



Media Masters Rock – Activity Sheet (Grades 7–8)

Lesson 5: THINK LIKE A MEDIA MASTER!

Stop • Think • Check • Verify • Evaluate

Name: _____

Grade: 7–8

1. What Is Critical Thinking?

Media Masters **don't just react** — they evaluate online content using evidence, logic, and awareness of emotions.

Match each Critical Thinking step with its best description:

1. **STOP**
2. **THINK**
3. **CHECK**
4. **VERIFY**

- A. "Where did this information come from?"
- B. "Don't respond instantly."
- C. "Does this make sense scientifically or logically?"
- D. "Can a reliable second source confirm it?"

Write the correct number:

- A: ____
B: ____
C: ____
D: ____

2. Real or Ridiculous?

Write **R** for *Realistic* and **RR** for *Requires Research*.

1. “Scientists discovered a new fossil in Alabama.” _____
2. “A teenager built a solar-powered car that really works.” _____
3. “Tiny dinosaurs are living under a beach pier!” _____
4. “A hamster learned to fly after months of training.” _____
5. “New math website helps explain fractions better.” _____

3. Emotional Triggers

Emotional posts try to make you react fast.

Read this post:

“Everyone is talking about you — and it’s NOT good.”

Answer each question:

1. **Which emotion does this create first?**
☐ Anger ☐ Fear ☐ Embarrassment ☐ Curiosity
2. **If you felt this, what should you do FIRST?**
☐ Respond immediately
☐ Investigate who posted it
☐ Check for evidence
☐ Ask for context
3. **What emotion might make this post easier to manipulate?**

4. Evaluate the Evidence

You see a video that claims: **“This man lives in a pudding house.”**

Answer the following:

1. **What type of evidence would you need to believe this?**

2. Name a trustworthy source where you could verify the claim:
3. List one reason the video might still look real even if it isn't:

5. More Trustworthy? Choose and Explain.

Which post seems **more credible**?

☐ **Post A:** "BREAKING: A flying hamster was seen in three different states!"

☐ **Post B:** "NASA confirms a new asteroid will pass safely by Earth this week."

Explain why you chose it:

6. Create Your Own Critical Thinking Test

Write **three questions** YOU should ask before believing any wild or emotional post online:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Optional Extension (for early finishers)

On a separate sheet, **rewrite a misleading or emotional online post** into a **more truthful, calm, and evidence-based version**.