

BEFORE YOUR START

First, practise these words for Lesson 1.

English word	Dutch translation	Example
hijack	kapen	The terrorists intended to hijack the plane and fly it into the Pentagon.
disaster	ramp	There was another natural disaster in the news last week when a volcano erupted in Iceland.
seal off	afsluiten	The Afsluitdijk was built to seal off the North Sea and prevent flooding.
collapse	instorten	Even a well-built house can collapse after a huge earthquake.
vanish	verdwijnen	Conservationists fear that many rare species will vanish over the next few hundred years.
devastation	verwoesting	The hurricane caused great devastation and destroyed hundreds of buildings.
horrendous	afgrijselijk	A bus and a van have been involved in a horrendous accident on the A1.
explore	uitzoeken	This week, we're going to explore what happened in the US on 9/11.
secrecy	geheimzinnigheid	Secrecy is essential when you work for a spy organisation.
footage	stuk film	The police are looking at CCTV footage to identify the rioters.
demolition	vernietiging, sloop	3,000 people in Derby protested against the demolition of their homes.
debunk a theory	doorprikken, ontmaskeren	How do you debunk the theory that man never walked on the moon?
conspiracy	complot	Do you believe the conspiracy theory that Hitler escaped to Argentina?
chemical residue	chemische sporen	Make-up can leave chemical residue on your face even after you washed it.
debris	puin, brokstukken	Volunteers cleared up the rubbish and debris that was scattered across the street after the riots.
considerable damage	aanzienlijke schade	In April of 2019, a fire caused considerable damage to the Notre Dame in Paris.
responsible for	verantwoordelijk voor	Who is responsible for health and safety in the workplace?
despite	ondanks	Lots of people continue to play tennis outside despite the cold weather.
plausible explanation	aannemelijke verklaring	Can you offer me a plausible explanation for the explosions?
have access to	toegang hebben tot	What do I do if I don't have access to my SIM card?

English word	Dutch translation	Example
confirm	bevestigen	Please confirm that you have received my message.
reliable source	betrouwbare bron	Do you believe that internet searches are a reliable source of information?
gain	voordeel hebben van	What do I have to gain or lose if I help you?

What happened on September 11, 2001?

Watch the video and answer these 4 questions.

1. What is this video about?

2. What do the people in the video believe?

3. 3 What have they based their opinion on?

4. What do you believe?

OVER TO YOU

1

Researching 9/11 articles

Read the articles and answer the questions.

Article 1

A 9/11 conspiracy theory debunked

Published on Mon Sep 5, 2011

For the past 10 years, 'truthers' have claimed 9/11 was part of a bigger conspiracy – but does the evidence stack up?



The Twin Towers were destroyed by controlled explosions

Truthers say that in videos there appear to be explosions as the windows blow out, floor by floor, from the top downwards. One US academic claims to have tested samples from the wrecked towers which show the presence of chemical residue, suggesting explosives had been used.

However, in controlled explosions, a building collapses from the bottom not the top. Experts say the windows were blown out as each floor collapsed on to the one below, causing debris and office equipment to fly out.

It would also have taken a considerable amount of work, which would not have gone unnoticed, to plant sufficient explosives along the length of the buildings to bring them down.

Based on: The Guardian, United Kingdom

1. A truther is ...

2. Finish the sticky note about the newspaper article.
Give three arguments.

This article states that the Twin Towers *were / were not* destroyed by explosions because ...

- _____

- _____

- _____

Article 2

A simple disproof of a really stupid 9/11 conspiracy theory

Published on September 12, 2013



THEORY: The US government did it

SIMPLE DISPROVAL: Truthers who say it was an inside job are split into two camps. There are those who say the US government was responsible for the entire thing, and those who say the government let it happen without doing anything. In both cases, truthers claim that the goal was to give the government an excuse to start a war against the Islamic world.

So, here's your simple disproof. US governments have shown throughout history that they will start a war whenever it suits them. Why would they kill 3,000 of their own citizens to do it now?

Based on: NewsComAu, Australia

3. Finish the sticky note about the newspaper article.

Truthers claim the government was involved in
9/11 because _____

The article states that the government *was / was not*
responsible for the disaster because _____

Article 3**There was too much damage**

Published on October 12, 2011



Truthers claim that the two planes that hit the North and South towers could not have possibly caused so much damage to the floors below. The first jet hit the North Tower between the 98th and 94th floors; the second jet hit the South Tower between the 84th and 78th floors. Despite the height of both impacts, eyewitnesses reported seeing damage to both lobbies of the Twin Towers. How can that be possible? Surely a more plausible explanation is that secondary explosives were set off further down the towers, thus causing damage to the lower floors and both lobbies.

The official National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) investigation into the towers' collapse found that the planes had caused considerable damage to both buildings' elevator shaft systems as the airplanes sliced through the towers. This allowed jet fuel to pour down the elevator shafts. The fuel ignited, leading to raging fires gushing down the shafts. Many elevator cables broke and braking systems were disabled, causing elevators to crash to the ground, smashing open lobby doors and sending jets of burning fuel into both lobbies. So, it is clear that these explosive jets caused considerable damage.

Based on: history.co.uk

4. Finish the sticky note about the newspaper article.

Truthers claim the planes could not have caused
so much damage to the lower floors because

So, _____

NIST says that jet fuel _____
and elevator cables _____,
which caused _____

**5. What is your conclusion? Was 9/11 a conspiracy or not?
Why do you think so?**

2

Flight 93

Terrorists did not only attack the World Trade Center in New York. There were more attacks.

Read and fact-check this news article using the fact-check sheet given below.

☰ **The New York Times** 👤

Details on Flight 93



By Matthew L. Wald
July 22, 2004

WASHINGTON, July 22
Flight 93 became part of American history when passengers banded together to try to storm the cockpit of the hijacked airliner, which crashed in Pennsylvania. New details of the hijacking and the passenger uprising were made public in the report released today by the 9/11 commission.

A United Airlines employee near Chicago who knew that Flight 175 had been hijacked and crashed into the south tower of the World Trade Center sent a message to the other planes he was following that morning, one of them United 93. In a text message, the employee, Ed Ballinger, told Flight 93 at 9:23 a.m.: "Beware any cockpit intrusion two a/c hit World Trade Center."

At 9:26, Captain Dahl sent a message back, in quick, abbreviated and slightly mistyped language: "Ed, confirm latest mssg plz Jason."

Two minutes later, the hijackers attacked Captain Dahl and his first officer. Unlike the three other hijackings, Flight 93 continued transmitting over the radio during the struggle in the cockpit. The captain or first officer declared "Mayday," and 35 seconds later, one of them shouted, "Hey, get out of here get out of here get out of here." Later, passengers reported seeing two bodies outside the cockpit, injured or dead, probably the pilots."

Once the hijackers were in control, they knew that passengers were using cell phones and seat-back phones to call the ground "but did not seem to care," according to the report. Yet clearly what the passengers learned in those phone calls inspired their counterattack on the cockpit.

Of the 33 passengers on the plane who were not hijackers, at least 10, and two crew members, spoke to people on the ground. At least five of the calls included discussion of the World Trade Center. At 9:57, about seven minutes before the end, one of the passengers ended her conversation saying: "Everyone's running up to first class. I've got to go. Bye."

The report does not clarify whether the hijackers' goal for Flight 93 was the White House or the Capitol, but apparently it did not work; the plane crashed in rural Pennsylvania. The voice recorder captured sounds of continued fighting. A passenger is heard to say, "In the cockpit. If we don't we'll die!"

Then a passenger yelled "Roll it!" Some aviation experts have speculated that this was a reference to a food cart, being used as a battering ram. Eighty seconds later, a hijacker is heard to say, "Pull it down! Pull it down!"

"The hijackers remained at the controls but must have judged that the passengers were only seconds from overcoming them," according to the report, which seems to indicate that the hijackers themselves crashed the plane. "With the sounds of the passenger counterattack continuing, the aircraft plowed into an empty field in Shanksville, Pennsylvania, at 580 miles per hour, about 20 minutes' flying time from Washington, D.C.," according to the report.

Source: nytimes.com

Fact-check sheet

News article

Title: _____

URL: _____

A 4- or 5-sentence summary of the article:

5Ws of Fake News

WHO wrote the article? Do a quick search on the author. Is the author a journalist? Are they objective?	
WHAT is the source of the publication? Is it a reliable news source?	
WHERE did the author get their information from? Do they mention any sources? Are they reliable?	
WHEN was the article published? A missing date could raise a flag.	
WHY did the author write the article? Does the author have something to gain or lose?	

Your fact-check sources

What sources did you use to fact-check the article?

Source	Reliable?	Reason(s)
1.	yes / no	
2.	yes / no	
3.	yes / no	

Conclusion

Based on this fact-check sheet, we believe this news item is **REAL / FAKE**.