

A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words

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Keywords: picture, newspaper article, Internet, critical thinking

Time: 60 minutes

Age group: Teenagers (the idea can be adapted to younger learners, as in most cases)

Learning outcomes: Given the picture and two short articles about it, the students will be able to discuss about the validity and reliability of the information they find on the internet. They will write a 100-150 words newspaper article in the form of an argumentative essay.

Warm –up

Show students this picture.



Tell them to ask questions about it – one of the students writes the questions on the bb, the rest of them are writing the questions in their notebooks.

(Where is this? Why are these chairs in the woods? How did they get there?...)

(10 minutes)

Activity 1

When they have written the questions, divide them into groups and ask them to answer these questions, they should use their imagination, there's no right or wrong answer (at this point).

When they have finished, each group reads their story, and we compare them.

(10 minutes)

Activity 2

Now, the teacher reads this to the students.

These chairs were laid out for a wedding in 1939 in Poland. The wedding was abandoned, and so were the chairs due to the German invasion. They were found again after the war with the trees growing through them. Every year they are repainted.



The students comment – whether they like the story – whether they think it’s true...

Whether they think it’s true story or not, ask them to justify their assumption.

I think... because... on one hand/on the other hand/therefore/however...

(10 minutes)

Activity 3

The teacher now shows the students the following article

Fact Check > Fauxtography > Arts

Second (World War) Chair

An intriguing image of chairs with trees growing through them does not stem from an ill-fated wedding in Poland in 1939 halted by the onset of World War II.

 Kim LaCapria
Jul 15, 2015

 **740**

SHARE



FACT CHECK: Does a photograph show chairs set up for a wedding in Poland in 1939 that were abandoned due to the start of World War II?



Origins: The above-related tale about a photograph of still-cared-for chairs symbolizing a wedding in Poland that was called off due to the onset of World War II in 1939 is a poignant and touching narrative, but it's a false backstory that has become attached to an entirely unrelated image. (One would have wonder about the likelihood that all these chairs were somehow precisely located in spots where trees would later grow up between their seats and backs).

What is actually seen above is an [art installation](#) (entitled "The Four Seasons of Vivaldi") created along the road between Haut-bois and Faulx in Namur, Belgium, in 2001 by French conceptual artist/sculptor [Patrick Demazeau](#).

Much of Demazeau's work involves the juxtaposition of furniture and nature, which symbolizes the trees (who spend their lives standing) offering seats to share with the walkers and dreamers who come across them:

Show the article on projector and ask student to read it individually.

After reading the article, the students discuss – what they thought before – which story is true story – why it is important to double-check the “facts” you find on the internet...

Show the students these two photos – two more installations from the same artist.



(10 minutes)

Activity 4

In their groups, the students write a newspaper article, the title of which is “Should you believe everything you read on the Internet?”.

They should use all the information previously provided about this picture, and write a short article.


Each group read their article.

(20 minutes)

For homework, teacher encourages students to try and find on the internet a site or an application through which they can make their article look like a real article in the newspaper. The teacher suggested this link, <http://newspaper.jaguarpaw.co.uk/>, but the students were encouraged to search more, and find different ones.

Should you believe everything you read on the internet

Latest News!
by ANABELLA PLETICOV



Should you believe everything you read on the internet? The answer is no, everything is possible. This is the main way to explain the use of some very easy to be misused pictures. For example, at least the famous World War II photograph of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima. This was taken by a Japanese soldier who was in the city at the time. The picture was used to show the damage caused by the atomic bombing. However, it is not clear if the picture is real or if it was created by a Japanese soldier who was in the city at the time. The picture was used to show the damage caused by the atomic bombing. However, it is not clear if the picture is real or if it was created by a Japanese soldier who was in the city at the time.

International Moose Count Underway
by BOB O'CONNOR

The UN-sponsored International Moose Count got off to a flying start today with hopes for an increase in the worldwide moose population. The counting is being carried out in the United States, with the largest increase in the population of moose in the world seen in the last year.

According to Bobbie McMillan, head of the US Moose Foundation, Canada does not have as many moose as the United States, with the largest increase in the population of moose in the world seen in the last year.

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The New York Times

Should you believe everything you read on the Internet?
By MELICA VULOVIC, MELICA MARINKOVIC, NIKOLINA MARINKOVIC, NIKOLINA AND BOBBA BARR

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AMERICAN TIMES

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About English Access Microscholarship Program:

The English Access Microscholarship Program (Access) provides a foundation of English language skills to talented 13-20 year-olds from economically disadvantaged sectors through after-school classes and intensive sessions. Access gives participants English skills that may

lead to better jobs and educational prospects. Participants also gain the ability to compete for and participate in future exchanges and study in the United States.

Since its inception in 2004, approximately 95,000 students in more than 85 countries have participated in the Access Program.

Branka Dečković has been teaching English for 12 years. She works in medical school in Kragujevac and Secondary school in Knić. She started working on English Access Microscholarship Program in October 2015.