ALGORITHM A set of rules that are programmed to solve a problem. On social media, algorithms analyse your online habits to sort content in a user's feed by how important they think the story is to you.

BIAS If a news piece has bias, it may only support a certain argument and not show fairness to different sides of the story. This can make the viewer think one point of view is more important than the other.

CONTEXT The circumstances or background surrounding an event or story. The context is important as it can help you fully understand the many possible reasons as to why something happened.

CLICKBAIT Eye-catching but misleading headlines, trying to get people to click on websites to make views or money. These could have lots of exclamation marks, dramatic photographs, or phrases like "Best Ever!"

DISINFORMATION A type of fake news that deliberately attempts to mislead using material that the deceiver knows is untrue. Disinformation is designed to be widely shared, often to persuade people to think a certain way, vote a certain way or to make money from advertising each time someone clicks on a story.

ECHO CHAMBER A space where all the ideas and opinions reflect our own. We might not even realise we're in one, which can be harmful as our view of the world might seem balanced but is actually one-sided.

FITLER BUBBLE How algorithms fill your social media feed with posts they think will interest you. This can create an echo chamber which reinforces what you already think, rather than giving you new information.

FAKE NEWS A popular and informal term, which many politicians and activists have used as an insult to their opponents or a way to dismiss stories that they don't like – no matter whether they're factual or not.

HOAX A trick meant to deceive; like a practical joke but far more serious. Someone could publish that they have found a cure for coronavirus made out of dandelions, which could turn out to be a totally false hoax.

IMPARTIAL To have a fair point of view that doesn't favour one argument over another. No-one likes it when journalists seem to have a favourite politician or party; reporting the facts should always be unbiased.

MISINFORMATION A type of fake news that describes bad information; false, misleading or out of context, regardless of the motivation behind it. This is different to disinformation, which is intended to mislead.

OPINION How you feel and what you think about things. When looking at the news, it's important to understand if you are reading or seeing someone's opinion or a journalist reporting on the facts.

PARODY / SATIRE Comical ways of looking at serious information, often through imitation, exaggeration or irony. Sometimes people can share these jokes as if they are real, which can generate fake news.

RELIABILITY How trustworthy something is. When asking about the reliability of a news story, you might ask if it was written by a journalist from an organisation that you have heard of before.

SOURCE The beginning or starting place; for a news story, it's the journalist who first wrote the piece. It's important to check the source of a story so you can decide if it is true and based on facts or just their opinion.

TRUST A belief in the truth of a person or thing. It's important to establish trust between people and the places you get your information from so you can feel confident it is correct when forming your opinion.

UNBIASED Information that doesn't take an opinionated stance and presents both sides of an argument.

VERIFICATION checking something is authentic and where it has come from. If an account shows that it is verified (like displaying a blue tick), then it is real - but this doesn't mean everything they say will be true.