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**Level 6 – 16th October 2023**

## EU warns X over Israel-Hamas disinformation

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231016-online-disinformation.html>

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**Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231016-online-disinformation.html>

Social media is awash with information and graphics about the ongoing events in Israel and Gaza. There are concerns about how much of the content posted online is fake. The European Union has just opened an investigation into the social media site X, formerly known as Twitter. The EU says there is an alarming volume of posts containing false information on X. EU officials have expressed concern that X was, "being used to disseminate illegal content and disinformation". X has until the end of next week to answer a series of EU questions about this content. Failure to satisfactorily address these issues could lead the EU to impose a fine on X of up to five per cent of the company's daily global turnover.

The EU probe into X comes under the bloc's Digital Services Act. This was established to monitor how large tech companies deal with the hate speech posted on their platforms, and how they police the Internet. An EU spokesperson advised X to introduce, "proportionate and effective mitigation measures" to identify and delete disinformation. He added: "We have, from qualified sources, reports about potentially illegal content circulating on X, despite flags from relevant authorities." Hundreds of bogus accounts have been flooding the Internet with harmful and inflammatory content. The CEO of X said the site had removed hundreds of these accounts. A social media expert lamented this was, "a drop in the ocean".

Sources: <https://www.ft.com/content/a4ab23c7-977a-46b1-8d00-33923ceaaa89>  
<https://abcnews.go.com/Business/wireStory/musks-hundreds-hamas-linked-accounts-ceo-103916288>  
<https://www.rollingstone.com/politics/politics-features/telegram-fueling-israel-hamas-war-misinformation-1234854300/>

# WARM-UPS

**1. ONLINE DISINFORMATION:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about online disinformation. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

social media / information / graphics / online / fake / investigation / illegal / fine / the EU / tech companies / Internet / mitigation / hate speech / bogus accounts

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. FINES:** Students A **strongly** believe social media sites should face heavy fines if disinformation is posted on their platforms; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. ONLINE DANGERS:** How dangerous are these things? How can we deal with them? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	How Dangerous	How To Deal with It
Disinformation		
Hate Speech		
Cyberbullying		
Phishing		
Online grooming		
Viruses		

**5. FAKE:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "fake". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

**6. SOCIAL MEDIA:** Rank these with your partner. Put the best sites at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- X
- Facebook
- Pinterest
- YouTube
- Instagram
- TikTok
- SnapChat
- LinkedIn

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 1. awash       | a. A number of events, objects, or people of a similar or related kind coming one after another. |
| 2. alarming    | b. An amount or quantity of something, especially when great.                                    |
| 3. volume      | c. Worrying or disturbing.   |
| 4. disseminate | d. The amount of money taken by a business in a particular period.                               |
| 5. series      | e. Containing large numbers or amounts of someone or something.                                  |
| 6. impose      | f. Spread (something, especially information) widely.  |
| 7. turnover    | g. Require a duty, charge, or penalty to be undertaken or paid.                                  |

## Paragraph 2

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| 8. probe          | h. The action of reducing the severity, seriousness, or painfulness of something. |
| 9. established    | i. Of speech or writing arousing or intended to arouse angry or violent feelings. |
| 10. proportionate | j. Moving continuously or freely through a closed system or area.                 |
| 11. mitigation    | k. Set up on a permanent basis.   |
| 12. circulating   | l. Expressed regret or disappointment about something.                            |
| 13. inflammatory  | m. A thorough investigation into a crime or other matter.                         |
| 14. lamented      | n. In a way that corresponds in size or amount to something else.                 |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231016-online-disinformation.html>

**1. TRUE / FALSE:** Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

1. Social media is full of disinformation over Israel and Gaza. **T / F**
2. The EU has just opened an investigation into events in Gaza. **T / F**
3. The EU gave X a month to answer a series of questions. **T / F**
4. The EU could fine X 5% of its annual global turnover. **T / F**
5. The Digital Services Act in the EU looks into hate speech online. **T / F**
6. The EU wants X to introduce mitigation measures. **T / F**
7. The article says a million fake accounts are uploading disinformation. **T / F**
8. A social media expert called removing sites a drop in the bucket. **T / F**

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                         |                     |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. <b>awash</b>         | a. complained about |
| 2. <b>ongoing</b>       | b. frightening      |
| 3. <b>investigation</b> | c. continuing       |
| 4. <b>alarming</b>      | d. revenue          |
| 5. <b>turnover</b>      | e. provocative      |
| 6. <b>bloc</b>          | f. regulate         |
| 7. <b>police</b>        | g. flooded          |
| 8. <b>circulating</b>   | h. union            |
| 9. <b>inflammatory</b>  | i. spreading        |
| 10. <b>lamented</b>     | j. inquiry          |

**3. PHRASE MATCH:** (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |  |                              |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1. Social media is awash                   | a. accounts                  |
| 2. much of the content posted online       | b. illegal content           |
| 3. an alarming volume                      | c. global turnover           |
| 4. being used to disseminate               | d. the Internet              |
| 5. five per cent of the company's daily    | e. is fake                   |
| 6. how large tech companies                | f. in the ocean              |
| 7. potentially illegal content circulating | g. with information          |
| 8. Hundreds of bogus                       | h. on X                      |
| 9. flooding                                | i. deal with the hate speech |
| 10. a drop                                 | j. of posts                  |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231016-online-disinformation.html>

Social media is (1) \_\_\_\_\_ with information and graphics about the ongoing events in Israel and Gaza. There are (2) \_\_\_\_\_ about how much of the content posted online is fake. The European Union has just opened an (3) \_\_\_\_\_ into the social media site X, formerly known as Twitter. The EU says there is an (4) \_\_\_\_\_ volume of posts containing false information on X. EU officials have expressed (5) \_\_\_\_\_ that X was, "being used to disseminate illegal content and disinformation". X has until the end of next week to answer a (6) \_\_\_\_\_ of EU questions about this content. Failure to (7) \_\_\_\_\_ address these issues could lead the EU to impose a fine on X of up to five per cent of the company's daily global (8) \_\_\_\_\_.

*investigation*

*concern*

*turnover*

*awash*

*satisfactorily*

*alarming*

*concerns*

*series*

The EU probe into X comes under the (9) \_\_\_\_\_ Digital Services Act. This was established to monitor how large tech companies (10) \_\_\_\_\_ with the hate speech posted on their platforms, and how they police the Internet. An EU spokesperson advised X to introduce, "(11) \_\_\_\_\_ and effective mitigation measures" to identify and delete disinformation. He added: "We have, from qualified (12) \_\_\_\_\_, reports about potentially illegal content (13) \_\_\_\_\_ on X, despite flags from relevant authorities." Hundreds of bogus accounts have been (14) \_\_\_\_\_ the Internet with harmful and (15) \_\_\_\_\_ content. The CEO of X said the site had removed hundreds of these accounts. A social media expert lamented this was, "a (16) \_\_\_\_\_ in the ocean".

*proportionate*

*circulating*

*deal*

*drop*

*inflammatory*

*bloc's*

*sources*

*flooding*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231016-online-disinformation.html>

- 1) Social media is awash with information and graphics about \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. the upgoing events
  - b. the ongoing events
  - c. the oncoming events
  - d. the incoming events
- 2) There are concerns about how much of the content posted \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. inline is fake
  - b. online were fake
  - c. online are fake
  - d. online is fake
- 3) EU officials have expressed concern that X was, "being used to \_\_\_\_\_"
  - a. disseminate illegally content
  - b. disseminate illegal contents
  - c. disseminate illegal content
  - d. disseminate illegal contented
- 4) Failure to satisfactorily address these issues could lead the EU to \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. pose a fine
  - b. impose a fine
  - c. depose a fine
  - d. impose a fine
- 5) a fine on X of up to five per cent of the company's \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. daily global turnaround
  - b. daily global turnover
  - c. daily global turncoat
  - d. daily global turnabout
- 6) This was established to monitor how large tech companies deal with \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. the hated speech
  - b. the hates speech
  - c. the hate speech
  - d. the hating speech
- 7) An EU spokesperson advised X to introduce proportionate and \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. effective migration measures
  - b. effective immigration measures
  - c. effective emigration measures
  - d. effective mitigation measures
- 8) We have, from qualified sources, reports about potentially illegal content \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. circulation on X
  - b. circulating on X
  - c. circulatory on X
  - d. circling on X
- 9) Hundreds of bogus accounts have been \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. flooring the Internet
  - b. rippling the Internet
  - c. splashing the Internet
  - d. flooding the Internet
- 10) A social media expert lamented this was a drop \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. in that ocean
  - b. in the ocean
  - c. in this ocean
  - d. in their ocean

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231016-online-disinformation.html>

Social media (1) \_\_\_\_\_ information and graphics about the ongoing events in Israel and Gaza. There are concerns about how much of the content posted (2) \_\_\_\_\_. The European Union has just opened an investigation into the social media site X, formerly known as Twitter. The EU says there is (3) \_\_\_\_\_ of posts containing false information on X. EU officials have expressed concern that X was, "being used (4) \_\_\_\_\_ content and disinformation". X has until the end of next week to answer a series of EU questions about this content. (5) \_\_\_\_\_ address these issues could lead the EU to impose a fine on X of up to five per cent of the company's (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

The EU probe into X comes (7) \_\_\_\_\_ Digital Services Act. This was established to monitor how large tech companies deal with the (8) \_\_\_\_\_ on their platforms, and how they police the Internet. An EU spokesperson advised X to introduce, "proportionate and effective mitigation measures" to (9) \_\_\_\_\_ disinformation. He added: "We have, (10) \_\_\_\_\_, reports about potentially illegal content circulating on X, despite flags from relevant authorities." Hundreds (11) \_\_\_\_\_ have been flooding the Internet with harmful and inflammatory content. The CEO of X said the site had removed hundreds of these accounts. A social media (12) \_\_\_\_\_ was, "a drop in the ocean".



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231016-online-disinformation.html>

1. What does the article say social media is awash with?
2. What has the EU just opened?
3. What did the EU say there was an "alarming volume" of?
4. By when must X answer the questions asked by the EU?
5. How much of X's daily global turnover could the EU fine X?
6. What legislation has the EU used to start a probe into X?
7. Who does the article say needs to police hate speech?
8. Who has raised flags regarding illegal content circulating on X?
9. What have hundreds of bogus accounts been doing on the Internet?
10. What did a social media expert call the removal of bogus accounts?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231016-online-disinformation.html>

- 1) What does the article say social media is awash with?
  - a) cyberbullying
  - b) information and graphics
  - c) concerns
  - d) maps of Gaza
- 2) What has the EU just opened?
  - a) a charity to help the victims
  - b) a helpline
  - c) a refugee camp
  - d) an investigation
- 3) What did the EU say there was an "alarming volume" of?
  - a) complaints
  - b) noise
  - c) posts containing false information
  - d) social media platforms
- 4) By when must X answer the questions asked by the EU?
  - a) the end of next week
  - b) the end of the year
  - c) the end of the month
  - d) Friday
- 5) How much of X's daily global turnover could the EU fine X?
  - a) up to 3%
  - b) up to 5%
  - c) up to 8%
  - d) up to 10%
- 6) What legislation has the EU used to start a probe into X?
  - a) the Digital Services Act
  - b) the Human Rights Act
  - c) the Cyberbullying Act
  - d) the Disinformation Act
- 7) Who does the article say needs to police hate speech?
  - a) the police
  - b) Interpol
  - c) large tech companies
  - d) website hosts
- 8) Who has raised flags regarding illegal content circulating on X?
  - a) relevant authorities
  - b) flag bearers
  - c) people in Gaza
  - d) people in Israel
- 9) What have hundreds of bogus accounts been doing on the Internet?
  - a) phishing
  - b) advertising
  - c) trying to collect money
  - d) flooding it with harmful and inflammatory content
- 10) What did a social media expert call the removal of bogus accounts?
  - a) a start
  - b) a move in the right direction
  - c) a drop in the ocean
  - d) a shot in the dark

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231016-online-disinformation.html>

## **Role A – X**

You think X is the best social media site. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sites. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): TikTok, Facebook or Instagram.

## **Role B – TikTok**

You think TikTok is the best social media site. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sites. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): X, Facebook or Instagram.

## **Role C – Facebook**

You think Facebook is the best social media site. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sites. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): TikTok, X or Instagram.

## **Role D – Instagram**

You think Instagram is the best social media site. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sites. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): TikTok, Facebook or X.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231016-online-disinformation.html>

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'fake' and 'news'.

<b>fake</b>	<b>news</b>
-------------	-------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• awash</li><li>• opened</li><li>• volume</li><li>• officials</li><li>• series</li><li>• fine</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• under</li><li>• hate</li><li>• introduce</li><li>• sources</li><li>• flooding</li><li>• expert</li></ul>
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# ONLINE DISINFORMATION SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231016-online-disinformation.html>

Write five GOOD questions about online disinformation in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

# ONLINE DISINFORMATION DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'online'?
3. What do you think of online disinformation?
4. Who is posting disinformation online about Israel and Hamas?
5. What do you know about the Israel and Hamas crisis?
6. How can we rid the Internet of fake news?
7. How has fake news affected our lives?
8. What do you think of the social media platform X?
9. What do you think leaders in the Middle East should do?
10. What do you think will happen in the Middle East in the coming weeks?

*EU warns X over Israel-Hamas disinformation – 16th October 2023*  
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# ONLINE DISINFORMATION DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'disinformation'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What regulations do social media platforms need?
15. What hate speech have you seen online?
16. How worried are you about events in Israel and Gaza?
17. What is your advice for people in the region?
18. How much faith do you have in the truth of what you read online?
19. What should happen to people who post inflammatory content?
20. What questions would you like to ask a social media boss?

# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

# LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2310/231016-online-disinformation.html>

Social media is (1) \_\_\_\_\_ with information and graphics about the ongoing events in Israel and Gaza. There are concerns about how much of the content posted online is fake. The European Union has just opened an investigation (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the social media site X, formerly known as Twitter. The EU says there is an alarming volume of posts (3) \_\_\_\_\_ false information on X. EU officials have expressed concern that X was, "being used to disseminate illegal content and disinformation". X has until the end of next week to answer a (4) \_\_\_\_\_ of EU questions about this content. Failure to satisfactorily address these issues could lead the EU to (5) \_\_\_\_\_ a fine on X of up to five per cent of the company's daily global (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

The EU probe into X comes (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the bloc's Digital Services Act. This was established to monitor how large tech companies deal (8) \_\_\_\_\_ the hate speech posted on their platforms, and how they police the Internet. An EU spokesperson advised X to introduce, "proportionate and effective mitigation (9) \_\_\_\_\_" to identify and delete disinformation. He added: "We have, from qualified sources, reports about potentially illegal content circulating on X, despite flags (10) \_\_\_\_\_ relevant authorities." Hundreds of bogus accounts have been flooding the Internet with harmful and inflammatory content. The CEO of X said the site (11) \_\_\_\_\_ removed hundreds of these accounts. A social media expert lamented this was, "a drop in (12) \_\_\_\_\_ ocean".

**Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.**

- |     |              |                |               |              |
|-----|--------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1.  | (a) abash    | (b) washed     | (c) swash     | (d) awash    |
| 2.  | (a) unto     | (b) as to      | (c) onto      | (d) into     |
| 3.  | (a) content  | (b) containing | (c) contents  | (d) contains |
| 4.  | (a) serious  | (b) cereal     | (c) series    | (d) serial   |
| 5.  | (a) impede   | (b) stampede   | (c) impose    | (d) suppose  |
| 6.  | (a) turnover | (b) turnaround | (c) turnabout | (d) turncoat |
| 7.  | (a) below    | (b) under      | (c) between   | (d) post     |
| 8.  | (a) with     | (b) to         | (c) on        | (d) of       |
| 9.  | (a) gauges   | (b) measures   | (c) evaluates | (d) rates    |
| 10. | (a) in       | (b) at         | (c) from      | (d) as       |
| 11. | (a) did      | (b) was        | (c) had       | (d) get      |
| 12. | (a) that     | (b) watery     | (c) all       | (d) the      |



# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231016-online-disinformation.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. Social media is washa with information
2. opened an inovgaitsetn
3. EU officials have epsexdres concern
4. being used to iaetssinedm illegal content
5. Failure to ifrisacloatsty address these issues
6. the company's daily global rotnuver

## Paragraph 2

7. This was deelihsbsta to monitor how
8. effective iaomttigin measures
9. illegal content lctaicgriun on X
10. from Iranveet authorities
11. nltroaaifmym content
12. tmdelean this was a drop in the ocean

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231016-online-disinformation.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) of X said the site had removed hundreds of these accounts. A social media expert lamented this was, "a drop in the ocean".
- ( ) lead the EU to impose a fine on X of up to five per cent of the company's daily global turnover.
- ( ) measures" to identify and delete disinformation. He added: "We have, from qualified
- ( ) of posts containing false information on X. EU officials have expressed concern that X was, "being used to
- ( ) disseminate illegal content and disinformation". X has until the end of next week to answer a
- ( ) authorities." Hundreds of bogus accounts have been flooding the Internet with harmful and inflammatory content. The CEO
- ( **1** ) Social media is awash with information and graphics about the ongoing events in Israel and Gaza. There are concerns
- ( ) about how much of the content posted online is fake. The European Union has just opened an investigation
- ( ) sources, reports about potentially illegal content circulating on X, despite flags from relevant
- ( ) monitor how large tech companies deal with the hate speech posted on their platforms, and how they
- ( ) into the social media site X, formerly known as Twitter. The EU says there is an alarming volume
- ( ) series of EU questions about this content. Failure to satisfactorily address these issues could
- ( ) police the Internet. An EU spokesperson advised X to introduce, "proportionate and effective mitigation
- ( ) The EU probe into X comes under the bloc's Digital Services Act. This was established to

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231016-online-disinformation.html>

1. media is awash with graphics . Social and information
2. content online is fake . of Much the posted
3. false volume An posts of information . alarming containing
4. of series about Answer this . a EU questions
5. global daily per cent company's of the turnover . Five
6. companies hate How this deal tech speech . with
7. to mitigation and disinformation . identify delete measures Effective
8. Reports on potentially circulating content illegal X . about
9. flooding Internet . the Hundreds are bogus of accounts
10. was in simply a This ocean . drop the

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231016-online-disinformation.html>

Social media is *washing / awash* with information and graphics about the *ongoing / upcoming* events in Israel and Gaza. There are concerns about how much of the content posted online is *faking / fake*. The European Union has just opened an investigation into the social media site X, *firmly / formerly* known as Twitter. The EU says there is an *alarming / sounding* volume of posts containing *false / falsely* information on X. EU officials have expressed concern that X was, "being used to *assimilate / disseminate* illegal content and disinformation". X has until the *end / over* of next week to answer a series of EU questions about this content. Failure to satisfactorily *label / address* these issues could lead the EU to impose a fine on X of up to five per cent of the company's daily *globally / global* turnover.

The EU *probe / prove* into X comes under the bloc's Digital Services Act. This was established to *monitor / maintain* how large tech companies deal *to / with* the hate speech posted *on / in* their platforms, and how they police the Internet. An EU spokesperson advised X to introduce, "proportionate and *infective / effective* mitigation measures" to identify and delete disinformation. He added: "We have, from qualified *sources / sauces*, reports about potentially illegal content circulating *on / in* X, despite flags from relevant authorities." *Hundreds / Hundred* of bogus accounts have been flooding the Internet with harmful and inflammatory content. The CEO of X said the site had *removed / removal* hundreds of these accounts. A social media expert lamented this was, "a *drape / drop* in the ocean".

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct. Look up the definition of new words.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2310/231016-online-disinformation.html>

S\_c\_\_l m\_d\_\_ \_s \_w\_sh w\_th \_nf\_rm\_t\_\_n \_nd gr\_ph\_cs  
\_b\_\_t th\_ \_ng\_\_ng \_v\_nts \_n \_sr\_\_l \_nd G\_z\_. Th\_r\_  
\_r\_ c\_nc\_rns \_b\_\_t h\_w m\_ch \_f th\_ c\_nt\_nt p\_st\_d  
\_nl\_n\_ \_s f\_k\_. Th\_ \_\_r\_p\_\_n \_n\_\_n h\_s j\_st \_p\_n\_d  
\_n \_nv\_st\_g\_t\_\_n \_nt\_ th\_ s\_c\_\_l m\_d\_\_ s\_t\_ X,  
f\_rm\_rly kn\_wn \_s Tw\_tt\_r. Th\_ \_\_ s\_ys th\_r\_ \_s \_n  
\_l\_rm\_ng v\_l\_m\_ \_f p\_sts c\_nt\_\_n\_g f\_ls\_ \_nf\_rm\_t\_\_n  
\_n X. \_\_ \_ff\_c\_\_ls h\_v\_ \_xpr\_ss\_d c\_nc\_rn th\_t X  
w\_s, "b\_\_ng \_s\_d t\_ d\_ss\_m\_n\_t\_ \_ll\_g\_l c\_nt\_nt \_nd  
d\_s\_nf\_rm\_t\_\_n". X h\_s \_nt\_l th\_ \_nd \_f n\_xt w\_\_k t\_  
\_nsw\_r \_ s\_r\_s \_f \_\_ q\_\_st\_\_ns \_b\_\_t th\_s c\_nt\_nt.  
F\_\_l\_r\_ t\_ s\_t\_sf\_ct\_r\_ly \_ddr\_ss th\_s\_ \_ss\_\_s c\_\_ld  
l\_\_d th\_ \_\_ t\_ \_mp\_s\_ \_ f\_n\_ \_n X \_f \_p\_t\_ f\_v\_  
p\_r c\_nt \_f th\_ c\_m\_p\_ny's d\_\_ly gl\_b\_l t\_rn\_v\_r.

Th\_ \_\_ pr\_b\_ \_nt\_ X c\_m\_s \_nd\_r th\_ bl\_c's D\_g\_t\_l  
S\_rv\_c\_s \_ct. Th\_s w\_s \_st\_bl\_sh\_d t\_ m\_n\_t\_r h\_w  
l\_rg\_ t\_ch c\_m\_p\_n\_\_s d\_\_l w\_th th\_ h\_t\_ sp\_\_ch  
p\_st\_d \_n th\_\_r pl\_tf\_rms, \_nd h\_w th\_y p\_l\_c\_ th\_  
\_nt\_rn\_t. \_n \_\_ sp\_k\_sp\_rs\_n \_dv\_s\_d X t\_ \_ntr\_d\_c\_,  
"pr\_p\_rt\_\_n\_t\_ \_nd \_ff\_ct\_v\_ m\_t\_g\_t\_\_n m\_\_s\_r\_s" t\_  
\_d\_nt\_fy \_nd d\_l\_t\_ d\_s\_nf\_rm\_t\_\_n. H\_ \_dd\_d: "W\_  
h\_v\_, fr\_m q\_\_l\_f\_\_d s\_\_rc\_s, r\_p\_rts \_b\_\_t p\_t\_nt\_\_lly  
\_ll\_g\_l c\_nt\_nt c\_rc\_l\_t\_ng \_n X, d\_sp\_t\_ fl\_gs fr\_m  
r\_l\_v\_nt \_\_th\_r\_t\_\_s." H\_ndr\_ds \_f b\_g\_s \_cc\_\_nts h\_v\_  
b\_\_n fl\_\_d\_ng th\_ \_nt\_rn\_t w\_th h\_rmf\_l \_nd  
\_nfl\_mm\_t\_ry c\_nt\_nt. Th\_ C\_\_ \_f X s\_\_d th\_ s\_t\_ h\_d  
r\_m\_v\_d h\_ndr\_ds \_f th\_s\_ \_cc\_\_nts. \_ s\_c\_\_l m\_d\_\_  
\_xp\_rt l\_m\_nt\_d th\_s w\_s, "\_ dr\_p \_n th\_ \_c\_\_n".

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231016-online-disinformation.html>

social media is awash with information and graphics about the ongoing events in israel and gaza there are concerns about how much of the content posted online is fake the european union has just opened an investigation into the social media site x formerly known as twitter the eu says there is an alarming volume of posts containing false information on x eu officials have expressed concern that x was being used to disseminate illegal content and disinformation x has until the end of next week to answer a series of eu questions about this content failure to satisfactorily address these issues could lead the eu to impose a fine on x of up to five per cent of the companys daily global turnover

the eu probe into x comes under the blocs digital services act this was established to monitor how large tech companies deal with the hate speech posted on their platforms and how they police the internet an eu spokesperson advised x to introduce proportionate and effective mitigation measures to identify and delete disinformation he added we have from qualified sources reports about potentially illegal content circulating on x despite flags from relevant authorities hundreds of bogus accounts have been flooding the internet with harmful and inflammatory content the ceo of x said the site had removed hundreds of these accounts a social media expert lamented this was a drop in the ocean

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2310/231016-online-disinformation.html>

Social media is awash with information and graphics about the ongoing events in Israel and Gaza. There are concerns about how much of the content posted online is fake. The European Union has just opened an investigation into the social media site X, formerly known as Twitter. The EU says there is an alarming volume of posts containing false information on X. EU officials have expressed concern that X was "being used to disseminate illegal content and disinformation". X has until the end of next week to answer a series of EU questions about this content. Failure to satisfactorily address these issues could lead the EU to impose a fine on X of up to five percent of the company's daily global turnover. The EU probe into X comes under the bloc's Digital Services Act. This was established to monitor how large tech companies deal with the hate speech posted on their platforms, and how they police the Internet. An EU spokesperson advised X to introduce "proportionate and effective mitigation measures" to identify and delete disinformation. He added: "We have, from qualified sources, reports about potentially illegal content circulating on X, despite flags from relevant authorities." Hundreds of bogus accounts have been flooding the Internet with harmful and inflammatory content. The CEO of X said the site had removed hundreds of these accounts. A social media expert lamented this was "a drop in the ocean".







# HOMework

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. X:** Make a poster about the social media platform X. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. ONLINE DISINFORMATION:** Write a magazine article about temporarily suspending social media sites who have disinformation on their sites. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to an expert on online disinformation. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to deal with it. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. e    2. c    3. b    4. f    5. a    6. g    7. d  
8. m    9. k    10. n    11. h    12. j    13. i    14. l

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 T    2 F    3 F    4 F    5 T    6 T    7 F    8 F

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. g	2. c	3. j	4. b	5. d
6. h	7. f	8. i	9. e	10. a

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- Information and graphics
- An investigation
- Posts containing false information
- The end of next week
- Up to 5%
- The Digital Services Act
- Large tech companies
- Relevant authorities
- Flooding it with harmful and inflammatory content
- A drop in the ocean

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

- Social media is awash with information and graphics.
- Much of the content posted online is fake.
- An alarming volume of posts containing false information.
- Answer a series of EU questions about this.
- Five per cent of the company's daily global turnover.
- How tech companies deal with this hate speech.
- Effective mitigation measures to identify and delete disinformation.
- Reports about potentially illegal content circulating on X.
- Hundreds of bogus accounts are flooding the Internet.
- This was simply a drop in the ocean.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. b    2. d    3. c    4. a    5. b    6. a    7. c    8. a    9. d    10. c

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)