

TEXTO A

Today's "Fake News Used to Be Called Yellow Journalism

It is perhaps not so surprising to hear that the problem of "fake news" media outlets adopting sensationalism to the point of fantasy-is nothing new. As Robert Darton said, the first example of this in history may have been in the late 19th century. This was when "Yellow Journalism began.

Why yellow? The reasons are not totally clear and some sources point to the yellow ink the publications would sometimes use, though others say it was named after a popular cartoon called The Yellow Kid. This cartoon first ran in Joseph Pulitzer's *New York World*, and later William Randolph Hearst's *New York Journal*. These two newspapers were in a battle because they wanted to win readers. Their competition led to the rise of Yellow Journalism.

Although today his name is somewhat synonymous with journalism of the highest standards, through association with the Pulitzer Prize, Joseph Pulitzer had a very different reputation while alive. After purchasing *The New York World* in 1884 and rapidly increasing circulation through the publication of sensationalist stories, he earned the dubious honour of being the pioneer of tabloid journalism. He soon had a competitor in the field when his rival William Randolph Hearst acquired *The New York Journal* in 1885. The rivalry was fierce, each trying to outdo each other with ever more sensational and scandalous stories.

Yellow Journalism was at its worst in the days leading up to the Spanish-American War. Hearst's newspaper had a major influence on the conflict. It encouraged anti-Spanish feelings across the United States. Some people started calling the war "The Journal's War". Both newspapers published stories about the war that were full of unconfirmed claims, sensationalist propaganda, and outright factual errors.

Adapted from "Yellow Journalism: The "Fake News" of the 19th Century." *The Public Domain Review*, December 11, 2019. <<https://publicdomainreview.org/collection/yellow-journalism-the-fake-news-of-the-19th-century>>

TEXTO A

QUESTIONS

A.1.- Are the following statements TRUE or FALSE? Copy the evidence from the text. Use a complete sentence. No marks are given for only TRUE or FALSE.

a) The term "Yellow Journalism was coined after a comic strip about a boy in a yellow nightshirt, entitled the "Yellow Kid".

False. "The reasons are not totally clear and some sources point to the yellow ink the publications would sometimes use, though others say it was named after a popular cartoon called The Yellow Kid."

b) Joseph Pulitzer has come to be related to one of the most prominent awards given to journalists.

True. "Although today his name is somewhat synonymous with journalism of the highest standards, through association with the Pulitzer Prize, Joseph Pulitzer had a very different reputation while alive."

(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

A.2.- In your own words and based on the ideas in the text, answer the following questions. Do not copy from the text.

a) What similarities are there between William Randolph Hearst and Joseph Pulitzer? Mention two.

Both their newspapers included the cartoon which is thought to be one of the possible reasons for the expression "Yellow Journalism". Moreover, they were the first ones to own newspapers devoted to tabloid journalism.

b) Did Yellow Journalism play a role in the Spanish-American War? Why.

Yes, it had a key role since the most important tabloids at the time promoted a feeling of hate towards Spaniards among Americans using sensationalism publishing news that contained false statements and propaganda.

(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

A.3.- Find the words in the text that mean:

- a) possibly (paragraph 1) **perhaps**
- b) questionable (paragraph 3) **dubious**
- c) intense (paragraph 3) **fierce**
- d) key (paragraph 4) **major**

(Puntuación máxima: 1 punto)

A.4.- Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given.

a) I really think the journalist is biased. I mean, he **is giving/has given** (give) a wrong perspective of the issue blaming the government! That's **hardly** (hard) fair, is it?

b) William Randolph Hearst was one of **the most colourful** (colorful), influential, and outspoken figures **involved** (involve) in activities surrounding the Spanish-American War.

c) Those **who** consume news need to find ways of **determining** (determine) if what they're reading is true.

d) Complete the following sentence to report what was said.

"Can you check it out in ten minutes?"

She wondered **if I could check it out in ten minutes.**

(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

A.5.- Write about 150 to 200 words on the following topic.

Can social networking sites like Twitter or Instagram be considered news sources? Justify your answer.

(Puntuación máxima: 3 puntos)

The expanse of social media to most aspects of our lives is undeniable. Therefore, the area of journalism has also been affected by them, but can we consider social networks like Twitter or Instagram news sources?

These platforms offer the user instant concise information about anything, from international affairs to the most trivial local anecdote, and sometimes that is precisely what the user requests, a shorter less dense access to information.

The problem of being informed through these channels is that sometimes the material they offer is not reliable. Everyone can participate and carry out content through these platforms and that could lead to the spread of misinformation.

In a nutshell, for many people certain social networks are actually their main source of news. However, we have to be very careful and be critical about who is behind any new article. Needless to say, that is something we should do before accessing information offered through any channel, even newspapers.



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TEXTO B

Breakfast Radio

Global Breakfast Radio (GBR) is a 24-hour operation, broadcasting programs from more than 250 radio stations around the world. But there's a catch: each of those stations is only played during its time zone's respective breakfast time slot. As GBR explains in a statement, "The sun is always rising somewhere; breakfast is always just about to happen. In some small way, Global Breakfast Radio hopes to be a way of traveling globally through the medium of radio."

The station was created by two UK-based breakfast radio fans, Seb Emina, a writer, and Daniel Jones, a systems artist. The duo searched for hundreds of radio stations worldwide to narrow down the current list of 250. Those stations play on a loop, with music and news following the sunrise. Pulling that off, however, required a bit of technical finesse. Digital music lovers might notice that the output bears a little resemblance to the algorithmically generated playlists built by Spotify or Pandora. "The difference is that here the algorithm is mediated by the day-long cycle of the Sun sweeping the globe," says Jones, "tied together with the myriad broadcasters in these remote locations."

But this is not without problems, explains Jones. "We soon discovered that internet stream URLs seem to decay and disappear extremely quickly, meaning that the database of stations needs to be constantly updated." Once the algorithmic problems were worked out, the team tried to create a list that is representative of the tremendous diversity around the globe and that captures the feeling of exploring new places. [Even licensed photos of sunrises from those places are shown as music and news are broadcast.](#)

Adapted from "This Radio Station Broadcasts All Over the World, But Only at Breakfast Time," Smithsonian Magazine, May 7, 2014. <<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/radio-station-broadcasts-all-over-world-only-breakfast-time-180951352/>>

TEXTO B

QUESTIONS

B.1.-Are the following statements TRUE or FALSE? Copy the evidence from the text. Use a complete sentence. No marks are given for only TRUE or FALSE.

- a) Radio stations around the world apply to participate in Global Breakfast Radio.
False. "The duo searched for hundreds of radio stations worldwide to narrow down the current list of 250."
- b) GBR offers both an auditory and a visual experience.
True. "The duo searched for hundreds of radio stations worldwide to narrow down the current list of 250."
- (Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

B.2.- In your own words and based on the ideas in the text, answer the following questions. Do not copy from the text.

a) What is GBR's main goal?

GBR wants to mimic a global trip using the radio by broadcasting breakfast programs from all over the globe using also images of sunrises from those places.

b) Why do they need to continuously supervise the database?

Because radio web addresses fade very rapidly.

(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)

B.3.- Find the words in the text that mean:

a) corresponding (paragraph 1) **respective**

b) observe (paragraph 2) **notice**

c) solved (paragraph 3) **worked out**

d) huge (paragraph 3) **tremendous**

(Puntuación máxima: 1 punto)

B.4.- Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given.

a) In the 19th century, German scientist Heinrich Hertz **proved** (prove) the existence of radio waves, **which** occur in nature.

b) Guglielmo Marconi, who was born **on** 20th April 1874, invented what he called "the wireless telegraph" while **experimenting** (experiment) in his parents' attic.

c) Marconi used radio waves **to transmit** (transmit) Morse code and the instrument he used became **known** (know) as the radio.

d) Before the 1920s, the radio **was used** (use) to contact ships that were out **at** sea.

(Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)



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B.5.- Write about 150 to 200 words on the following topic.

Discuss the pros and cons of starting the school day later in the morning.
(Puntuación máxima: 3 puntos)

Implementing a later morning entrance has been a common request from students and educators to education authorities for a long time. However, that can be considered a mixed blessing.

One of the most convincing arguments in favour of this new measure is that students' performance would improve because they would probably rest better. Another positive aspect would be that students who live far away from their schools wouldn't have to get up so early. Besides, students who do sport could do it before class, enjoying a more energetic day.

On the other hand, if that early entrance meant to finish classes later in the evening, it could be detrimental, especially, if students were expected to do homework for the following day. Moreover, if we are talking about school children, who are usually taken to class, it would make it more difficult for parents to adjust their morning schedule to that task, since they would probably still need to go to work early.

In a nutshell, even though it may seem a good measure for some students, in my opinion, the drawbacks outweigh the benefits, especially, if the number of classes is not reduced.



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