

Name _____

Date _____

Class _____

STUDENT WORKSHEET 1 · GRADES 9-12

Verify first, Red flag scam or Likely legitimate?

 Read each message or claim. Write V (Verify first), R (Red flag scam) or L (Likely legitimate) and one reason. Verify first means it might be real or might be fake, so you will check by a known route or by lateral reading before you act on it or share it. For every V, write the exact route you would use to check.

CUT OUT THE CARDS, THEN GLUE OR PLACE EACH ONE IN A BOX.



A voice message from an unknown number that sounds exactly like your older brother. He is crying, says he is in trouble, needs \$300 sent through a payment app in the next 20 minutes and begs you not to tell your parents.



Text from scholarships@future-scholars-award.example: 'Congratulations, you have been selected for a guaranteed \$5,000 scholarship. Pay a \$49 processing fee by Friday to claim it.'



Text from 555-0123: 'Hi, this is Tara from HR. Remote online assessor job, \$45 per hour, no experience needed. Reply YES to start. We will mail you a check to buy your equipment.'



An email that looks like it is from a bank you do not have an account with. It is perfectly written, uses your first name and says, 'Unusual activity detected. Verify your identity here within 24 hours.'



A stranger you met in a game chat has flawless selfies and says they are 16. Within a day they ask you to move to a private messaging app and send photos of yourself.



A video of your principal announcing 'school is canceled tomorrow because of a gas leak' is posted by an account you do not follow and shared 4,000 times. Nothing appears on the district website or app.



A viral photo shows a famous singer shopping at your local mall. The posting account is a meme page, one hand in the photo looks blurry and no local news outlet mentions it.



A screenshot of a 'news article' says a new state law bans all phones in high schools starting Monday. It shows no outlet name, no author and no link.



An anonymous account posts a clip of a classmate 'saying' something offensive. The voice sounds slightly flat, and the classmate says they never said it.



An email from your school counselor's district address, which is already in your contacts, reminds seniors about a scholarship deadline that is also listed on the counselor's page in the learning management system. It asks for no money and no login.



You went to a local grocery store's website yourself, found a part-time cashier opening on its careers page and applied. A store manager calls the number you listed to set up an in-person interview. No fees were requested.



A text from your coach's number that is saved in your phone: 'Bus leaves at 6:15 tomorrow. Bring your physical form.' The same note is posted in the team's official app.

Verify first

Red flag scam

Likely legitimate