

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Answer Key: Detective's Dispatch: A 5th Grade Current Events Quest

Source evaluation, perspective-taking, and impact analysis — foundational habits for young citizens learning to weigh evidence in a busy media landscape.

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**1. A journalist reports on a new city park. To ensure the story is balanced, which of these groups should they interview?**

**Answer:** B) Both the park designers and local families who will use it

Balanced reporting involves representing multiple perspectives, especially those directly impacted by the event.

**2. True or False: If an article uses 'loaded language' (words like 'disastrous' or 'wonderful'), it is likely showing a bias.**

**Answer:** A) True

Loaded language uses emotional appeal rather than neutral facts to influence how a reader feels about a topic.

**3. When a local grocery store decides to stop using plastic bags, this is an example of a \_\_\_\_ issue.**

**Answer:** C) Community

Events that happen within a specific neighborhood or town are community or local issues.

**4. Which of these is the best way to verify if a news story on social media is accurate?**

**Answer:** C) Look for the same story on other reputable news websites

Cross-referencing with other trusted sources is a key part of lateral reading and fact-checking.

**5. The United Nations holding a meeting to talk about plastic pollution in the oceans is an example of a/an \_\_\_\_ event.**

**Answer:** B) International

International events involve organizations or problems that cross the borders of many different countries.

**6. True or False: A primary source is an account of an event created by someone who was actually there.**

**Answer:** A) True

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Primary sources include first-hand accounts like interviews, photographs, or eyewitness reports.

**7. Imagine your school starts a 'Meatless Monday' program. Who would be a 'stakeholder' in this decision?**

**Answer:** D) All of the above

Stakeholders are any individuals or groups who are affected by or have an interest in a specific change.

**8. When analyzing a current event, identifying 'cause and effect' helps us understand \_\_\_\_.**

**Answer:** B) Why something happened and what happened next

Understanding the sequence of events is vital for tracing the origins and consequences of news stories.

**9. True or False: Every news article is 100% objective and never contains any perspective.**

**Answer:** B) False

Most information contains some level of perspective or framing, even if the author tries to be fair.

**10. Which question should you ask to figure out the 'impact' of a new law?**

**Answer:** C) How will people's daily lives change because of this?

Impact refers to the consequences or results that an action or event has on people and society.