



**NCFE Level 1 Functional Skills Qualification in  
English  
(603/5058/1)**

**NCFE Level 1 Functional Skills Qualification in  
English: Reading**

Paper number: P001233

Mark Scheme

V2.4

Past paper

Pass Mark: 17

**Note:** Pass marks for functional skills external assessments are set in an awarding meeting, in which a combination of statistical analysis and professional judgement is used to determine the minimum required standard to achieve a pass in the assessment. While different versions of the same assessment are designed to be of the same level of difficulty, variations in content can lead to the minimum required standard being represented by different marks across versions.

<b>1</b>	Identify whether <b>each</b> of the following statements about Document 1 is <b>true</b> or <b>false</b> . <b>[2 marks]</b>		
	<b>Statement</b>	<b>True or False</b>	
	The <b>main</b> purpose of this text is to persuade readers that fake news has a negative effect on society.		
	The writer <b>mostly</b> uses informal language.		
	<b>1 mark each for any of the following, up to 2 marks:</b>		2    02.16
	<b>Statement</b>	<b>True or False</b>	
	The <b>main</b> purpose of this text is to persuade readers that fake news has a negative effect on society.	True	
	The writer <b>mostly</b> uses informal language.	False	

<b>2</b>	Identify whether <b>each</b> of the following quotations from Document 1 is a <b>fact</b> or an <b>opinion</b> . <b>[2 marks]</b>		
	<b>Statement</b>	<b>Fact or Opinion</b>	
	'That sounds quite serious'		
	'It matters greatly'		
	<b>1 mark each for any of the following, up to 2 marks:</b>		2    02.11
	<b>Statement</b>	<b>Fact or Opinion</b>	
	'That sounds quite serious'	Opinion	
	'It matters greatly'	Opinion	

<b>3</b>	Give <b>two</b> examples of fake news mentioned in Document 1. <b>[2 marks]</b>		
	<b>1 mark each for any of the following, up to 2 marks:</b>		2    02.09
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-deliberate/mistakes (1)</li> <li>• Exaggeration/biased (1)</li> <li>• Deliberate/intentional lies/misleading information (1).</li> </ul>		
	<b>Accept</b> similar wording.		

<b>4</b>	Give <b>two</b> reasons why the writer has referenced quotations from the UKPoll Report in paragraph 1.		<b>[2 marks]</b>
	<b>1 mark each for any of the following, up to 1 mark:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To show it comes from an important/valid source (1)</li> <li>• To back/support his argument (1)</li> <li>• To show that fake news is a serious matter (1).</li> </ul> <b>Accept</b> similar wording. <b>Accept</b> any other valid reason.	2	02.12

<b>5</b>	What organisational feature has the writer used to divide the text in Document 1 into sections?		<b>[1 mark]</b>
	<b>1 mark for any of the following, up to 1 mark:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sub-headings (1)</li> <li>• Emboldened text (1).</li> </ul>	1	02.14

<b>6</b>	Why does the writer think that discussing the topic of fake news is important?		<b>[1 mark]</b>
	<b>1 mark for any of the following, up to 1 mark:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Because it affects our attitudes and how we behave with other people. (1)</li> <li>• Because he'd like his views to be based on fact not fiction. (1)</li> <li>•</li> </ul> <b>Accept</b> similar wording. <b>Accept</b> any other valid reason.	1	02.09

<b>7</b>	Give <b>one</b> reason why the writer includes inverted commas when using the word 'news' in paragraph 2.		<b>[1 mark]</b>
	<b>1 mark each for any of the following, up to 1 mark:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The writer is suggesting that it is not real news (1)</li> <li>• The writer is suggesting that it should not be referred to as news (1)</li> <li>• The writer is trying to create doubt in the reader's mind (1)</li> </ul> <b>Accept</b> similar wording. <b>Accept</b> any other valid reason.	1	02.18

<b>8</b>	What does the chart imply about access to news that is <b>not</b> mentioned in the text? <b>[1 mark]</b>		
	<p><b>1 mark for any of the following, up to 1 mark:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most people get online news via social media (1)</li> <li>• Some people get online news via email (1)</li> <li>• Some people get online news via official news websites (1)</li> <li>• Not very many people get online news via search engines (1)</li> <li>• That we generate fake news ourselves (1).</li> </ul> <p><b>Accept</b> similar wording. <b>Accept</b> any other valid statement about the chart which is not explicit in the text.</p>	1	02.15

<b>9</b>	The writer says 'we can be swamped with fake news'. What does the word 'swamped' mean in this context?  You can use a dictionary to answer this question. <b>[1 mark]</b>		
	<p><b>1 mark each for any of the following, up to 1 mark:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (The amount of fake news is) overwhelming (1).</li> </ul> <p><b>Accept</b> similar wording. <b>Accept</b> any other valid meaning.</p>	1	02.13

<b>10</b>	Use information in Document 2 to say if these statements are <b>true</b> or <b>false</b> . <b>[2 marks]</b>		
	<b>Statement</b>	<b>True or False</b>	
	Northerncaller and Snowman10 are the only two contributors who have made a practical suggestion as to how to deal with fake news.		
	LaptopLarry and GaryH have similar views as to how to recognise fake news.		
	<b>1 mark each for any of the following, up to 2 marks:</b>	2	02.11
	<b>Statement</b>	<b>True or False</b>	
	Northerncaller and Snowman10 are the only two contributors who have made a practical suggestion as to how to deal with fake news.	False	
	LaptopLarry and GaryH have similar views as to how to recognise fake news.	True	

11	What does Webus.com mean about fake news when they say 'Perhaps we just need to embrace it'?			[1 mark]
	<b>1 mark each for any of the following, up to 1 mark:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>That we should welcome it (1)</li> <li>That we should accept it (1).</li> </ul> <b>Accept</b> similar wording.	1	02.13	

12	Suetoo says 'the social media platforms allow people to share their opinions.' What does the word 'platforms' mean in this context?			[1 mark]
	<b>1 mark each for any of the following, up to 1 mark:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>App/network/program/tools (1).</li> </ul> <b>Accept</b> similar wording. <b>Accept</b> any other valid meaning  <b>Do Not Accept:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Examples of specific brands</li> <li>The social media company/business.</li> </ul>	1	02.17	

13	Identify <b>two</b> organisational features within Document 2 that help distinguish comments between contributors.			[2 marks]
	<b>1 mark each for any of the following, up to 2 marks:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The rows show contributions from different people / different usernames appear on each row (1)</li> <li>Coloured rows separate the different contributors (1)</li> <li>Different user names in bold/large/as subheadings. (1)</li> </ul> <b>Accept</b> similar wording. <b>Accept</b> any other valid response	2	02.14	

14	What does the image used by Wolfman imply about fake news that is <b>not</b> mentioned in his post?			[1 mark]
	<b>1 mark for any of the following, up to 1 mark:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>That it stifles/stops/ruins free speech (1)</li> <li>That it will end free speech (1).</li> </ul> <b>Accept</b> similar wording. <b>Accept</b> any other valid statement about the implication	1	02.15	

15	Snowman10 mentions that there might be some who are 'using propaganda'. What does the word 'propaganda' mean in the context of their overall comment?	<b>[1 mark]</b>
	<b>Answer:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information that is misleading/promotes ideas/persuades people to accept a specific point of view/idea (1)</li> <li>• False information (1).</li> </ul>	1      02.17

16	Give <b>two</b> quotations from Document 2 where contributors say what they want social media companies to do about detecting fake news.	<b>[2 marks]</b>
	<b>1 mark each for any of the following, up to 2 marks:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "The social media businesses ought to check whether it's genuine or fake" (GaryH) (1)</li> <li>• "These companies should be inspecting it!" (Snowman10) (1).</li> </ul> <b>Bracketed information not required for the learner to achieve a mark.</b>	2      02.09

17	Some contributors use persuasive language to express their opinions. Give <b>two</b> examples of this.	<b>[2 marks]</b>
	<b>Answer:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fake news is a terrible problem (1)</li> <li>• I just loved reading about it (1)</li> <li>• So out of control that it's impossible to stop (1)</li> <li>• If you can't find the source immediately distrust it (1).</li> </ul> <b>Bracketed information not required for the learner to achieve a mark.</b>	2      02.16

18	State the textual feature used by the writer in <b>each</b> of the following quotations. a) 'I think this fake news problem is so big, so complicated and so out of control that it's impossible to stop'. <span style="float: right;"><b>[1 mark]</b></span>	
	b) 'Don't you think fake news is a terrible problem?' <span style="float: right;"><b>[1 mark]</b></span>	
	a) <b>Answer:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rule of three OR repetition (1).</li> </ul>	2      02.12
	b) <b>Answer:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rhetorical question (1).</li> </ul>	

19	Compare the information, ideas and opinions given in Document 1 about fake news with what the contributors say about fake news in Document 2.	<b>[3 marks]</b>	
	<p><b>(one of the following)</b>  <b>The learner's response will</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• mention both documents, but with very little comparison – eg Document 1 says fake news is a serious problem, Suetoo thinks it's easy to tell if news is fake <b>(1 mark)</b></li> <li>• mention both documents with a brief, possibly implicit, comparison - eg Document 1 explains types of fake news and why it is a serious issue, GaryH says it is a terrible problem, but Widgirl53 thinks it can't be stopped <b>(2 marks)</b></li> <li>• use both documents to compare information, ideas and opinions clearly and effectively - eg Document 1 explains types of fake news and that it is a serious issue because it affects our attitudes. Document 2 is more about how to detect fake news. Some of the contributors in document 2 don't seem to think that fake news really matters (Webus.com and Wilfdgirl53), while others have good advice about how to recognise it <b>(3 marks)</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>0 marks should be given for no awardable content.</b></p>	3	02.10

**[Total: 30 marks]**