



The 5 C's of Critical Thinking

When following the media, consider asking the following questions:

1. **Context** - Look at the context of the content

When was it written? Where does it come from? Have the events changed since the time it was originally created? Research is key when following the media, it is possible that any new-found information could change your perspective on the entire story.

2. **Credibility** - Checking the credibility of the source is important

Does the source have an integer reputation? Sometimes publishers post advertisements and pose them as a real news story, be careful!

3. **Construction** - Analyze the construction of the story

What is the bias? Are there any unnecessary words? Any propaganda techniques? Keep in mind to distinguish between the facts and opinions and be mindful of media stories that are simply speculating their personal opinions.

4. **Confirmation** - Analyze the construction of the story

Make sure it's not the only source making that specific claim. If it is, there's a good chance it's not an accurate story!

5. **Compare** - Compare the story to other sources to get different perspectives

Find other credible sources to provide nuance and get a bigger picture of what's actually happening.