



Teaching news literacy with Checkology®

Help students tell the difference between fact and fiction.

The collage consists of three photographs of children using smartphones, each with various digital notifications and content overlaid on the screen.

- Top Image:** A young girl with long dark hair and glasses is looking down at her phone. The screen shows a YouTube notification about a rabbit, a News notification about a rabbit, and a Twitter notification about a rabbit. There are also icons for YouTube, News, Twitter, and Instagram.
- Middle Image:** A young boy is looking at his phone. The screen displays a large notification that says "No school!!!". Below it, there is a news article titled "Europe's Second Wave Is Coming in Spain". There are also icons for Twitter, News, and a social media profile.
- Bottom Image:** A young boy is looking at his phone. The screen shows a tweet from "The Ledger Enquirer" about the US Capitol. Below the tweet, there is a grid of four news thumbnails with headlines like "Most People Had To Wait 6 Months For These", "Addison Made So Much Money From Her WAP Video", "Dead After Trump Supporters + Protesters Clash", and "True's Insane Laywrit Nightmare is Finally Over". There are also icons for News, Twitter, and a social media profile.

“

**Young people
have a right to
news literacy
education**

”

1. Information is the basis for civic literacy, agency and action.
2. Students are inheriting the largest and most complex information landscape in human history.
3. Not preparing them to successfully navigate and play a role in shaping this landscape is fundamentally unfair.

Consider these findings from a 2019 study of 3,446 students:

- **96%** didn't consider why ties between a climate change website and the fossil fuel industry might lessen the site's credibility.
- **68%** couldn't tell the difference between news and "sponsored content" (advertising) on a news site's homepage.
- **52%** believed that a grainy video of ballot-stuffing — actually shot in Russia — was "strong evidence" of voter fraud in the U.S.

What would a future
look like where students
are not able to discern
fact from fiction?



What is news literacy?

"I learned that misinformation can be shown in many different ways and you should always check the credibility of a piece of media before you believe or share it."

- Evan, 10th grade student



“

Determine
the credibility
of information as
well as the credibility
of the source of
that information.

”



Teachable skills

- Fact-checking
- Zoning information
- Identifying misinformation



“

Use the standards of authoritative, fact-based journalism in deciding what to trust, what to share and what to act on.

”

Multiple Credible Sources

Eyewitness, official, expert

Verification

The process of checking, confirming and supporting information and facts

Avoidance of Bias

Presenting the facts and context in as fair and accurate a manner as possible

Balance

Representing multiple sides of the issue, event or controversy without giving unfair weight to one side or point of view

Documentation

Documents, data, reports, video, photos or audio

Context

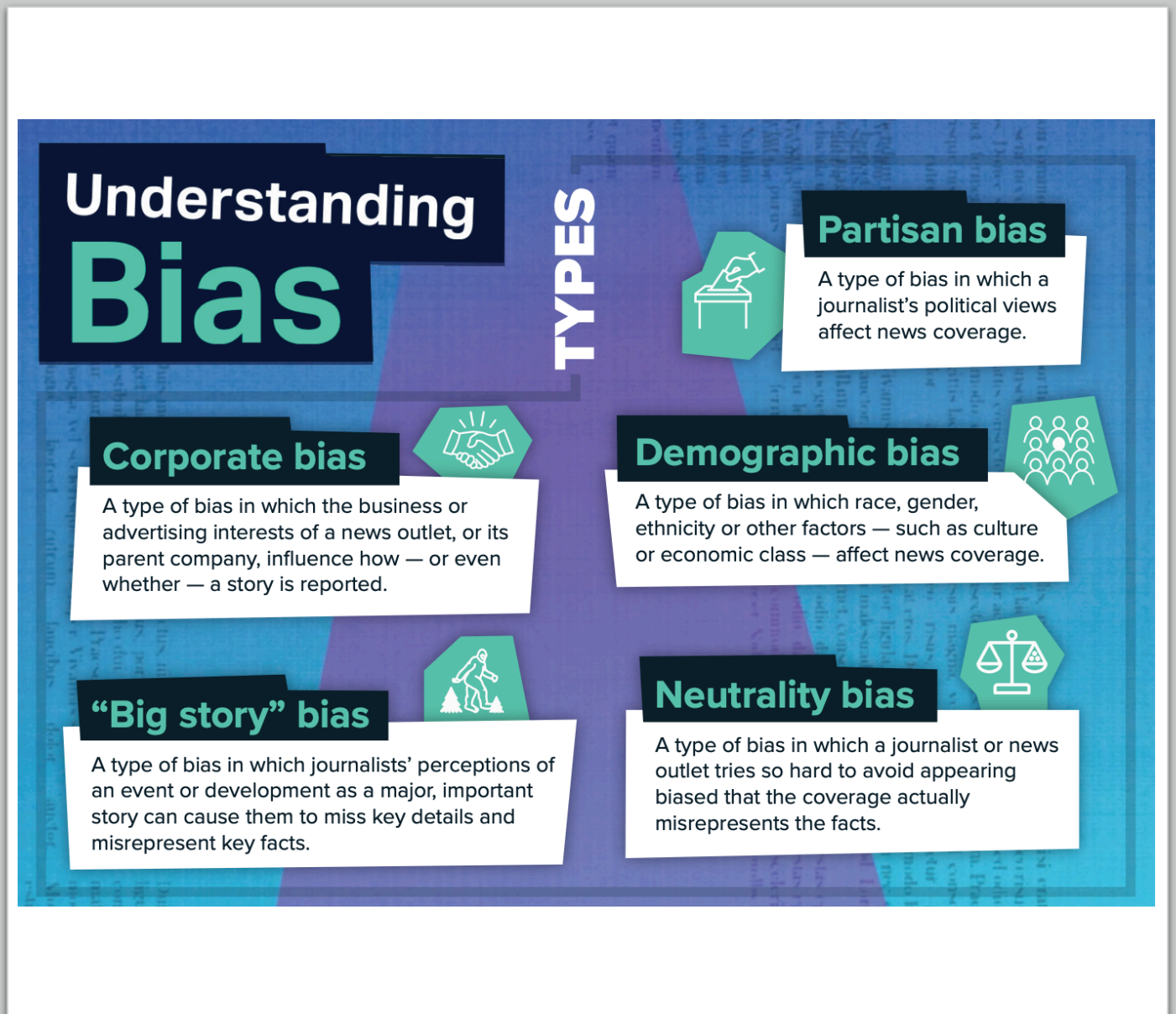
Presenting the facts in a way that makes their meaning clear, fair and accurate

Fairness

Treating sources and subjects with appropriate respect, and giving subjects a chance to share their points of view or respond to any assertions or allegations about them

Teachable skills

- Identifying the standards of quality journalism
- Understanding newsworthiness
- Understanding news media bias



“

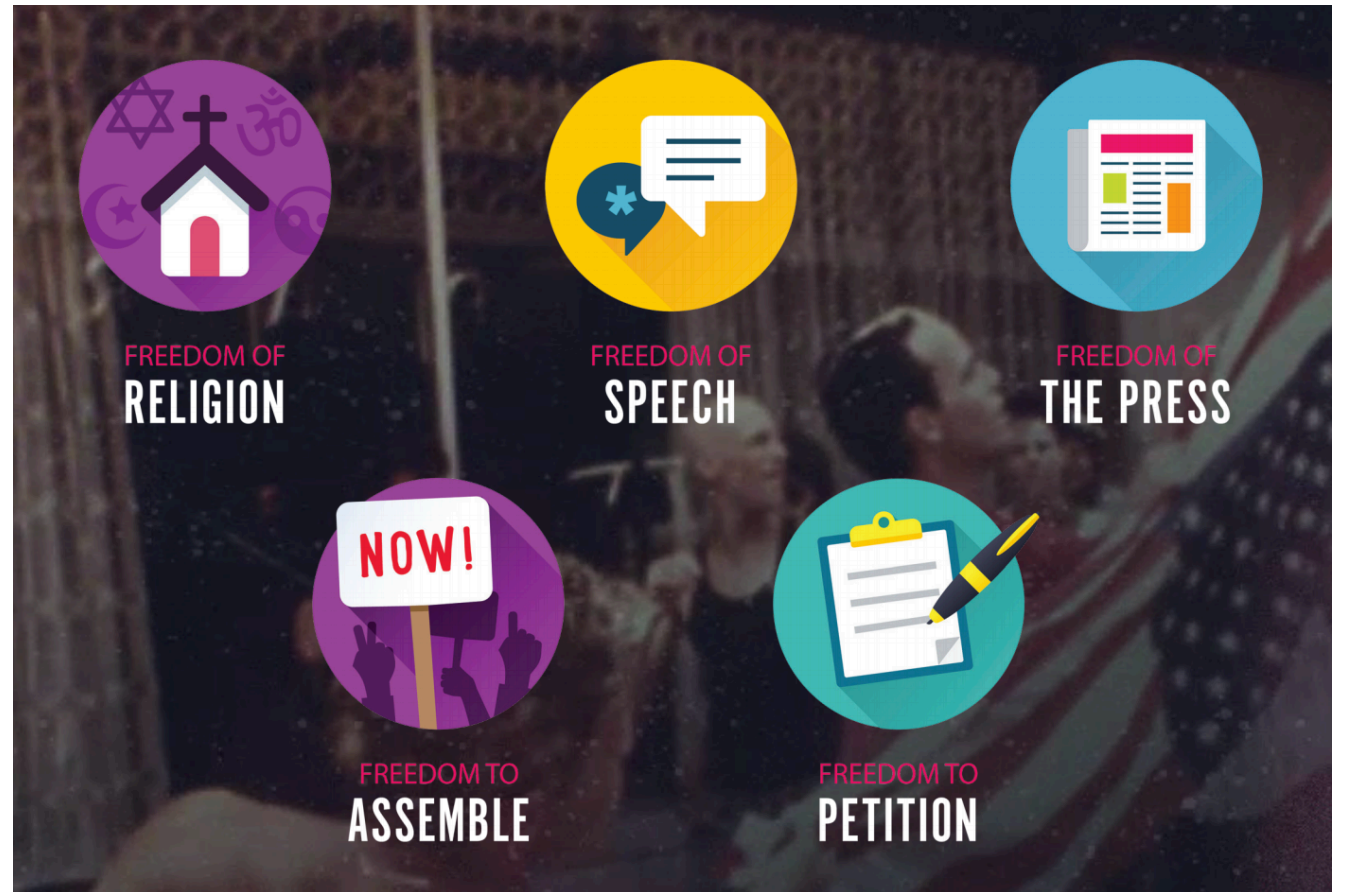
Understand the importance of a free press and interact with news and other information in ways that promote engaged participation in civic life.

”



Teachable skills

- Identifying the rights protected by the First Amendment
- Understanding the journalist's watchdog role
- Identifying the four main elements of press freedom





Checkology is a free tool to help educators teach news literacy. It provides **engaging online learning experiences** about today's challenging information landscape.

Why educators love Checkology

"If I were in charge, Checkology would be part of a national mandated curriculum for sure!"

- Aaron Feldstein, 7th grade social studies teacher



Interactive lessons hosted by journalists, digital media experts

Filtering News and Information


 [InfoZones](#)

 [What is News?](#)

 [Be the Editor](#)

Exercising Civic Freedoms

 [The First Amendment](#)

 [Democracy's Watchdog](#)

 [Citizen Watchdogs](#)

 [Press Freedoms Around the World](#)

Navigating Today's Information Landscape

 [Branded Content](#)


 [Introduction to Algorithms](#)

How to Know What to Believe

 [Understanding Bias](#)

 [Misinformation](#)

 [Arguments and Evidence](#)

 [Practicing Quality Journalism](#)


 [Conspiratorial Thinking](#)



Preview: ["InfoZones"](#)




Preview: ["Practicing Quality Journalism"](#)



Pre/Post Assessment

The pre- and post-assessment surveys help you assess students' prior knowledge and measure concrete learning gains for each Checkology lesson you use. Anonymous aggregate data also helps NLP better understand student learning patterns and improve the platform.

OFF ☒ ON



Class avatar

Upload

One-to-Many Lesson Mode [?]

OFF ☐ ON ☒

Co-Teachers

The selected teachers will have access to view and evaluate student work within this class.

- ☐ Jordan Maze
- ☒ Shaelynn Farnsworth

Customizable settings
to suit remote, hybrid,
and in-person classrooms.



Aisha Al-Muslim
The Wall Street Journal



Elaine Aradillas
People



Joni Hirsch Blackman
West Suburban Living
Magazine/freelance



Hannah Bloch
NPR

Journalist visits to students through the Newsroom to Classroom program.

And more!



Exercises

Game-like activities that provide extra practice on lesson content.



Challenges

Quizzes that extend and expand on concepts and skills introduced in lessons.



The Check Center

A series of tools designed to build skills and habits of mind to detect and debunk misinformation.



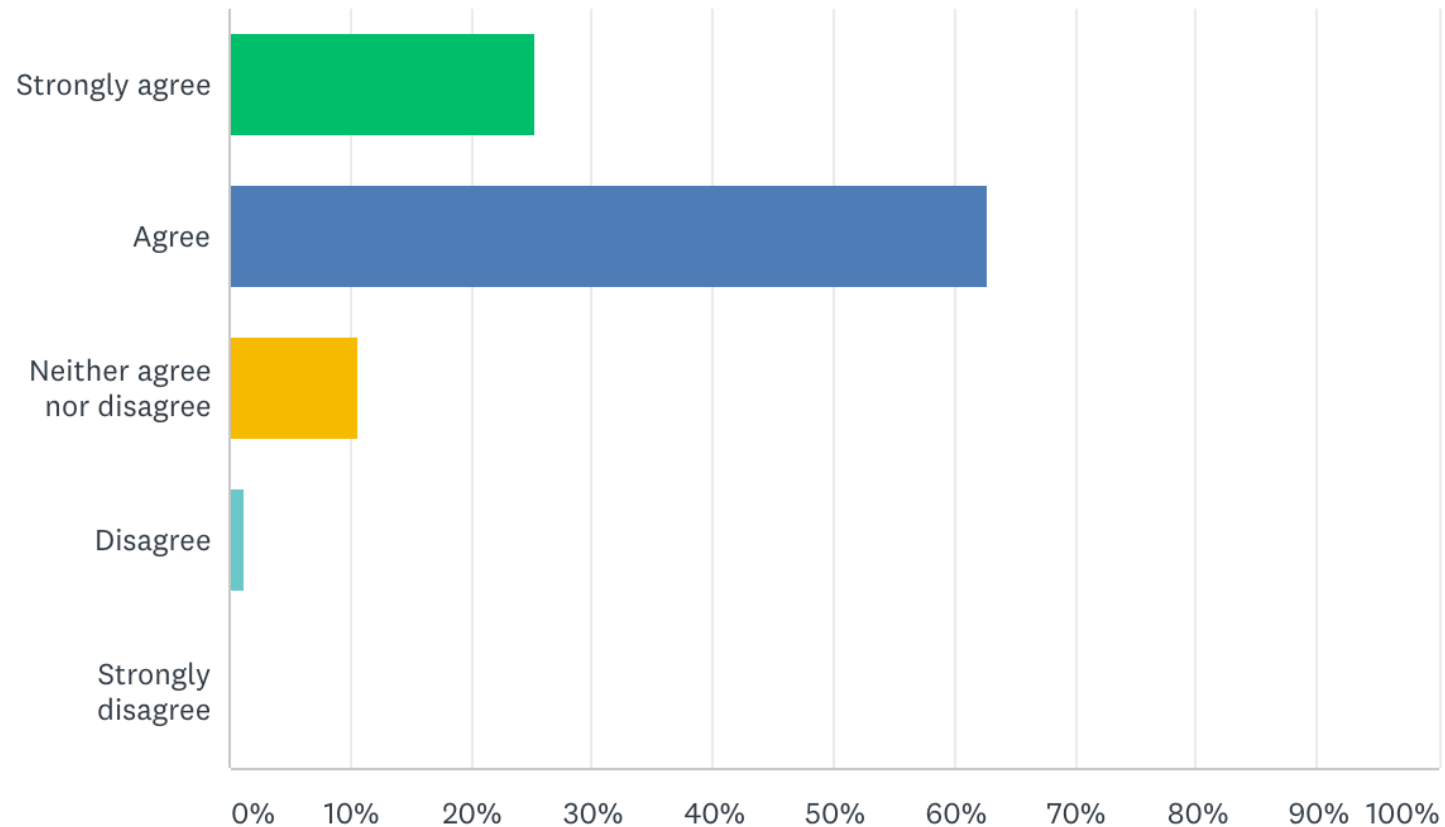
EDUCATION Resources

Supplemental content, student creation tools, assessment links, transcripts and more for both teachers and students.

Students enjoy it, too!

Students in my classes enjoyed using Checkology.

Answered: 226 Skipped: 901



Questions?



Getting started on Checkology



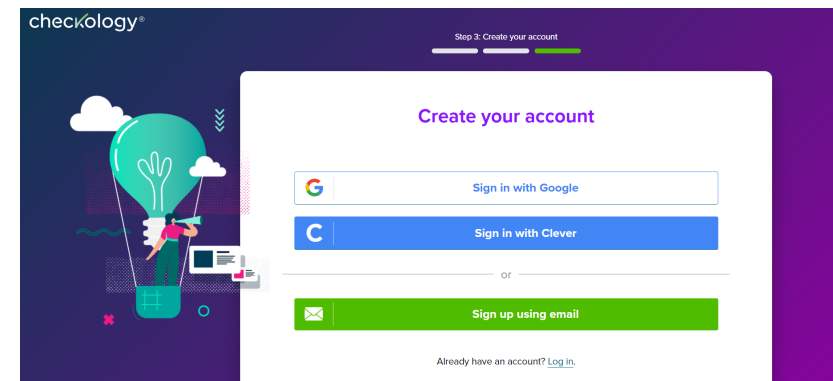
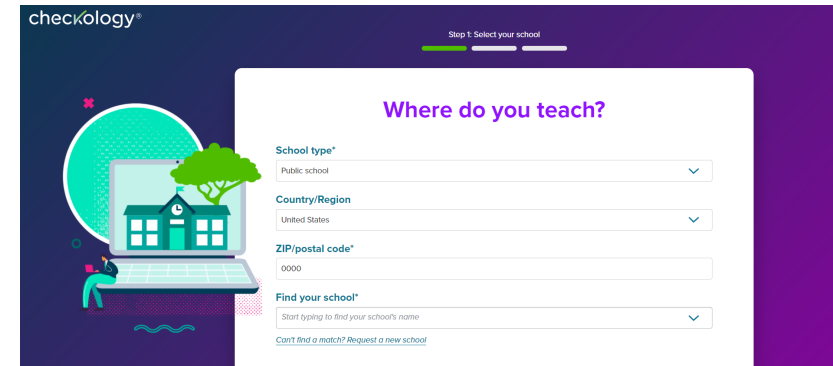
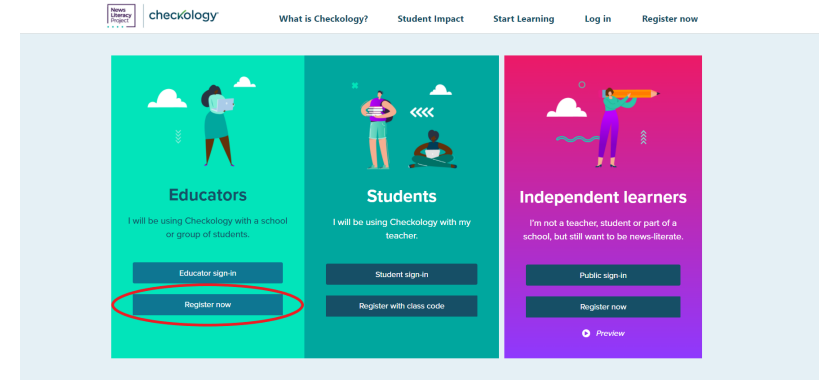
“I can’t think of a more important time in history to have such an incredible resource available for students.”

- Mecca Sadler, High School English/EL Division Head

1. Go to **checkology.org**.

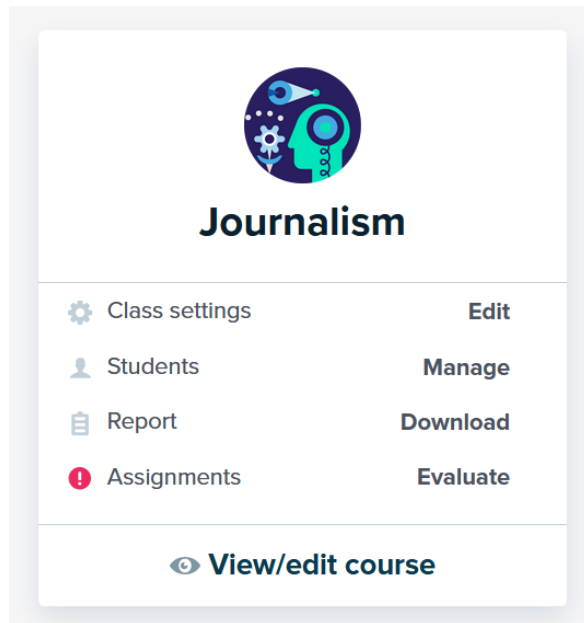
2. Register as an educator and connect with your school.

3. Create your account using email or a single sign-on option.



Once you have an educator account, you can begin...

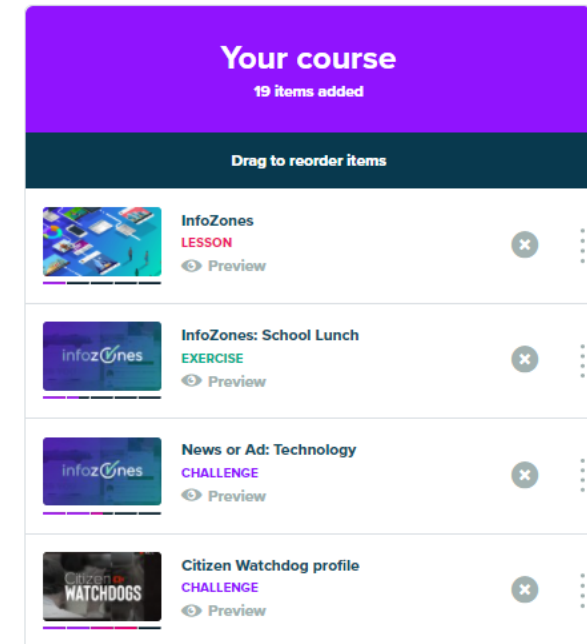
Creating your first class.



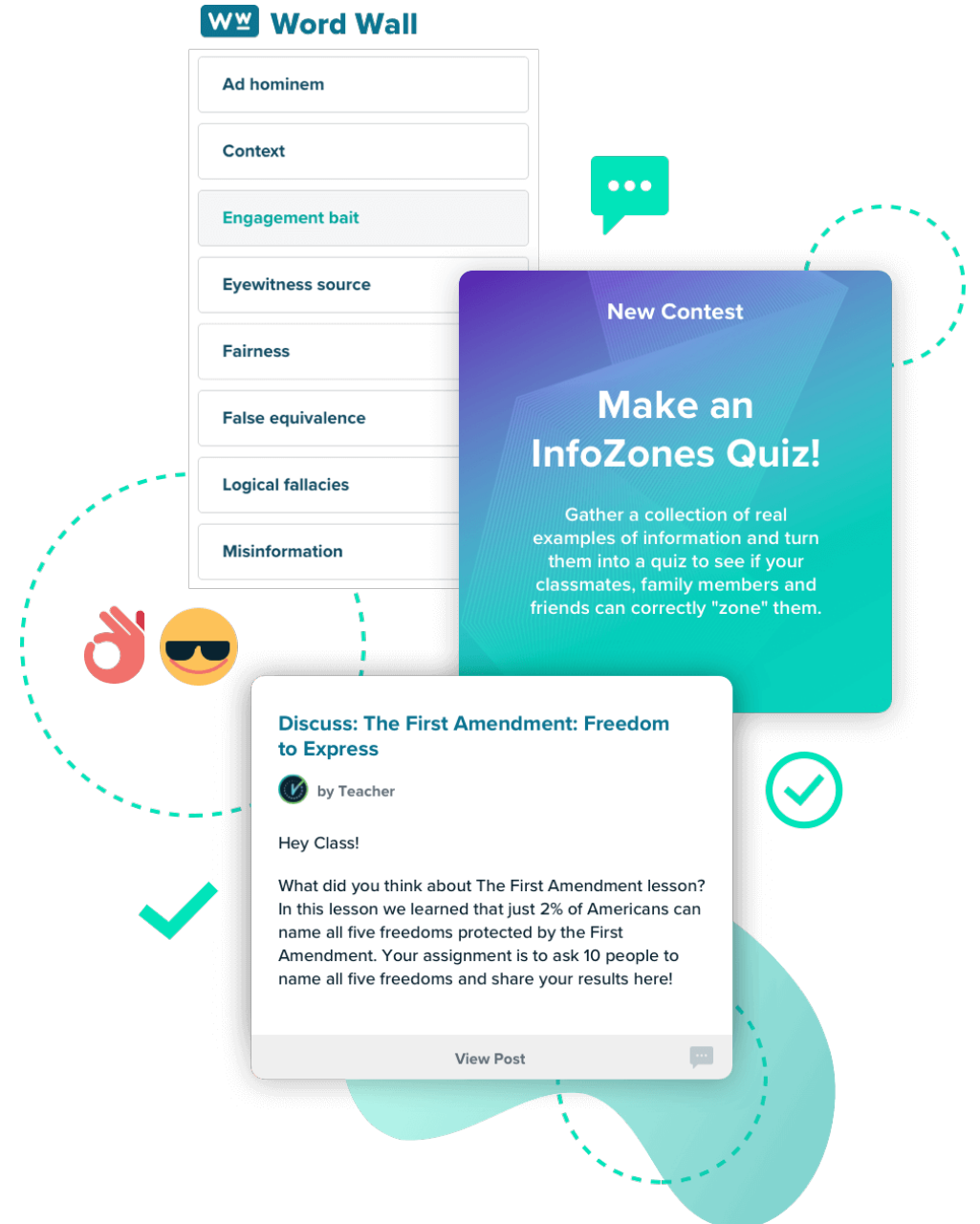
Adding students.



Assigning a course.



Register, explore, and plan your first Checkology lesson!



For more info or support, please visit the:

checkology®

HELP CENTER

checkology.zendesk.com/hc/en-us

Thank you.



/TheNewsLiteracyProject



@NewsLitProject



@NewsLitProject



LinkedIn.com/company/the-news-literacy-project



@NewsLitProject

newslit.org