

Documentation Thursday

On Thursday, after the warm-up, we split up in two groups and went to two different workshops. One was called «fake or not fake» and was presented by Ajo Monzó.

First she talked about the situation of the Internet and in which cases we use it. There are about 4 billion people on the Internet. There we lose a part of our privacy and that's a weakness. Nowadays the Internet is like an «invisible city». In this city, it is very easy to tell false stories or even to have a false identity, which she showed us in a game. Two students had to tell a story from their life, one told us the truth and the other one lied, we checked the facts by asking questions about the stories and then we decided whose story was wrong.

In that case it were just stories but that's exactly what happens very easily online. If you want to check whether an article is fake or not, you have to consider the five C's:

- context
- credibility
- construction
- cooperation
- compare

Together we can collect more knowledge than on our own, so we did another activity on the consequences of fake news.

Therefore we split up again in seven groups and Ajo gave every group a poster with a different title. Every group wrote their thoughts on the following topics on the posters: health consequences, ideas to combat fake news, learning consequences, political consequences, relationship consequences, publicity and what the best partners are to combat fake news.

Afterwards we learned how to recognize fake news, we got time to analyze online news from different countries and we had to find out respectively to guess if the news were fake or not. We finished the workshop by presenting the news to each other.

The second workshop was with Miquel who is a teacher at IES Binissalem. He taught us about the impacts of fake news. First he asked us where we get our information from.

A graph showed us that 57 % of US American adults get them on TV, 38% online, 25 % from the radio and 20% from newspapers. Afterwards he presented a video "Do we still care about the truth". People all over the world were asked that question and most of them answered "yes".

Then Miquel split us into groups. We got the task to choose one out of three articles on "Voluntary or mandatory voting". One of them listed facts while the other two expressed opinions. Each group had to decide and explain to the others which article they would share with friends.

After this he explained to us the difference between fact and opinion. "A Fact is something that can be checked and backed up with evidence. An opinion is based on a belief or point of view. It is not based on evidence that can be checked."

He pointed out how to detect fake news: Capital letters in headlines and texts, missing sources, spelling mistakes, dramatical punctuation (e.g. !!!!!) and correct context.

Sometimes you have to be aware of fake websites that pretend to be well-known news websites and only differ from them in one letter in the domain.

Another important aspect is the publisher's credibility, for example you can check the domain name, the 'about us' info, and information about the author.

In order to test our knowledge, we did an online quiz. It was a competition and a lot of fun!