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**Level 5 – 16th October 2023**

## **EU warns X over Israel-Hamas disinformation**

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:**

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2310/231016-online-disinformation-5.html>

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**Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.**

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2310/231016-online-disinformation-5.html>

Social media is awash with information about the events in Israel and Gaza. There are concerns about how much of it is fake. The European Union has opened an investigation into the website X, formerly known as Twitter. The EU says there is an alarming amount of posts with false information on X. The EU expressed concern that X was, "being used to disseminate illegal content and disinformation". X has until the end of next week to answer EU questions about this content. Failure to reply could lead the EU to a fine on X of up to five per cent of the company's daily turnover.

The EU probe into X comes under the Digital Services Act. This was set up to monitor how tech companies deal with hate speech, and how they police the Internet. The EU advised X to introduce, "proportionate and effective mitigation measures" to identify and delete disinformation. It added: "We have...reports about potentially illegal content circulating on X, despite flags from relevant authorities." Hundreds of bogus accounts have been flooding the Internet with harmful content. X has removed hundreds of these accounts. A social media expert called this, "a drop in the ocean".

Sources: <https://www.ft.com/content/a4ab23c7-977a-46b1-8d00-33923ceaae89>  
<https://abcnews.go.com/Business/wireStory/musks-hundreds-hamas-linked-accounts-ceo-103916288>  
<https://www.rollingstone.com/politics/politics-features/telegram-fueling-israel-hamas-war-misinformation-1234854300/>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2310/231016-online-disinformation-5.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                  |                           |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Social media is awash         | a. an investigation       |
| 2. concerns about                | b. turnover               |
| 3. The European Union has opened | c. of posts               |
| 4. formerly                      | d. illegal content        |
| 5. an alarming amount            | e. with information       |
| 6. being used to disseminate     | f. end of next week       |
| 7. until the                     | g. how much of it is fake |
| 8. the company's daily           | h. known as Twitter       |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                |                         |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. how tech companies deal     | a. in the ocean         |
| 2. effective mitigation        | b. accounts             |
| 3. illegal content circulating | c. measures             |
| 4. despite flags from relevant | d. of these accounts    |
| 5. bogus                       | e. on X                 |
| 6. flooding the Internet       | f. authorities          |
| 7. X has removed hundreds      | g. with hate speech     |
| 8. a drop                      | h. with harmful content |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2310/231016-online-disinformation-5.html>

Social media (1) \_\_\_\_\_ information about the events in Israel and Gaza. There are concerns about how much of (2) \_\_\_\_\_. The European Union has opened an investigation into the website X, (3) \_\_\_\_\_ Twitter. The EU says there (4) \_\_\_\_\_ amount of posts with false information on X. The EU expressed concern that X was, "being (5) \_\_\_\_\_ illegal content and disinformation". X has until the end of next week to answer EU questions about this content. Failure to reply could lead the EU to a fine on X of up to five per cent of the (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

The (7) \_\_\_\_\_ X comes under the Digital Services Act. This was set up to monitor how tech companies deal with hate speech, and how (8) \_\_\_\_\_ Internet. The EU advised X to introduce, "proportionate and effective mitigation measures" to (9) \_\_\_\_\_ disinformation. It added: "We have...reports about potentially illegal (10) \_\_\_\_\_ X, despite flags from relevant authorities." Hundreds of bogus accounts have (11) \_\_\_\_\_ Internet with harmful content. X has removed hundreds of these accounts. A social media expert called this, "a drop (12) \_\_\_\_\_".

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2310/231016-online-disinformation-5.html>

Social media is a wash with information about the events in Israel and Gaza. There are concerns about how much of it is fake. The European Union has opened an investigation into the website X, formerly known as Twitter. The EU says there is an alarming amount of posts with false information on X. The EU expressed concern that X was "being used to disseminate illegal content and disinformation". X has until the end of next week to answer EU questions about this content. Failure to reply could lead the EU to a fine on X of up to five percent of the company's daily turnover. The EU probe into X comes under the Digital Services Act. This was set up to monitor how tech companies deal with hate speech, and how they police the Internet. The EU advised X to introduce "proportionate and effective mitigation measures" to identify and delete disinformation. It added: "We have... report about potentially illegal content circulating on X, despite flags from relevant authorities." Hundreds of bogus accounts have been flooding the Internet with harmful content. X has removed hundreds of these accounts. A social media expert called this, "a drop in the ocean".

# ONLINE DISINFORMATION SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2310/231016-online-disinformation-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about online disinformation in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

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More free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](https://breakingnewsenglish.com)

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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

