

TRACE CLAIMS,

QUOTES AND MEDIA TO THE ORIGINAL
CONTEXT.

With AI:

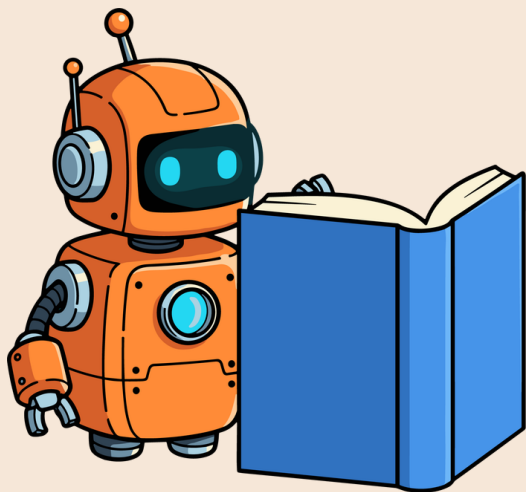
- There often is no originally generated source
- Quotes may be paraphrased or reconstructed
- Citations may be incomplete or synthetic

So **Tracing** becomes:

- “Does this claim exist outside the AI?”
- “Can I locate an independent source saying this?”
- “Is the AI compressing multiple ideas into one assertion?”

You may want to explicitly teach:

“If a claim can’t be traced outside the AI system, treat it as unverified.”



Waitaki District
Libraries

THE PRE-BUNKING CODE

If you are preemptively made aware that you might be misled (and you have the tools in which to recognise the ways in which you could be misled), you can develop resilience to conspiratorial messages, hoaxes, fakes, and false information.

With Gen AI

- Errors are rarely obvious
- There may be no malicious intent
- Mistakes emerge from training gaps, synthesis errors, or outdated data

Gen AI

**HOW TO
S.I.F.T
THROUGH
THE C.R.A.P**

WAITAKI DISTRICT LIBRARIES



**LEARN HOW
TO BECOME
YOUR OWN
FILTER IN THE
AGE OF AI**



The SIFT method by Mike Caulfield (digital information literacy expert at Washington State University) provides four quick moves you can do when evaluating an online source .



The CRAP Test is a helpful tool to use when deciding if a source is high-quality and credible. CRAP stands for **Currency, Reliability, Authority and Purpose**. These are four areas to consider when evaluating any source.



THE CRAP IN SIFT

Always apply CRAP when you get to the "I" in SIFT. Why? CRAP works best at the INVESTIGATIVE stage of SIFT.

STOP!

TAKE A DEEP BREATH AND CONSIDER WHAT YOU ARE LOOKING AT AND HOW YOU'RE FEELING.

- Ask yourself if you are certain the information is true.
- Don't re-post, use, or share until you verify.



INVESTIGATE...

INVESTIGATE THE SOURCE & APPLY THE CRAP TEST:

- Check dates (is it **Current?**) - reposting old news stories doesn't mean they're relevant to current events.
- Is it **Reliable** information? Try looking at a fact checking site for the name, company, organisation, journal article, or publisher.
- Look at the source. Who created the information? Who is the **Author** and what are their credentials? Learn about the expertise, education, and/or the agenda of the author of the information.
- What is their **Purpose** in creating the information?

FIND BETTER COVERAGE...

LOOK FOR OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON THE SAME SUBJECT

Look for information that comes from different sources - books, journal articles, trusted websites, databases and other fact checking sites. The list below provides some key political fact checking sites as well as the more generalised fact-checking site, Snopes.com.

FactCheck.org

A product of the Annenberg Public Policy Center, this site is excellent for checking up on political claims.

PolitiFact

The Pulitzer Prize-winning PolitiFact researches the claims of politicians and checks their accuracy.

Snopes.com

One of the oldest debunking sites on the Internet, Snopes.com focuses on urban legends, news stories and memes (and reference their sources).

AllSides

This site provides articles and an assessment of political bias, from the political left to the right.

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The SIFT method by Mike Caulfield (digital information literacy expert at Washington State University) provides four quick moves you can do when evaluating an online source or Generative AI, like ChatGPT.



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This **Stop** step is crucial for AI outputs.

With AI:

- Confidence does not equal correctness
- Politeness does not equal authority
- Detail does not equal verification

Ask yourself if you are certain the information is true. Don't re-post, use, or share until you verify.



INVESTIGATE...

INVESTIGATE THE SOURCE & APPLY THE CRAP TEST:

How **Current** is the information?

With AI:

- Is the AI likely to have up-to-date information?
- Does the claim depend on rapidly changing facts?
- Have you checked current external sources?

Is it **Reliable** information? Try looking an external fact checking site for the name, company, organisation, journal article, or publisher.

With AI:

- Are there independent confirmations?
- Do authoritative sources agree?
- Is this consensus or fringe knowledge?

Look at the source. Who created the information? Who is the **Author** or **Authority** and what are their credentials? Learn about the expertise, education, and/or the agenda of the author of the information.

With AI:

- AI has no subject authority
- Authority must be transferred to external sources
- AI sounds authoritative, but has no authority.

What is the **Purpose** in creating the information?

With AI:

- AI has no intent, but the prompt has intent
- The training data reflects dominant perspectives
- The deployment context (search, productivity, marketing) shapes the output

FIND BETTER COVERAGE...

LOOK FOR OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON THE SAME SUBJECT

Look for information that comes from different sources - books, journal articles, trusted websites, databases and other fact checking sites.

With AI:

- "Better coverage" means authoritative human sources
- Peer-reviewed research
- Reputable journalism (often independent)
- Institutional reporting
- Subject-matter experts

AI output should always trigger this step when claims matter - see next page...