SPOT THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN...

MIS, DIS and MAL Information!

MIS-INFORMATION:

/noun/

1. false information that is spread without the initial intent to deceive.[1]

Example: "In the chaotic hours after the earthquake, a lot of misinformation was reported in the news."

ERROR

☑ Does any of the information appear to be incomplete?

☑ Does it seem like the information could have been posted too quickly?

☑ Does the author/creator seem upset or affected by the information they are sharing?

☑ Do the motives of the person sharing the content seem different from those who created it?

☑ Do you spot any evidence of an update or retraction that may have been shared later?

DID YOU KNOW?
The prefix MIS means mistaken or wrong.

☑ Does the information trigger a strong emotional reaction (positive or negative) that increases your urge to share it?

☑ Does the information lack facts or data to back up its claims?

☑ Does the information rely on unnamed sources or lack eye witnesses?

DID YOU KNOW?
The prefix DIS means to take apart.

☑ Does the information include a misleading title or headline?

DIS-INFORMATION:

/noun/

1. false information that is deliberately misleading or manipulated.[2]

Examples: "In order to confuse and upset voters, some politicians spread disinformation online."

or

"The comedian used a hoax video that spread disinformation in order to gain social media followers."

MAL-INFORMATION:

/noun/

1. true information that is deliberately altered in order to deceive or inflict harm.[3]

Examples: "By changing the date of the video, the online troll used malinformation to convince viewers that a long ago event occurred more recently."

☑ Does the information discredit, embarrass or humiliate an individual or group?

☑ Does the information blame an individual or group for a specific problem?

☑ Does the information lack specific details that help to establish context such as the date or location?

☑ Does the information seem to good or too outrageous to be true?

DID YOU KNOW?
The prefix MAL means bad or faulty.

Works Cited:
1. Scientific American (2019): "Misinformation Has Created a New World Disorder" bit.ly/33KxlYi
2. Derakhshan & Wardle (2017): "INFORMATION DISORDER: Toward an interdisciplinary framework for research and policy making." bit.ly/2XLfuwz
3. Baines & Elliott (2020): "Defining misinformation, disinformation and malinformation: An urgent need for clarity during the COVID-19 infodemic." bit.ly/31Hn2BQ

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