected government claims that temperatures will rise by more than 1.5 degrees Celsius by 2050.
- 10) A scientific article published by the *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* claims that social media influencers are an increasingly important channel for publicity and marketing.

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## Answers

### MISINFORMATION

- 1) Your best friend tells you that peaches are packed with antioxidants, and can therefore make you taller.
  - This information is false.
  - Your friend has your best interests in mind, and would not try to mislead you.
  - Therefore, this is misinformation.
  
- 2) Your aunt reposts an article that claims that global temperatures won't rise by 2050.
  - This information is false.
  - Your aunt believes it to be true.
  - Her repost is an example of misinformation, but the article itself could be an example of disinformation.
  
- 3) Your friend tells you that social media makes everyone depressed.
  - This information has elements of truth to it – social media is sometimes connected to higher rates of depression and anxiety – but it does not necessarily cause depression in everyone.
  - Your friend has your best interests in mind, and would not try to mislead you.
  - Therefore, this is misinformation.
  
- 4) Your dad tells you that you should go back-to-school shopping on Amazon because they have a promotion where everything is 90% off.
  - This information is false.
  - Your dad believes it to be true.
  - Therefore, this is an example of misinformation.

### DISINFORMATION

- 1) A peach farmer puts up a lawn advertisement claiming that, because peaches are packed with antioxidants, they can make you taller.
  - This information is false.
  - The peach farmer's aim is to get you to buy peaches. He is misleading you intentionally.
  - This is an example of disinformation.

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- 2) A news site funded and operated by fossil fuel companies posts an article claiming that global temperatures are set to increase by 0.5 degrees Celsius in the next 50 years.
    - This information is false.
    - The news site is under the control of fossil fuel companies, and is downplaying the progress of global warming in order to get people to keep buying and using fossil fuels. It is misleading you intentionally.
    - This is an example of disinformation.
  
  - 3) A social media platform publishes a report that establishes that screen time and social media have no effect on attention span and focus.
    - This information is false.
    - Social media platforms want to keep people scrolling. They are intentionally misleading you.
    - This is an example of disinformation.

### TRUE INFORMATION

- 1) Your teacher tells you that peaches are packed with antioxidants, and can therefore help reduce the risk of cancer.
  - This information is true.
  
- 2) A webpage operated by an elected government claims that temperatures will rise by more than 1.5 degrees Celsius by 2050.
  - This information is true.
  
- 3) A scientific article published by the *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* claims that social media influencers are an increasingly important channel for publicity and marketing.
  - This information is true. However, it does not mean that the information provided by social media influencers is necessarily correct or true.