

# NEWS-LITERACY SKILLS

The essential critical-thinking and communication skills needed to think and speak for ourselves about current affairs



Good listeners learn more.



Listening helps us to gather all the important information we need to understand the news.

**This means you:**

- listen to things you don't agree with so you can hear all of the important perspectives
- listen critically to spot what's true and what's not
- ask questions to find out more

**STEP AND STATEMENT**

- 0 I listen to others without interrupting
- 1 I listen to others and can remember short instructions
- 2 I listen to others and can ask questions if I don't understand
- 3 I listen to others and can tell someone else what it was about
- 4 I listen to others and can tell why they are communicating with me
- 5 I listen to others and record important information as I do
- 6 I show I am listening by how I use eye contact and body language
- 7 I show I am listening by using open questions to deepen my understanding
- 8 I show I am listening by summarising or rephrasing what I have heard
- 9 I am aware of how a speaker is influencing me through their tone
- 10 I am aware of how a speaker is influencing me through their language
- 11 I listen critically and compare different perspectives
- 12 I listen critically and think about where differences in perspectives come from
- 13 I listen critically and identify potential bias in different perspectives
- 14 I listen critically and use questioning to evaluate different perspectives
- 15 I listen critically and look beyond the way speakers speak or act to objectively evaluate different perspectives

Good speakers have discussions that help everyone to learn, including themselves.



Speaking about the news helps us to understand it.

**This means you:**

- join discussions about the news so you can work out what you think
- think hard about your answers to the questions that people ask you
- share your opinions about what's happening and what should be done

**STEP AND STATEMENT**

- 0 I speak clearly to someone I know
- 1 I speak clearly to small groups of people I know
- 2 I speak clearly to individuals and small groups I do not know
- 3 I speak effectively by making points in a logical order
- 4 I speak effectively by thinking about what my listeners already know
- 5 I speak effectively by using appropriate language
- 6 I speak effectively by using appropriate tone, expression and gesture
- 7 I speak engagingly by using facts and examples to support my points
- 8 I speak engagingly by using visual aids to support my points
- 9 I speak engagingly by using tone, expression and gesture to engage listeners
- 10 I speak adaptively by changing my language, tone and expression depending on the response of listeners
- 11 I speak adaptively by planning for different possible responses of listeners
- 12 I speak adaptively by changing my content depending on the response of listeners
- 13 I speak influentially by changing the structure of my points to best persuade the listeners
- 14 I speak influentially by changing the examples and facts I use to best persuade the listeners
- 15 I speak influentially by articulating a compelling vision that persuades the listeners

Good problem-solvers can work out what's really going on and what should be done about it.



Problem-solving helps us work out what we think about the news, which opinions make the most sense and why.

**This means you:**

- work out whether information is true or false
- work out how to solve problems you hear about in the news
- work out which points of view you agree with and why

**STEP AND STATEMENT**

- 0 I complete tasks by following instructions
- 1 I complete tasks by finding someone to help if I need them
- 2 I complete tasks by explaining problems to someone for advice if I need
- 3 I complete tasks by finding information I need myself
- 4 I explore problems by creating different possible solutions
- 5 I explore problems by thinking about the pros and cons of possible solutions
- 6 I explore complex problems by identifying when there are no simple technical solutions
- 7 I explore complex problems by building my understanding through research
- 8 I explore complex problems by analysing the causes and effects
- 9 I create solutions for complex problems by generating a range of options
- 10 I create solutions for complex problems by evaluating the positive and negative effects of a range of options
- 11 I analyse complex problems by using logical reasoning
- 12 I analyse complex problems by creating and testing hypotheses
- 13 I implement strategic plans to solve complex problems
- 14 I implement strategic plans to solve complex problems and assess their success
- 15 I implement strategic plans to solve complex problems and draw out learning to refine those plans over time

Creative people can come up with ideas about what might be going on and what could be done about it.



Creativity gives us the ideas which help us to understand the news.

**This means you:**

- come up with ideas about why something is happening in the news
- come up with ideas about how different events in the news might be connected
- imagine the consequences of actions and decisions to help you make up your mind

**STEP AND STATEMENT**

- 0 I imagine different situations
- 1 I imagine different situations and can say what I imagine
- 2 I imagine different situations and can bring them to life in different ways
- 3 I generate ideas when I've been given a clear brief
- 4 I generate ideas to improve something
- 5 I generate ideas by combining different concepts
- 6 I use creativity in the context of work
- 7 I use creativity in the context of my wider life
- 8 I develop ideas by using mind mapping
- 9 I develop ideas by asking myself questions
- 10 I develop ideas by considering different perspectives
- 11 I innovate effectively when working in a group
- 12 I innovate effectively by seeking out varied experiences and stimuli
- 13 I support others to innovate by sharing a range of tools
- 14 I support others to innovate by evaluating the right creative tools for different situations
- 15 I support others to innovate by coaching them to be more creative

