
**What is
extremism, really?**

Facilitator's
handouts

**educate.against.
~~hate~~**

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The promotion or advancement of an ideology based on violence, hatred or intolerance.	Extremism
Individuals or groups who are influenced by a combination of ideologies, rather than adhering to a single, coherent belief system.	Mixed-influence extremism
A digital service or website that enables users to create, share, access or interact with content or services over the internet.	Online platform

Acts of extreme violence intended to cause multiple fatalities, often in public spaces.	Lethal mass violence
Refers to acts or threats of violence that are motivated by a perceived personal, ideological, or societal injustice.	Grievance-based violence
An online or offline environment where people are only exposed to information, opinions, or beliefs that reflect and reinforce their own views.	Echo chamber
Groups of individuals who gather on internet platforms (such as forums, social media, chat apps, or dedicated websites) to share, develop, and promote extremist beliefs, ideologies, or narratives.	Online extremist communities

<p>A humorous or culturally significant image, video, phrase, or piece of text that is copied and spread rapidly by internet users, often with slight variations, to comment on social trends, events, or shared experiences.</p>	<h1>Meme</h1>
<p>A set of beliefs, principles, and objectives to which an individual or group purports to adhere.</p>	<h1>Ideology</h1>
<p>Serious violence or threats against people or property intended to influence the government, an international organisation, or to frighten the public, in order to promote a political, religious, racial, or ideological cause.</p>	<h1>Terrorism</h1>
<p>A political ideology that seeks to radically transform society through revolutionary, anti-democratic, or violent means, often aiming to overthrow capitalism, established democratic institutions, or the rule of law.</p>	<h1>Extreme Left Wing (XLW)</h1>

<p>A political ideology that typically believes in cultural nationalism, white nationalism and white supremacism, and advocates for violent ways to achieve this.</p>	<p>Extreme Right wing (XRW)</p>
<p>An ideology that promotes the establishment of an Islamic state governed by Sharia law and rejects democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.</p>	<p>Islamist extremist</p>

Matching activity: What is extremism, really? (easy)

Date: _____

Name: _____

Echo chamber	A humorous or culturally significant image, video, phrase, or piece of text that is copied and spread rapidly by internet users, often with slight variations, to comment on social trends, events, or shared experiences.
Extremism	An online or offline environment where people are only exposed to information, opinions, or beliefs that reflect and reinforce their own views.
Extreme Left Wing (XLW)	A set of beliefs, principles, and objectives to which an individual or group purports to adhere
Grievance-based violence	A digital service or website that enables users to create, share, access or interact with content or services over the internet.
Online platform	Acts of extreme violence intended to cause multiple fatalities, often in public spaces.
Online extremist communities	A political ideology that seeks to radically transform society through revolutionary, anti-democratic, or violent means, often aiming to overthrow capitalism, established democratic institutions, or the rule of law.
Terrorism	Refers to acts or threats of violence that are motivated by a perceived personal, ideological, or societal injustice.
Islamist extremist	Individuals or groups who are influenced by a combination of ideologies, rather than adhering to a single, coherent belief system.
Meme	Groups of individuals who gather on internet platforms (such as forums, social media, chat apps, or dedicated websites) to share, develop, and promote extremist beliefs, ideologies, or narratives.
Mixed-influence extremism	A political ideology that typically believes in cultural nationalism, white nationalism and white supremacism, and advocates for violent ways to achieve this.
Extreme Right wing (XRW)	Serious violence or threats against people or property intended to influence the government, an international organisation, or to frighten the public, in order to promote a political, religious, racial, or ideological cause.
Ideology	An ideology that promotes the establishment of an Islamic state governed by Sharia law and rejects democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.
Lethal mass violence	The promotion or advancement of an ideology based on violence, hatred or intolerance.

Image 1

What do
you think
is happening
in this
image?

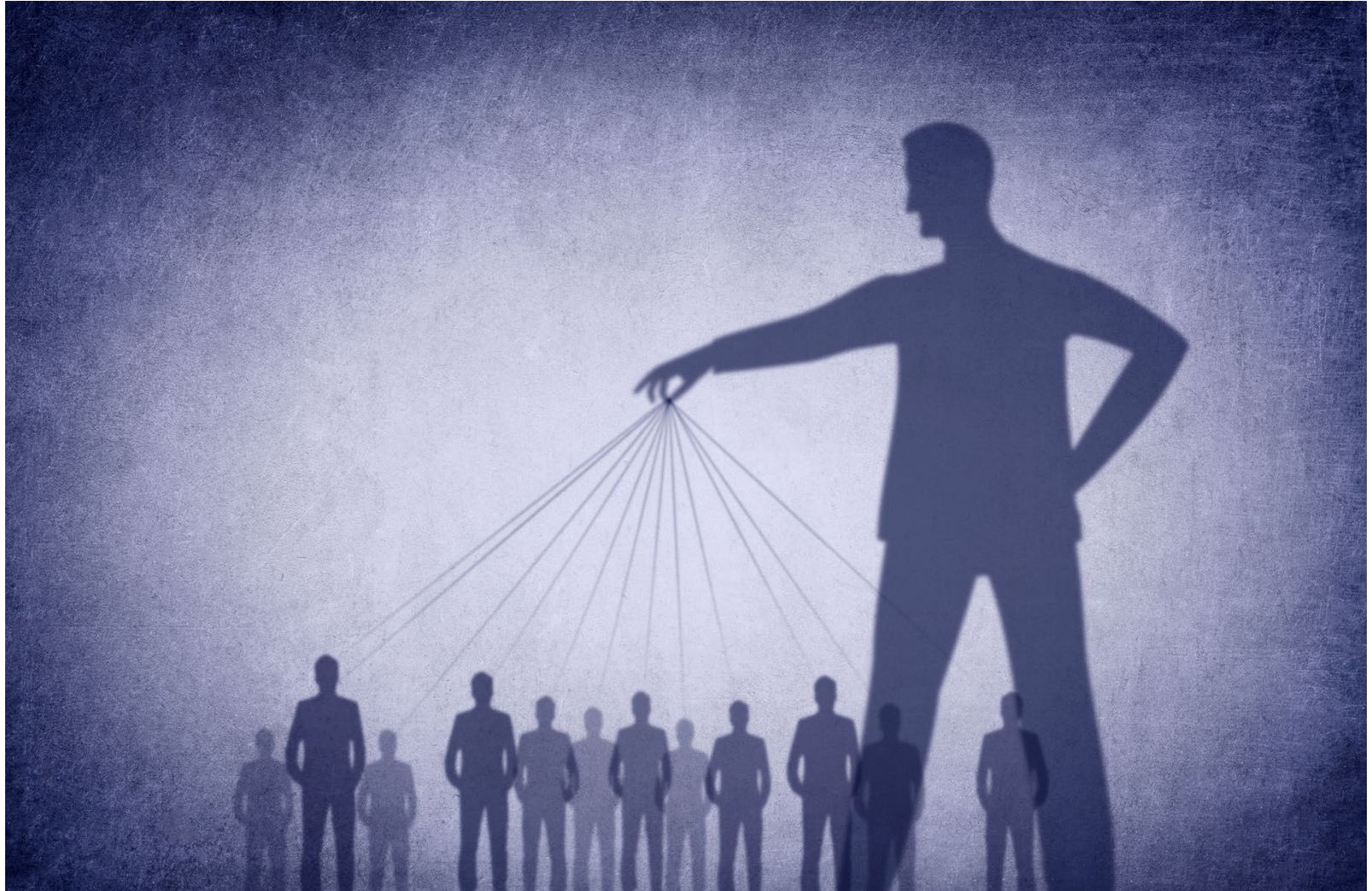


Photo credit: [ArtemisDiana](#)

Image 2

What do you
think is
happening in
this image?



Photo credit: [csfotoimage](#)

Image 3

K \ Uh\ Ug\ UddYbYX]b'h]g]a U[Y3'

K \ UhXcYg'h.Y'a YggU[Y'a YUb3



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K]a YX]U'7ca a cb

Image 4

What does
this mean?

How does
this affect
you?



Photo credit: [airdone](#)

Debate Reflection Handout

Use this space to note down some of your reflections following the debate:

Arguments FOR engaging with people who spread extremist content online:

Arguments AGAINST engaging with people who spread extremist content online

Your personal view:

Did anyone/anything change your mind or adjust your view?

Yes / No / Not sure

What did you learn from the other team?

Quiz activity: What is extremism, really?

Date:

Name:

1. Which of these best describes extremism?

- ☐ A mild political opinion
- ☐ The promotion or advancement of an ideology based on violence, hatred, or intolerance
- ☐ A way of being obsessed with something
- ☐ A way of going far and beyond for something you want

2. Mixed influence extremism means:

- ☐ Extreme beliefs come from one single ideology
- ☐ Mixing music styles online
- ☐ Extreme beliefs from several different ideas or
- ☐ influences Only happening in other countries

3. Grievance-based violence is often linked to:

- ☐ Feeling happy about society
- ☐ Acts or threats of violence that are motivated by a perceived injustice
- ☐ Moving to a new school or neighbourhood
- ☐ Drinking too much caffeine

4. What is an echo chamber?

- ☐ A place where people go to meditate in silence
- ☐ A scientific device used to measure sound wavesIncel group
- ☐ An online space where people only listen to views they agree with, and other opinions are shut out
- ☐ A type of music studio used to create sound effects

5. Which of these is an example of an ideology?

- ☐ Eating vegetarian food because you enjoy the taste
- ☐ A set of political or religious beliefs
- ☐ Liking a particular sports team
- ☐ Becoming obsessed with lots of different ideasWearing designer clothes

6. Terrorism refers to:

- ☐ A natural disaster that causes widespread panic
- ☐ Arguing with someone online about politics
- ☐ A way of protesting peacefully
- ☐ Ideologically motivated violence, or threat of violence

7. Someone who believes in cultural nationalism, white nationalism and white supremacy, and advocates for violent ways to achieve this is likely to be:

- ☐ A right wing extremist
- ☐ A left wing extremist
- ☐ An Islamist extremist
- ☐ A chicken wing extremist

8. Someone who believes in overthrowing capitalism, and advocates for violent means to do this, is likely to be:

- ☐ A strict vegan
- ☐ An Islamist extremist
- ☐ A left wing extremist
- ☐ A right wing extremist

9. Someone who believes in an Islamic state governed by Sharia law, and advocates for violent means to achieve this, is likely to be:

- ☐ An Islamist extremist
- ☐ A left wing extremist
- ☐ A right wing extremist
- ☐ A High Court judge

10. Groups of individuals who gather on internet platforms to share, develop, and promote extremist beliefs, ideologies, or narratives are called:

- ☐ Influencers
- ☐ Online extremist communities
- ☐ Terrorists
- ☐ Gamers

Video script

I was just bored, nothing to do scrolling through my socials. Next thing I know, I'm seeing all this stuff on Snap about this hotel near us that's been made into a place for those illegal asylum seekers. They get to stay in luxury hotels for free. It's not fair.

Anyway, loads of people were posting about going down there to protest about it. Let them know that they're not welcome here and that. Like I say, I was bored, and annoyed. So, I went. The police were all over the place. Farce. They are happy to protect those people, aren't they. but where are they when something's happening to us? So, there's all this chanting and stuff, it was buzzing. Then it started to kick off. The guy next to me gave me a brick and said, 'go on, you know you want to'. I threw it at the front window. Smashed it. He was, like, patting me on the back and laughing. The police saw me do it but I just legged it. Gone.

So yeah, I didn't think much more of that day. It was just a laugh. Someone posted pictures of me there and loads of people were liking them. That guy I met started following me and he was saying stuff like: 'This is what someone who cares about their country does'. And he's messaged me, telling me about this fitness club that he runs. And how I should come down one evening and meet some new people, and that. A couple of days later, there's a knock on my door. It was the police. They'd ID'd me from the cameras. And they said I was under arrest for violent disorder and criminal damage. Anyway, long story short. I end up in a youth court and got a rehabilitation order. I have to do 200 hours of community work for nothing. Criminal record, all over the news. My mum lost it with me. She's keeping me offline. Lockdown.

I think I'll start going to that club to meet that lot. See what they're saying.



Case study: Tyler's story

Tyler, aged 16, is a keen gamer and active online. They and others often spend evenings playing multiplayer games and chatting on Discord servers.

During lockdown, Tyler became more isolated and joined a new gaming server that was promoted by a YouTuber they followed. At first, the server was mostly about gaming tips and sharing memes - Tyler quickly felt part of the community.

Over time, some people on the server started sharing strong 'alternative news' that challenged what most people believe about world events. They blamed rich corporations and powerful governments for unfairness and poverty. Their posts had angry messages about fighting against capitalism and empire-building. Along with this, there were harsh attacks on big drug companies and mainstream science, plus mentions of anarchist 'truth channels'.

Because Tyler trusted the influencer and felt connected to the group, they started clicking on suggested YouTube videos and Telegram links that promoted these views. Tyler became convinced that they were being shown 'what the mainstream media won't tell you'.

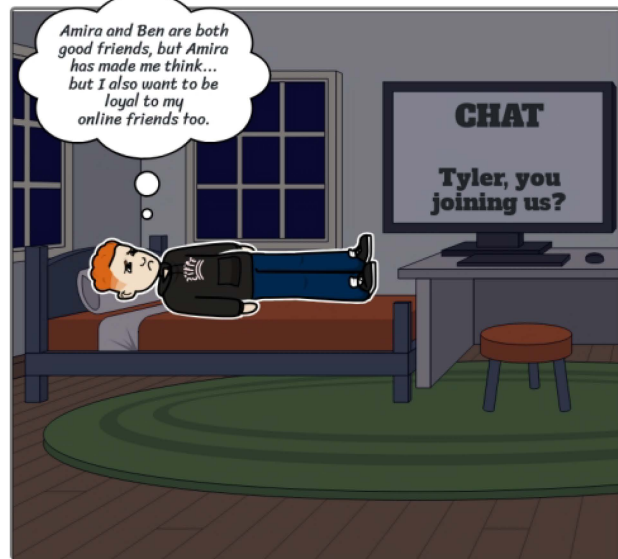
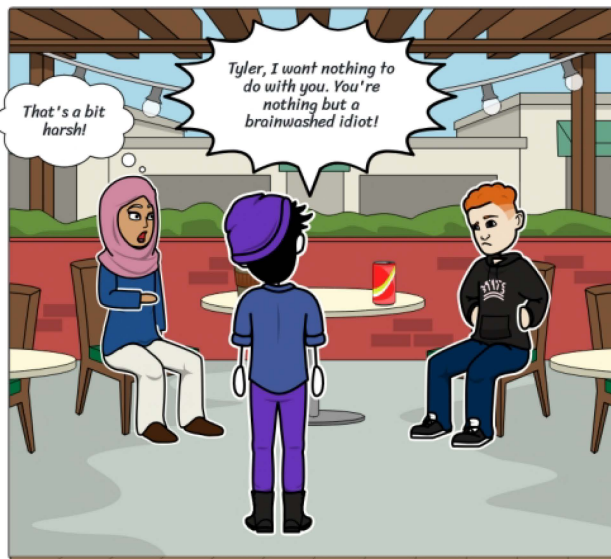
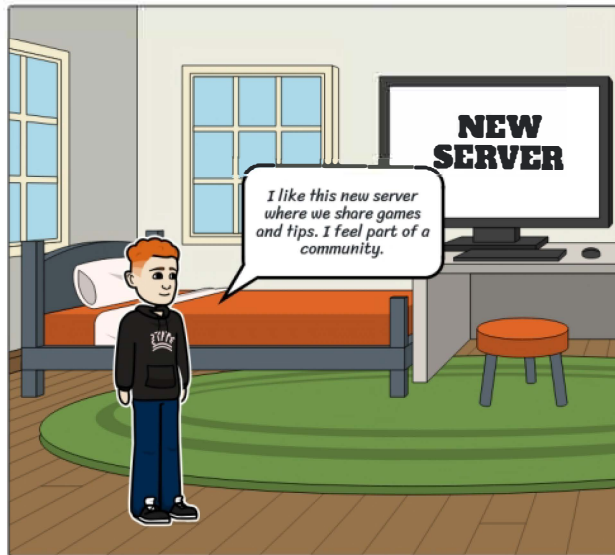
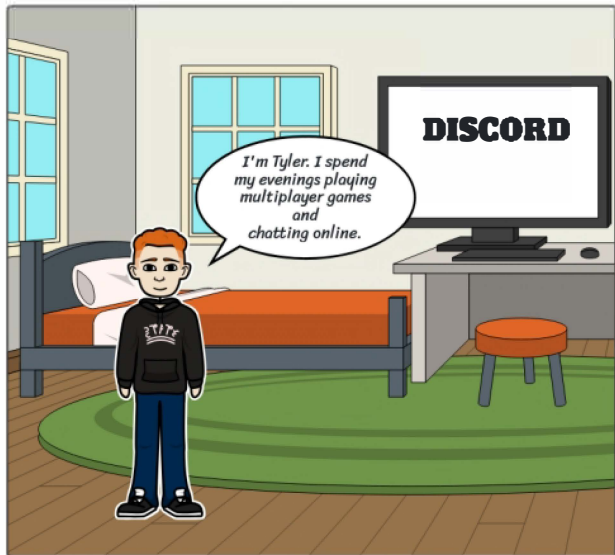
As Tyler absorbed more of this content, their own posts began to change tone — becoming more aggressive and less tolerant of differing views. They shared a meme on Instagram saying: "They don't want you to know that corporations are pulling the strings behind every law - the whole system is rigged to keep workers in chains." This caused tension with their friends.

One friend, Amira, responded by respectfully questioning the content and offering alternative sources of information. They expressed concern but tried to avoid directly attacking Tyler.

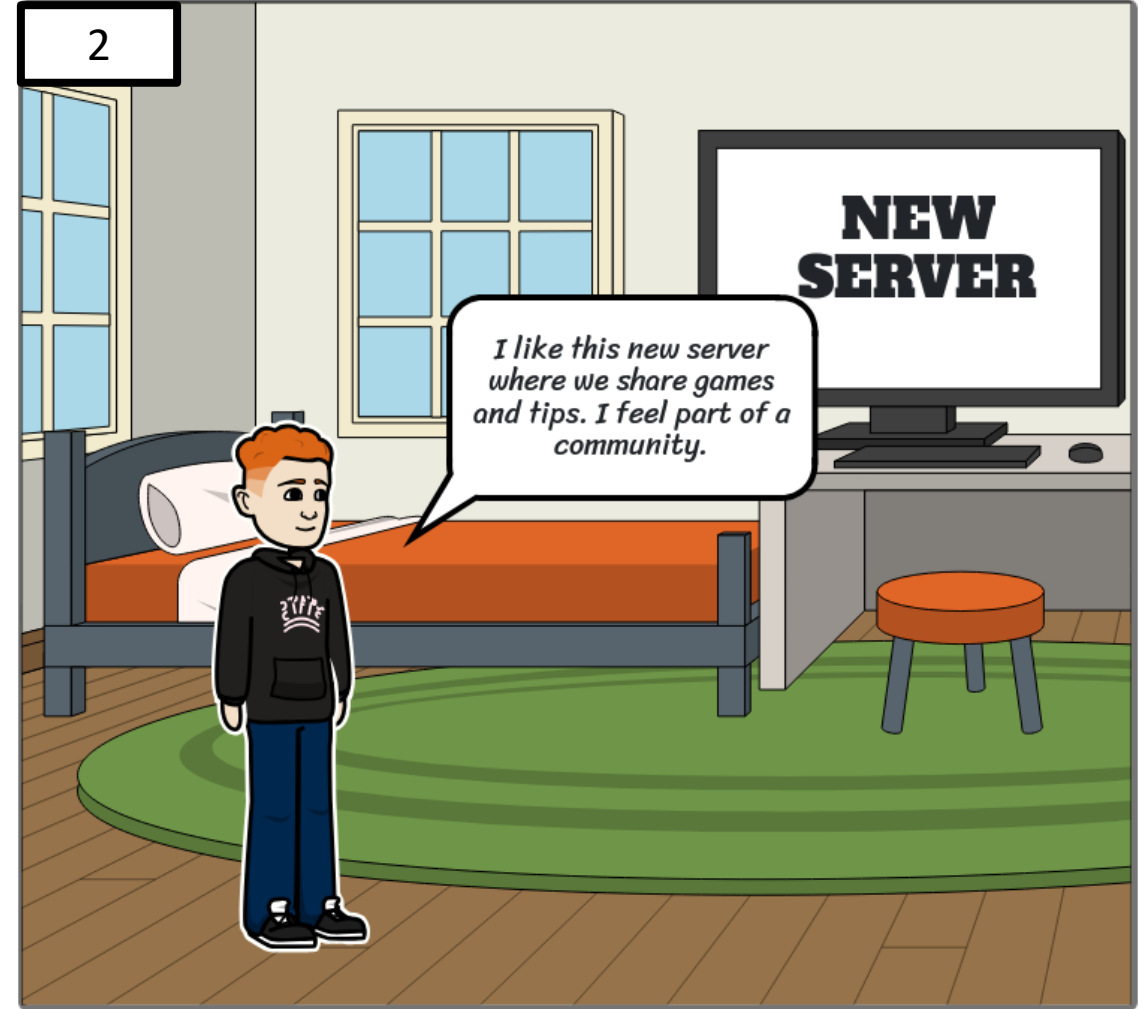
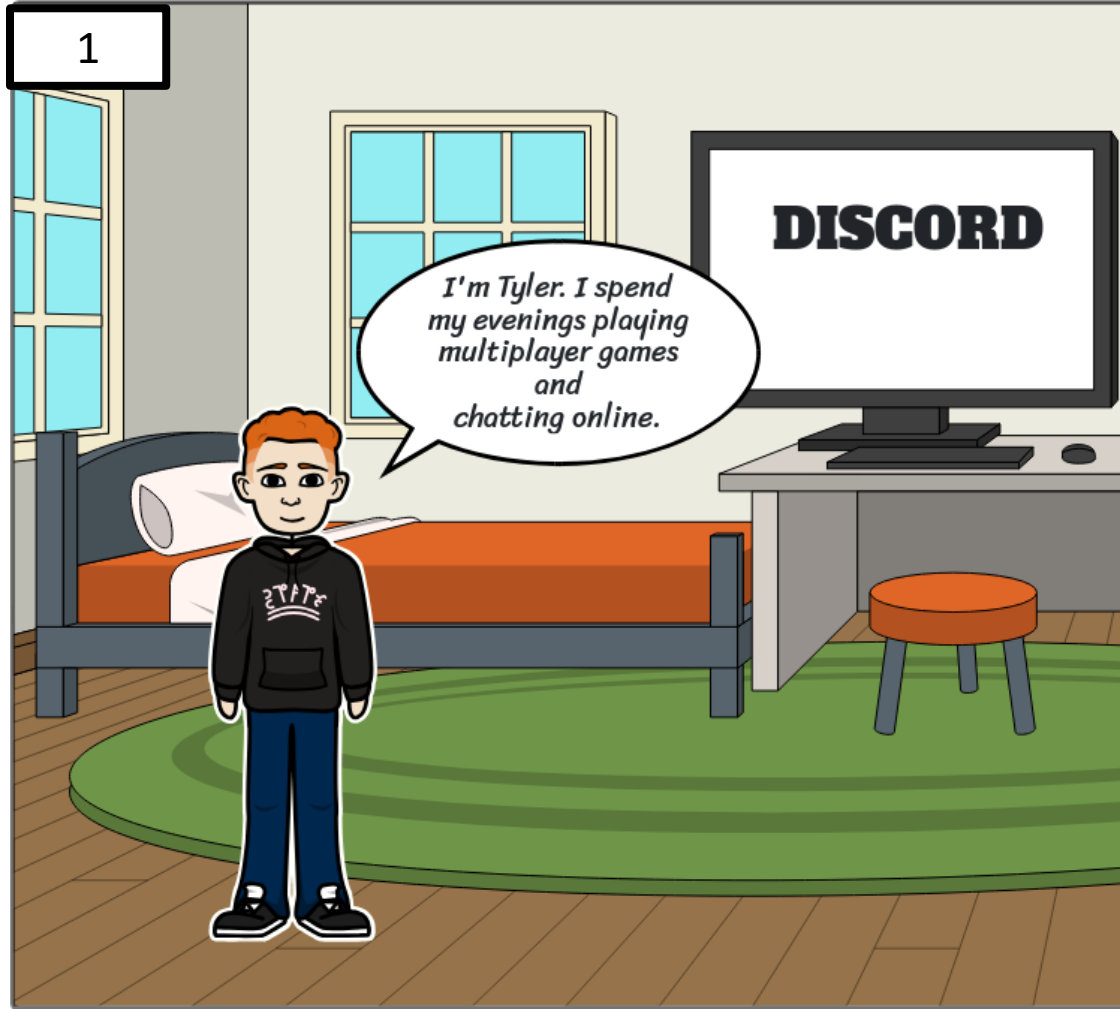
Another friend, Ben, responded by calling Tyler 'a brainwashed extremist', which only made Tyler defensive and more convinced they were right.

Tyler is now confused, feeling torn between loyalty to the online group and doubts raised by Amira.

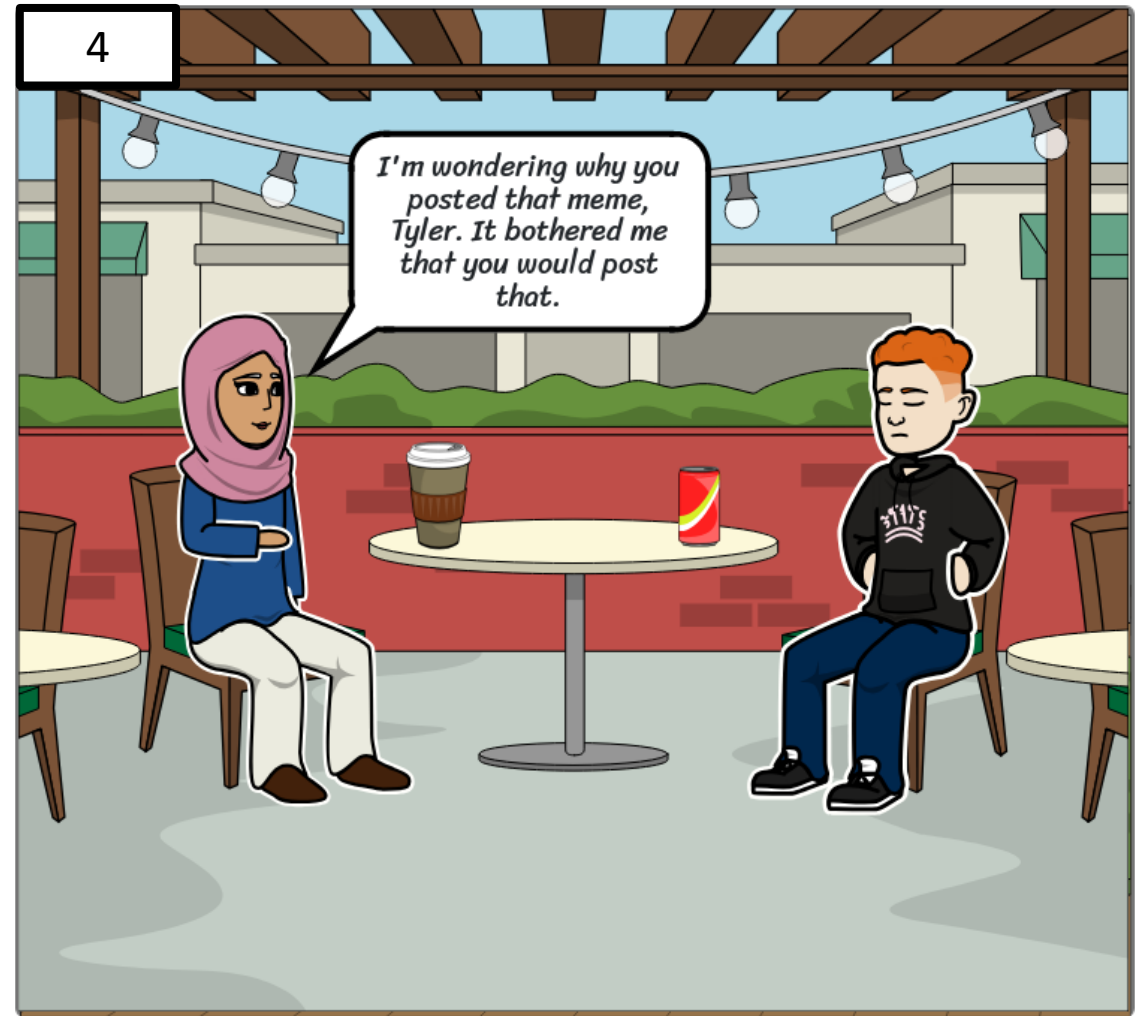




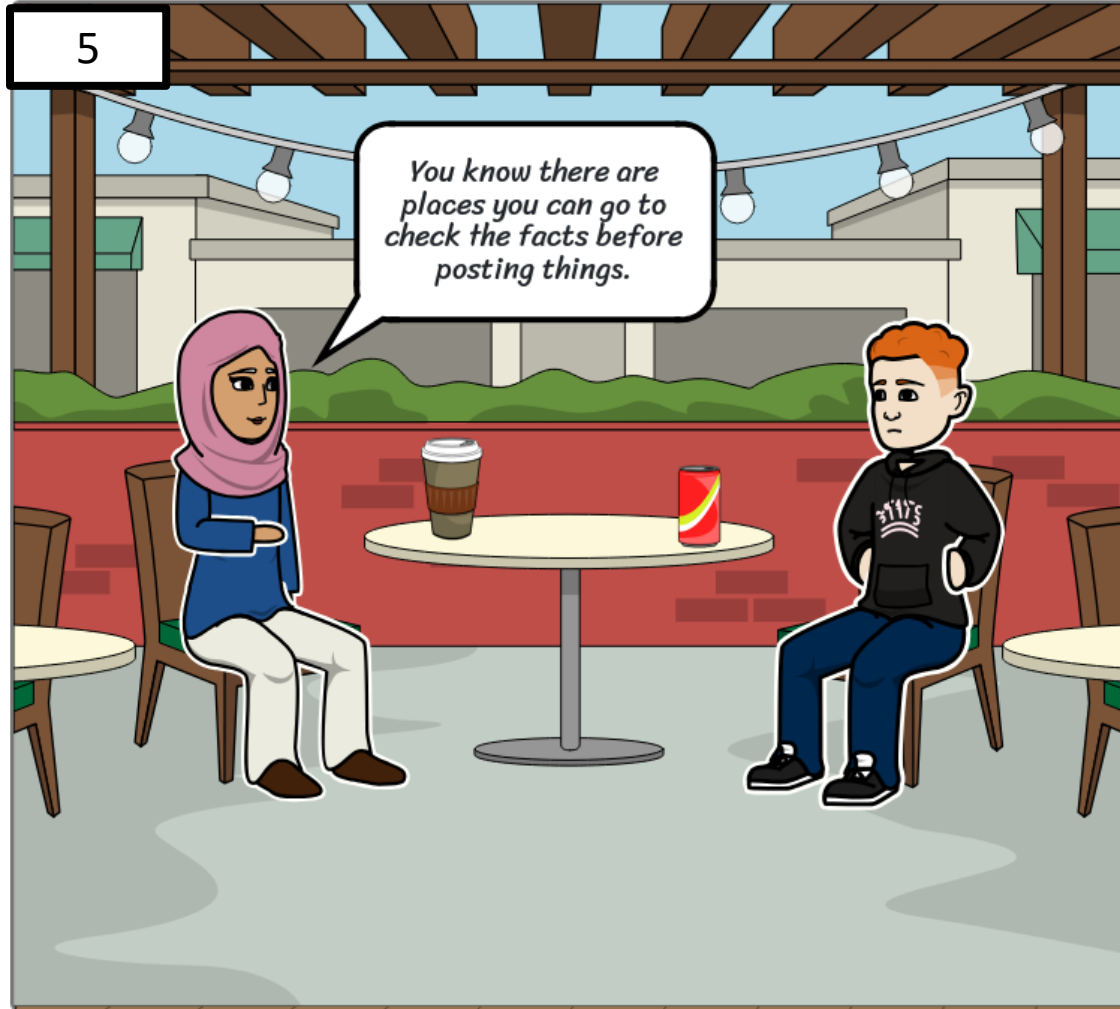
Case study: Tyler's story



Case study: Tyler's story



Case study: Tyler's story



Case study: Tyler's story

