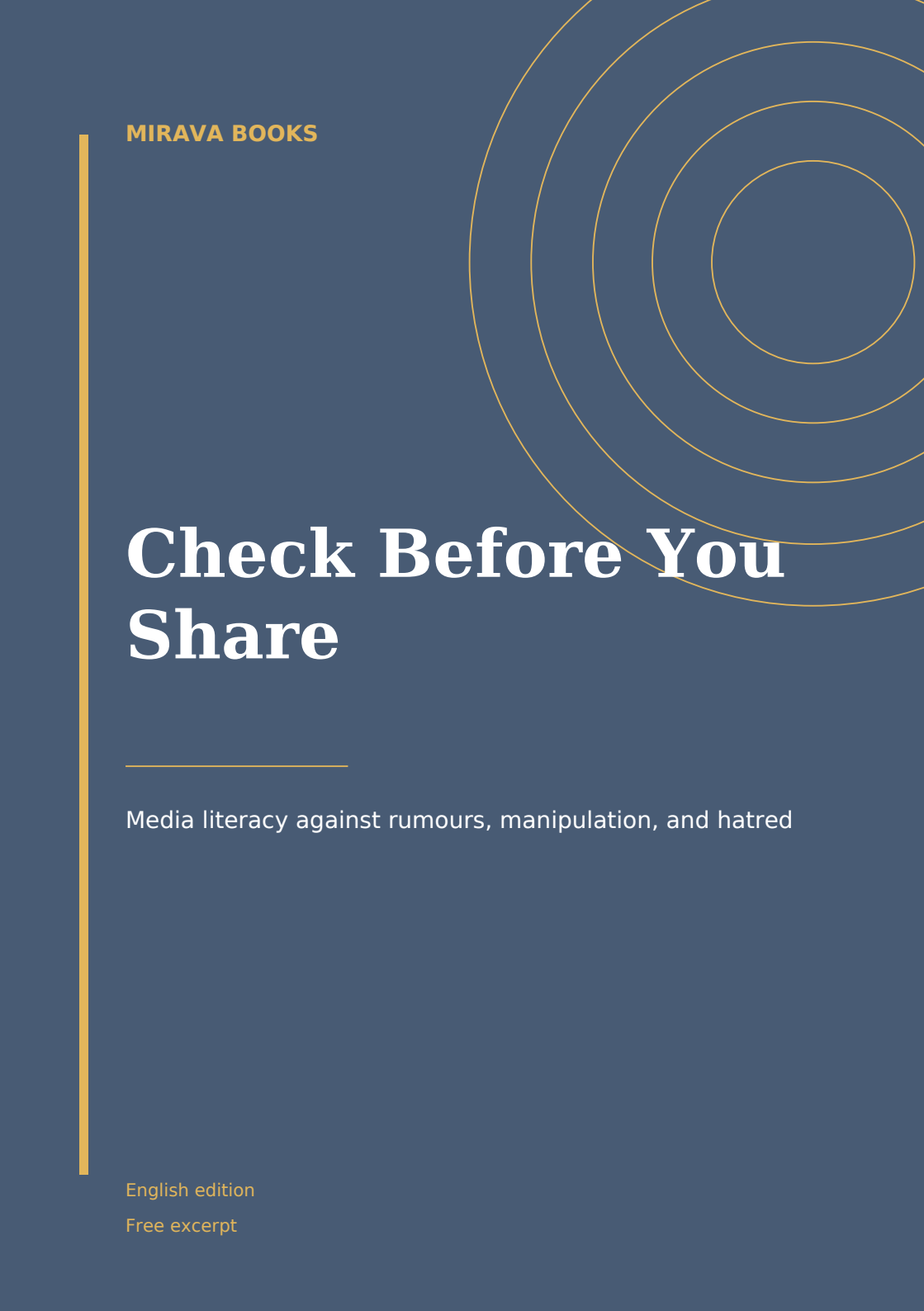




MIRAVA BOOKS

# Check Before You Share

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Media literacy against rumours, manipulation, and hatred

English edition

Free excerpt

# Check Before You Share

Media literacy against rumours, manipulation, and hatred

English edition · Revised edition · October 2026

This short guide is for news readers, school groups and family chats. Six chapters show how to turn an impression from a post into a specific question, find context and correct your own mistake. The examples and numbers are for learning, not reports of real events. Checking may end with an honest “not yet known”; the book does not promise to identify fabrications from one sign. The text and complete translations were prepared with artificial intelligence assistance and edited for this edition. Read a chapter at a time, practising on public material without personal information.

MIRAVA · Text and translation prepared with AI assistance.

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01 Why We Press “Share”

02 The Original Source

03 Photos and Videos Without Context

04 A Number Without Scale

05 The Language of Manipulation

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01

## Why We Press “Share”

Before forwarding, name your purpose. Do you want to warn loved ones, express outrage or show that your position is right? The purpose explains your decision but does not confirm the message. Separately ask: which claim will the recipient regard as an established fact if I send this post now?

A post promises to reveal “what everyone is hiding.” A reader notices excitement and waits ten minutes before sharing. This is a personal pause, not a period that makes the text verified. They look for the author and date, then isolate one claim, such as a particular school closing tomorrow.

Separate a claim from a mood. “This is terrible” expresses a judgement; “The school closes tomorrow” needs confirmation. View counts and a familiar sender do not replace a source. Several identical forwards may originate in one message. Do not count them as independent confirmations until you have traced the information’s origins.

Check the intended audience and action: following a link, transferring money or blaming a group. You can decide against sharing without choosing between belief and denial. For current information about immediate safety, use responsible services’ announcements; ordinary rumour-checking must not delay necessary action.

Exercise. Take a post that is safe to read. Record your emotion, the precise claim, author and date. Add why you wanted to share it. If you cannot state the claim clearly or there is no source, do not send it as fact. First choose one question that needs checkable information.

This is a free excerpt. The complete PDF contains every chapter listed in the contents. Sales have not opened yet.

## Further reading

[1] Google Search Help — Search with an image on Google · [support.google.com](https://support.google.com)

[2] Google Search Help — Learn more about an image · [support.google.com](https://support.google.com)

[3] Reuters — About Reuters Fact Check: methodology and corrections (further reading) · [www.reuters.com](https://www.reuters.com)

[4] UNESCO — Media and Information Literacy (further reading) · [www.unesco.org](https://www.unesco.org)