



MEDIA

LITERATE

VS

ILLITERATE

SKILLS

Relies on empirical data to drive decisions and respects the role of science and expertise

Actively seeks multiple sources of information to fill gaps in knowledge and consider differing viewpoints

Is able to differentiate between opinion and fact and supports personal opinion with fact-based evidence

Draws unsupported conclusions from anecdotal data and gives too much credence to non-expert opinions

Has limited information consumption habits (echo chamber) and is unable to independently verify or seek additional information

COMPETENCIES

Understands the nuances of correlated events without confusing correlation for causation and avoids the pitfalls of patternicity thinking

Has awareness of personal bias and how it shapes the interpretation of information

Identifies and confirms the authority and expertise of media

Inaccurately conflates correlation with causation or invents patterns where none exist

Fails to acknowledge personal bias or falls prey to manipulative or constructed disinformation

CIVIC ACTION

Is able to engage in issue based debate while continuing to respect the people behind other viewpoints

Evaluates, considers, and attempts to verify information before resharing on social networks

Considers historical, social, and cultural implications of information

During debate or when questioned is more likely to engage in personal attacks rather than addressing the issue

Re-shares information on social networks without verification, consideration, or evaluation and bases decisions to do so on emotion rather than facts

