

The Book

True or False: A CIA Analyst's Guide to Spotting Fake News

by: Cindy L. Otis

"Fake news" is a term you've probably heard a lot in the last few years, but it's not a new phenomenon. From the ancient Egyptians, to the French Revolution, to Jack the Ripper and the founding fathers, fake news has been around as long as human civilization. But that doesn't mean that we should just give up on the idea of finding the truth. In True or False, former CIA analyst Cindy Otis will take readers through the history and impact of misinformation over the centuries, sharing stories from the past and insights that readers today can gain from them. Then, she shares lessons learned in over a decade working for the CIA, including actionable tips on how to spot fake news, how to make sense of the information we receive each day, and, perhaps most importantly, how to understand and see past our own information biases, so that we can think critically about important issues and put events happening around us into context.



Where Can I Get the Book?

Purchase at any book store or online retailer such as Amazon.

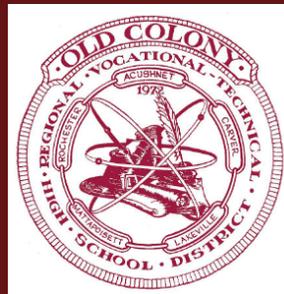
Free print, e-book or audiobook through your local library.

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Summer Reading 2021

Incoming Juniors & Seniors

So you just finished reading the book... what are you going to do next?

The Assignment

Create and design a Fake News Infographic using Canva or Piktochart.

Infographic Project Requirements

- Introduction/Topic
 - Explain what fake news is, how to spot it and how to be more proactive in avoiding it in the future. Include 3 pieces of textual evidence from the book to support your explanation. Be sure to cite the evidence properly.
- 3 examples of Fake News in the world today (not mentioned in the book)
 - Investigate 3 examples of fake news and the true stories behind them. Write a paragraph or two for each example that is a clear and interesting explanation of what the Fake News is, the intention behind it and what the real story is.
 - Clearly label and cite in MLA format all 3 examples of Fake News stories and their true stories.
- Conclusion
 - Write a brief summary convincing the viewer of the real dangers and pitfalls of Fake News and why we should be aware and cautious of what we read and share.
- Visual
 - Use appropriate images, pictures, graphics, etc. to enhance meaning and stories of other requirements.
- Layout/Colors/Font
 - The layout of the infographic is logical and easy for the viewer to follow.
 - Colors used clearly enhance the infographic. It is readable and engaging.
 - Font is neat and easily readable.
- Language
 - Correct capitalization, punctuation, and grammar.
 - No informal/slang language is used.

Useful Links

Fake News Project Requirement & Rubric:

<https://bit.ly/3uXDknf>

What Makes a Bad Infographic:

<https://bit.ly/3ydV0Nw>

Infographic Layout Cheat Sheet:

<https://bit.ly/3flWFr0>

Due on August 31st

Be sure to put effort and thought into this assignment and check for spelling, grammar and punctuation errors.

You will submit and "turn it in" on your ELA Google Classroom the first day of school.

The novel will be a topic of discussion in your class at the beginning of the school year.

