**Actuele lesbrief Engels – Make Believe**

**Voor de docent**

Nepnieuws, misleidende informatie: het is de gesel van deze tijd. Het tegengif is voorlichting en bewustwording.

**ERK-niveau**

*Lezen B2 – Kan artikelen en verslagen over hedendaagse problemen begrijpen, waarin de schrijvers bepaalde stellingen of standpunten innemen. (LEB2-3a)*

Leesstrategieën – *Kan gebruikmaken van uiteenlopende strategieën om tot tekstbegrip te komen, waaronder het letten op hoofdpunten.* – *Kan van minder frequente woorden en uitdrukkingen de betekenis controleren door gebruik te maken van websites, (online) fora en eentalige woordenboeken.*

**Intro**

Misinformation is flooding the world. Learn how to resist it and prove it wrong.

Assignment 1

Read the assignment and write down the answers in English.

a Write down 5 words connected to “news”. Think of things like: where do you see news, who makes the news, who writes news, etc.

b “A lie can travel half way around the world while the truth is putting on its shoes.”   
Write down or discuss what this saying means.  
Write down any Dutch saying(s) about lies that you know. Do they have the same meaning?

**Make Believe**

Although misinformation bothers most people, few know how to spot deceit or nonsense.

Find out more about it [here](https://www.sciencenewsforstudents.org/article/how-to-resist-and-counter-todays-flood-of-fake-news).

Read the article up to “Hard to forget... or fully process?”

Assignment 2

Read the assigned text. For each definition, find the word or expression it describes in the text and write it down.

1. behaviour that is meant to fool or trick someone
2. trickery or cheating
3. torrent
4. the people who live in a country or region, their organizations and their way of life
5. entirely different from something else
6. having information that is wrong or inaccurate
7. used to describe a situation or event in which people are hurt or killed
8. having information that is true and accurate
9. a long wall of earth and rock to prevent floods
10. uncertain, doubtful, probably not true
11. an action or plan to achieve a particular goal
12. believable or convincing
13. to state without definite proof that something is true
14. misleading, deceiving

Assignment 3

a The article wants to tell us how to resist fake news. But why should you resist it?

1 It could open everyone’s eyes to the dangers of health misinformation.

2 It is dangerous because some people can fall because of bad information.

3 It is dangerous; bad information can be the reason people are harmed or even die.

4 It is the reason some people wear masks so no-one can see their hidden agenda.

b What is the “wow factor” of fake news?

1 A number of tactics to fight fake news has wowed people on social media everywhere.

2 Fake news can be so surprising or interesting that people think “wow” and share it.

3 If people are very excited by fake news they shout “wow” very loudly.

4 Scientists studying why and how people fall for bad information say “wow” all the time.

c Information can be brought to us in different ways. In which form is it most convincing?

1 As a WhatsApp message.

2 As audio.

3 As text.

4 As video.

Assignment 4

For the die-hards:

a Read the rest of the article.

b Learn how to debunk bad information (*nepnieuws doorprikken*).