6.1 Tripartite Core Framework

Objective: Transform learned concepts into automatic habits.

Pillar 1: Reader Evaluation	Pillar 2: Claim Verification	Pillar 3: Active Production
Judging news reports critically as a consumer.	Executing rapid, structured checks on specific claims.	Initiating a foundational, small-scale reporting project.

Gemini Notebook

6.2 | Content Classification Matrix

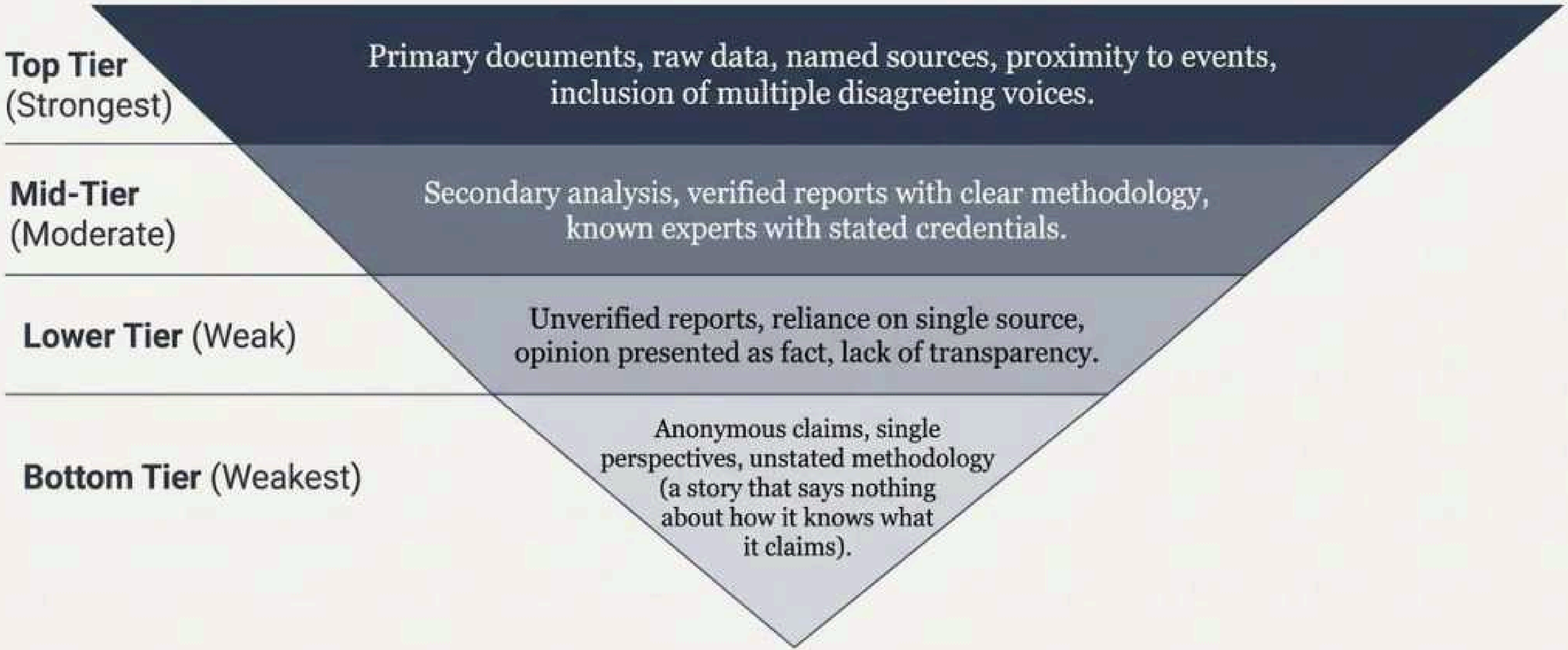
Category				
News	Analysis	Opinion	Feature	Sponsored Content
Identifiers				
Distinctive labels, author byline, and publication date.				

Evaluation Standard
The standard of evaluation shifts by category. Opinion can be wise, yet remains an argument. Sponsored content can be useful, yet remains advertising.

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6.3 | Source Evaluation Hierarchy

Who is speaking, and how do they know?



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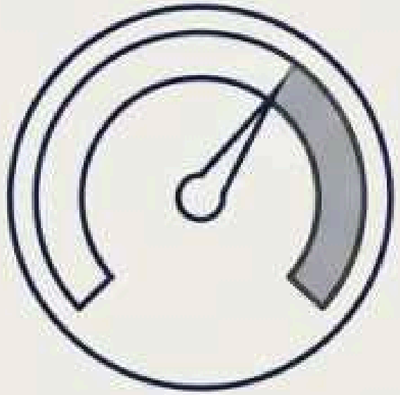
6.4 | Claim vs. Evidence Diagnostics

Claim	Execution / Evidence
Headline	Matches text? Does the headline match the article content?
Numbers	Presence: Do the quoted numbers actually appear in the text?
Study Scope	Reality: Was the study accurately described as being performed on humans, animals, or cells?
Relationship	Fact: Is a mere correlation being presented as a direct cause?

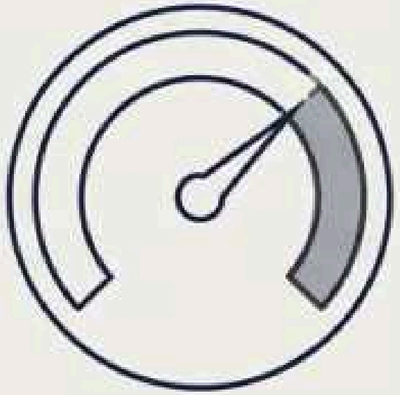
Note: Misleading stories often contain accurate isolated facts but draw unverified conclusions.

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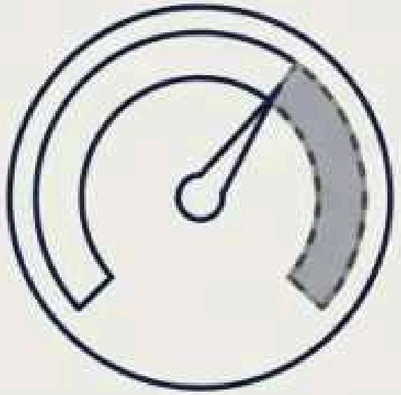
6.5 | Signal Dashboard (Red Flags)



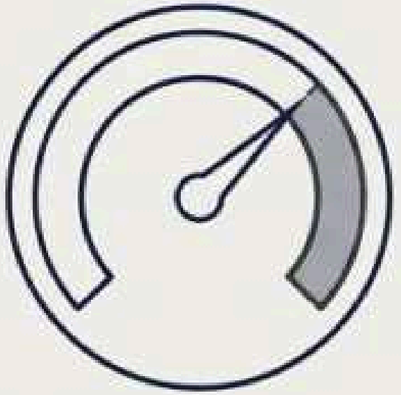
Emotional headline



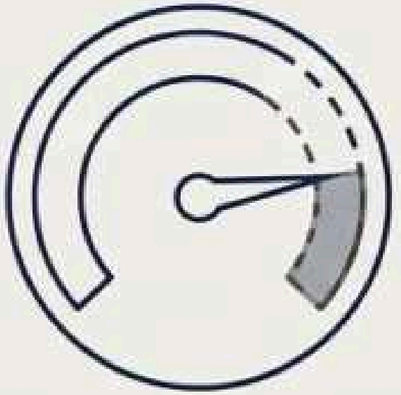
Missing publication date



Un-sourced photography



Isolated claims (no other outlet reporting the same event)

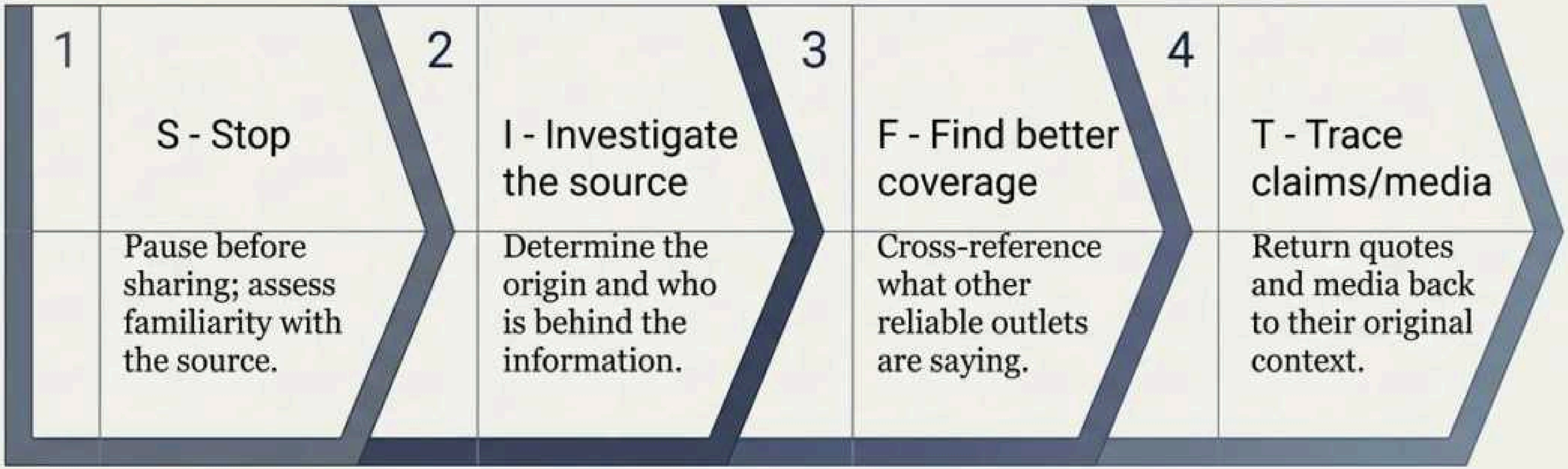


Artificial urgency (demands to "share before it's deleted")

Synthesis Insight: These signals do not definitively prove falsity, but they mandate a pause in the consumption process for verification.

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6.6 | The SIFT Methodology Flowchart



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6.7 | Behavioral Comparison Graphic

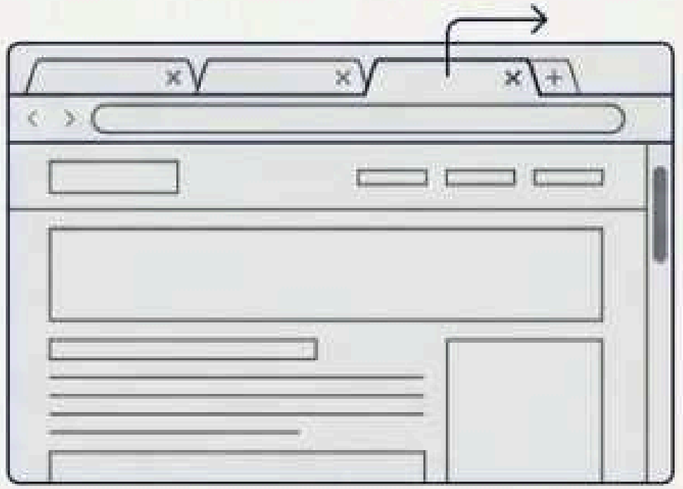
Vertical Reading (On-page)



Staying on the original page.

Result: Easily misled by a polished design (novice behavior).

Lateral Reading (Tabbed)



Leaving the page quickly; opening new tabs to evaluate the source externally.

Result: Accurate contextualization (professional fact-checker behavior).

Note: Lateral reading is the critical move for verification.

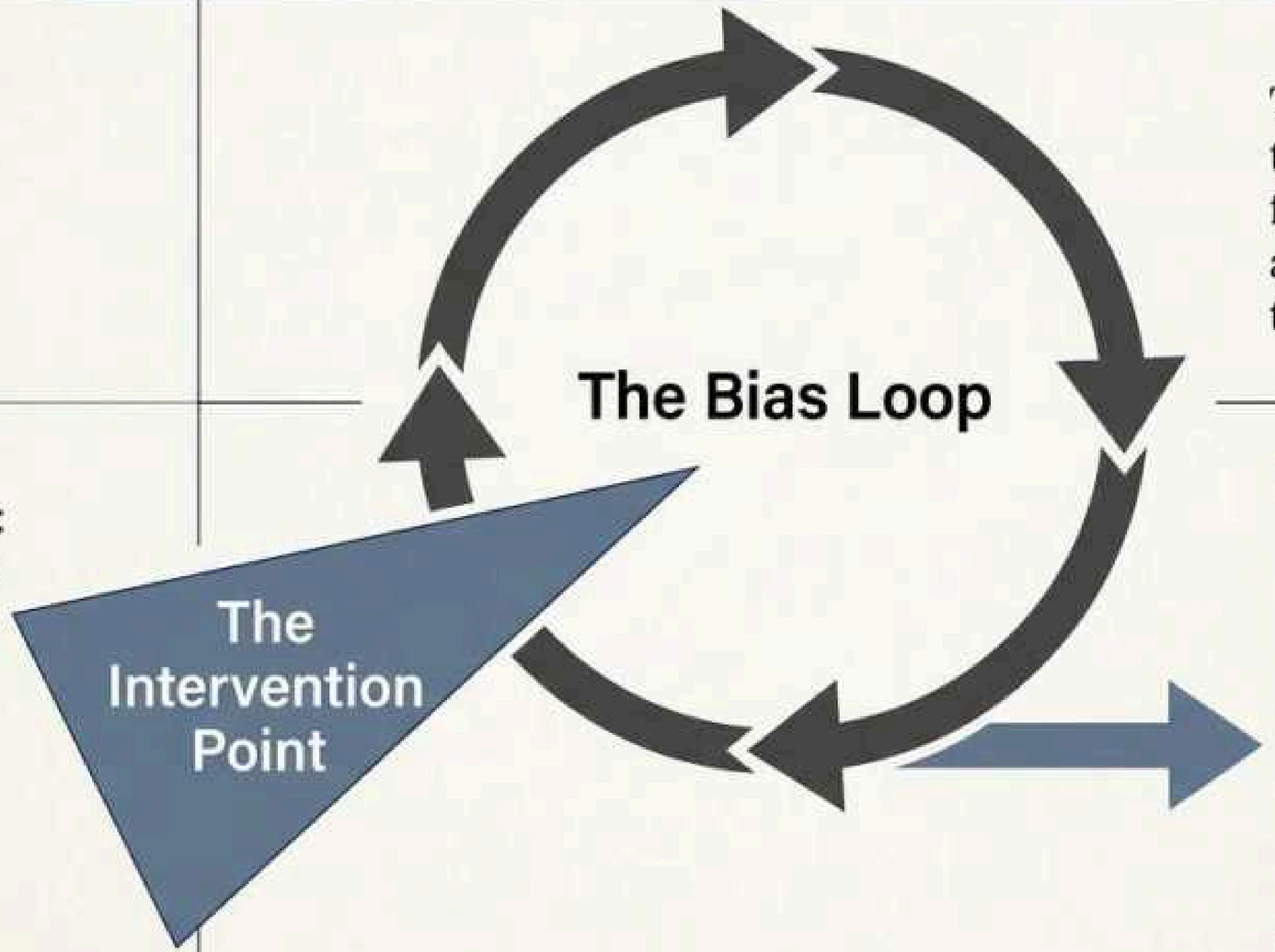
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6.8 | Tool/Action Grid

Text: Search for a distinctive phrase from the claim.	**Images:** Utilize reverse image search for earlier iterations/copies.
Studies: Locate the original journal; read the abstract and funding statement.	**Claims:** Consult dedicated fact-checking repositories.
History: Check page archives to see whether content was altered.	Note: Each action takes only a few minutes.

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6.9 | Cognitive Bias Loop



The natural tendency to believe stories that fit pre-existing views and to doubt those that do not.

Explicitly ask: "What would change my mind?"

The Action

Read at least one careful opposing source. Compare factual inclusions and omissions across different outlets reporting the same event.

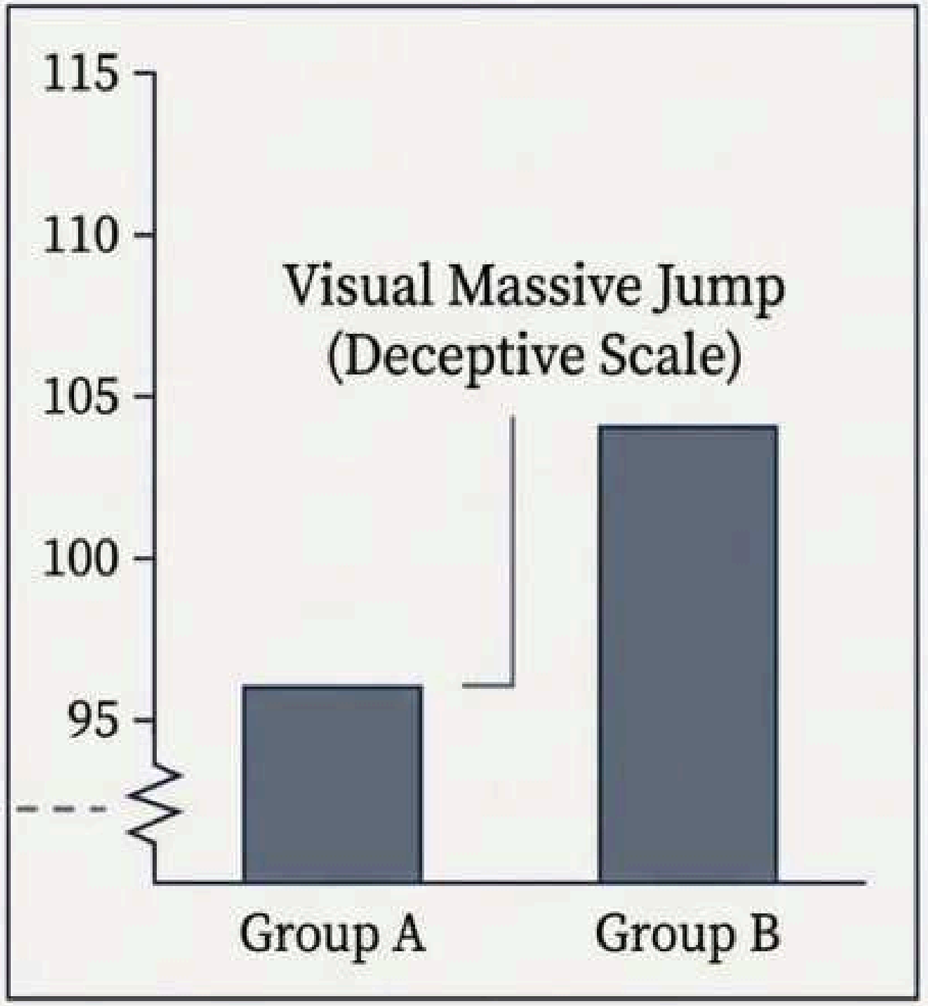
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6.10 | Statistical Scrutiny Breakdown

Baseline Questions
What exactly is being counted? Over what timeframe? Compared to what baseline?

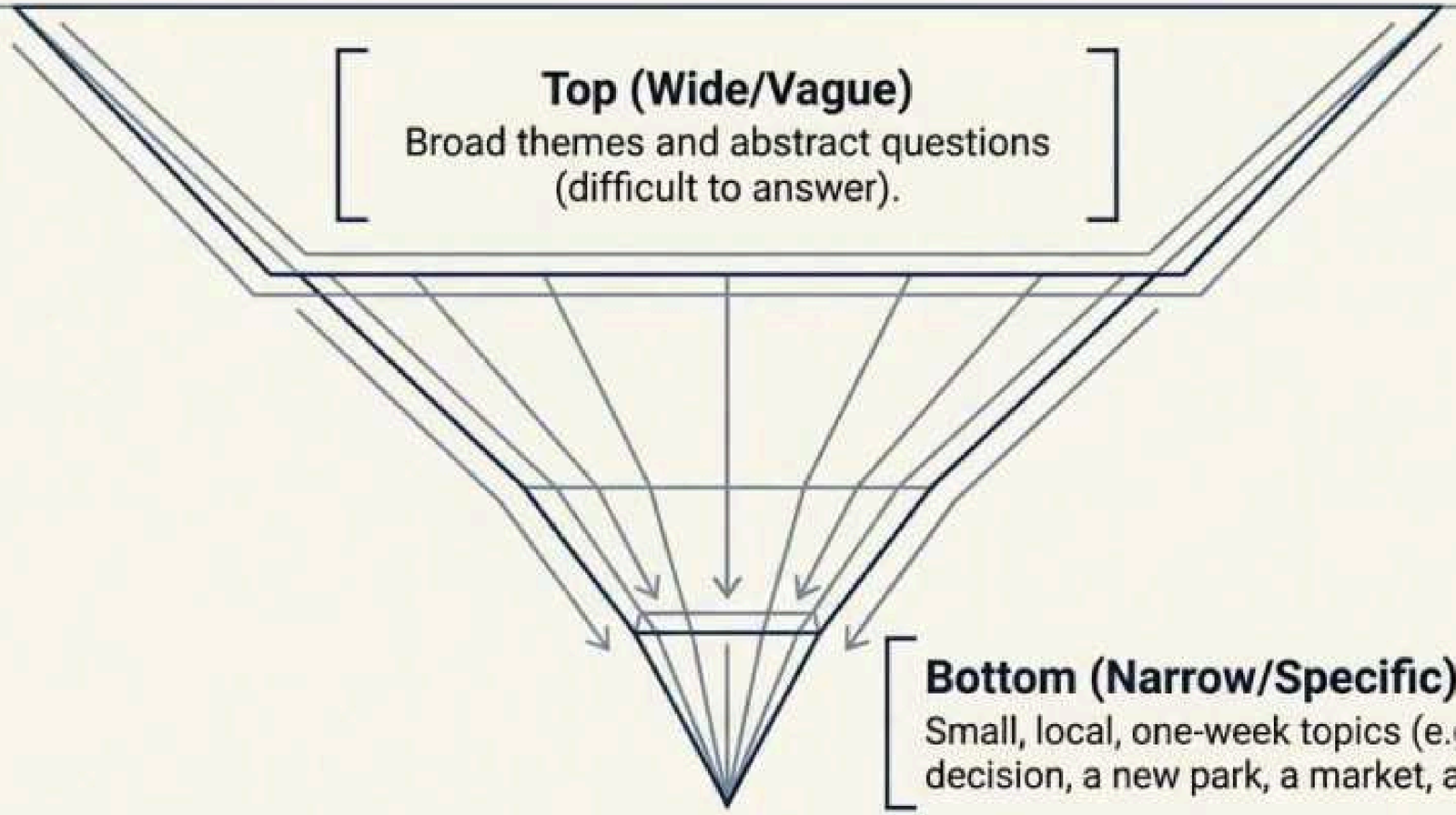
Scale Context
A ‘100% increase’ from 2 to 4 cases is statistically small; percentage masks raw magnitude.

Red Flags
Small or unrepresentative samples; reliance on a single poll or single study; charts whose axes begin somewhere other than zero.



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6.11 | Scoping Funnel



Synthesis Insight: Small stories teach the exact same scalable skills as large ones, while delivering high local impact to nearby residents.

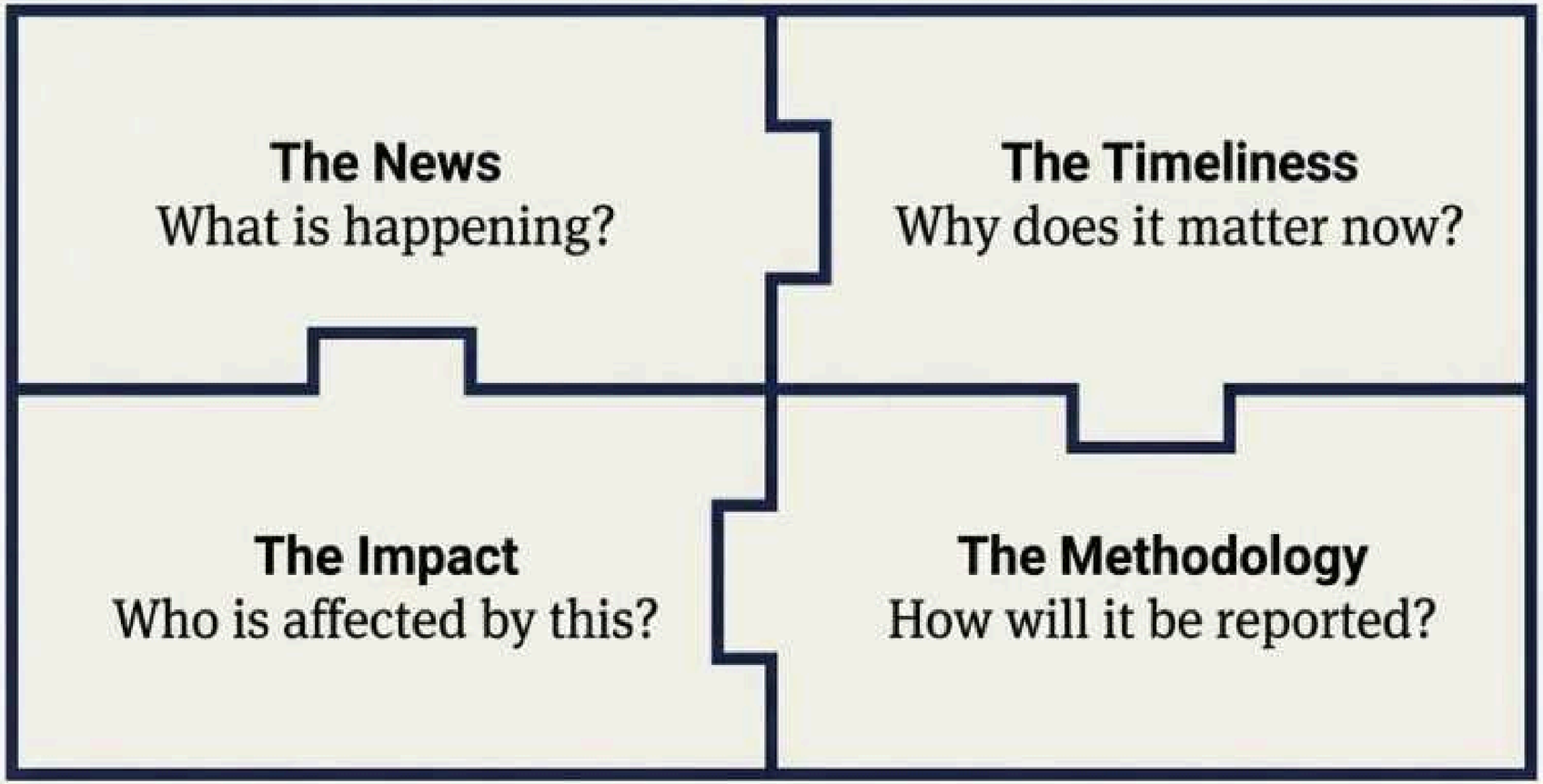
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6.12 | Project Planning Matrix

Hypothesis	Hypothesis	
Formulate a one-sentence question the story will answer.		
Resource List		
People (to contact)	Documents (to request)	Locations (to visit)
Tracking Log	Tracking Log	
Set distinct deadlines. Maintain an action log with date stamps to prove work and retrieve sources later.		

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6.13 | Anatomy of a Pitch



Note: Having to explain the idea briefly and formally reveals whether you have a true story or merely a topic.

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6.14 | Reporting Pipeline

Phase 1: Report	Phase 2: Write	Phase 3: Review
Conduct interviews, gather documents, visit sites, and verify every fact.	Draft a clear lede, strictly attribute details, and apply narrative structures.	Have an external reader identify structural confusion and pre-empt errors before publication.

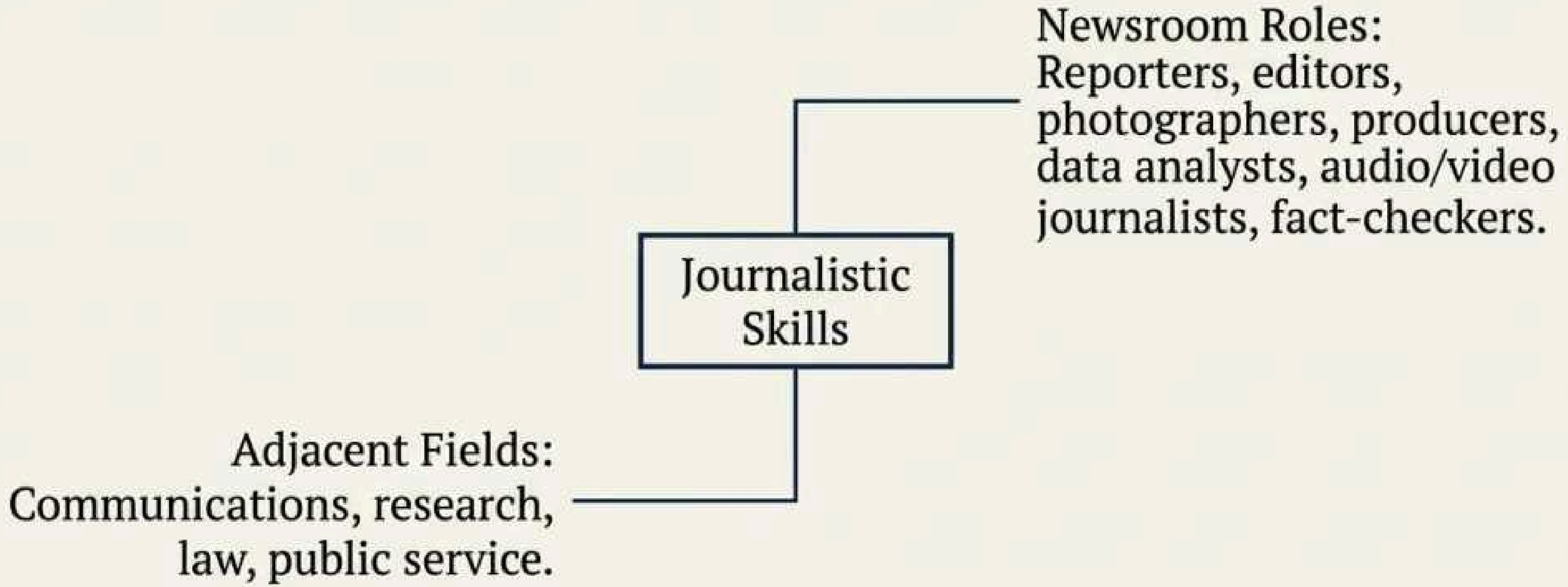
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6.15 | Publication Protocol Checklist

☑	Placement: Define the venue (school paper, blog, community newsletter, local forum) and label the work clearly.
☑	Attribution: Explicitly credit sources and any assistants.
☑	Accountability: Provide a direct way for readers to contact the author.
☑	Correction Protocol: Maintain a state of readiness to fix mistakes openly, transparently, and immediately.

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6.16 | Career Ecosystem Map



Growth Formula

Experience = Practice (write regularly) + Portfolio Building + Editorial Feedback.

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Skepticism (Openness)	Cynicism (Closure)
Asks for evidence; keeps the mind open; supports civic engagement.	Assumes nothing can be trusted; shuts down critical thought and civic engagement.

Actionable Support

Readers can support good journalism by paying for valued news, sharing carefully, correcting errors, and participating locally.

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6.18 | Deep Reading Anatomy

1. Beyond the Lede

Locate the core claims, evidence, and specific sources embedded deep in the body of the story.

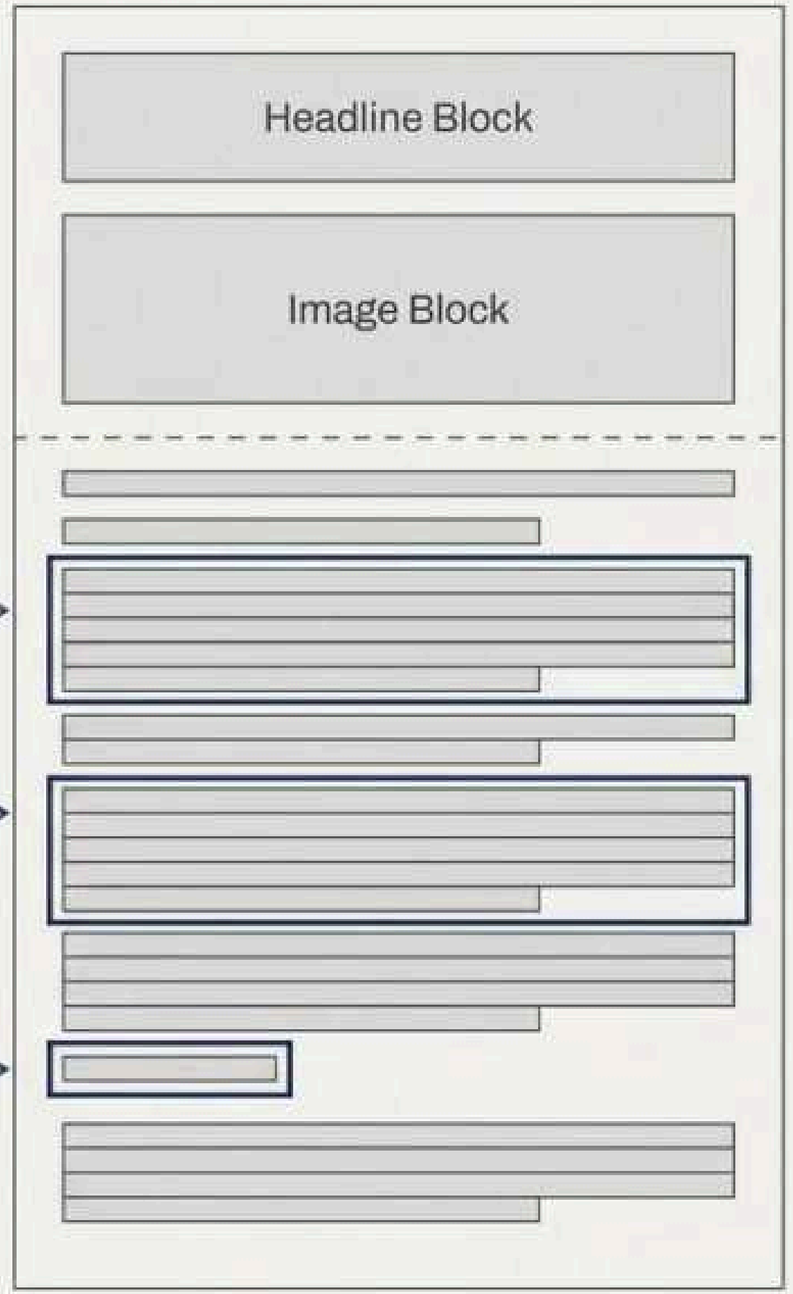
2. The Unsaid

Notice what is missing (e.g., who was not interviewed, what numbers are not compared).

3. Temporal Check

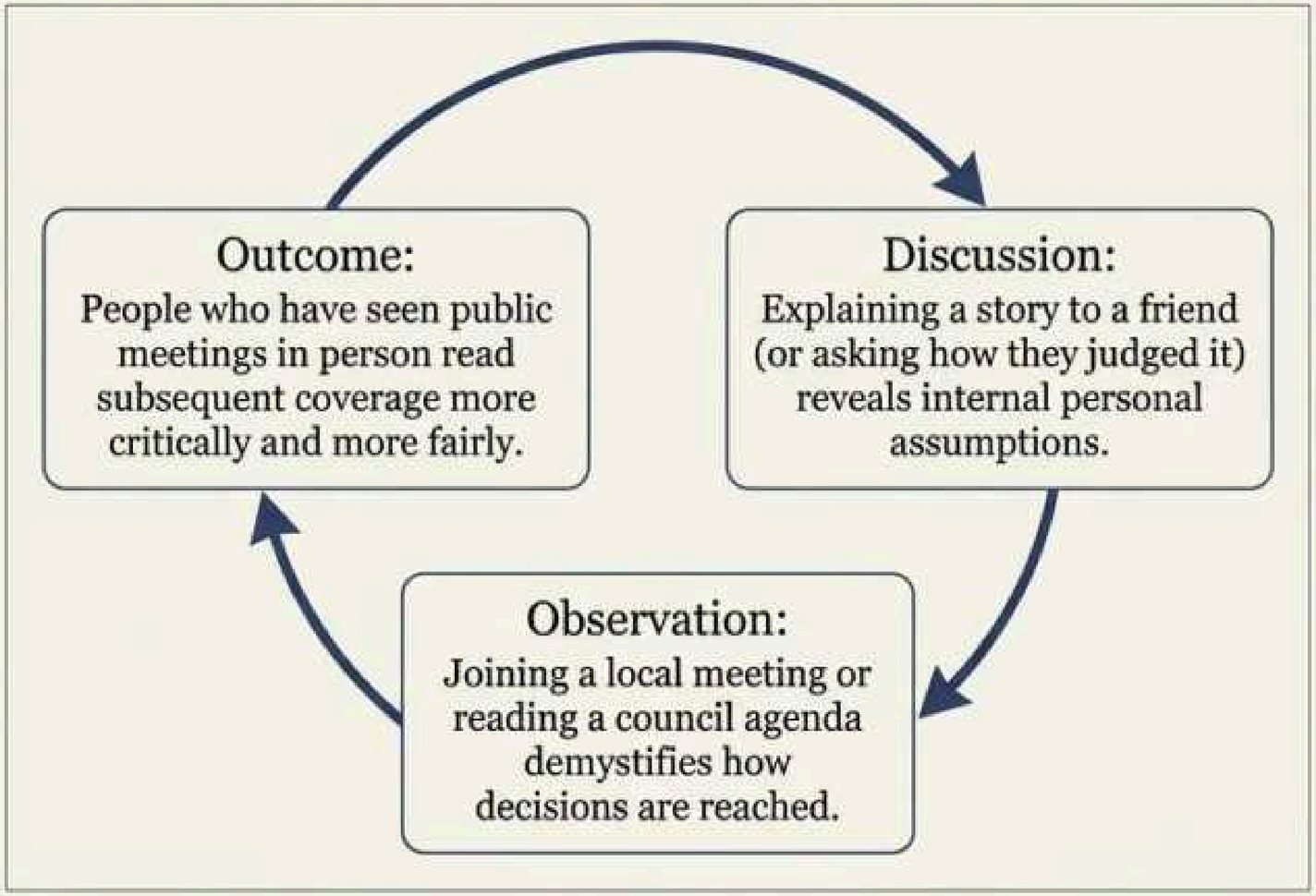
Verify the publication date to avoid recycling old old news circulating as new.

Note: A few extra minutes of reading often reveal what a headline hides.



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6.19 | Civic Feedback Loop



Civic life and good reading support one another.

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6.20 | The Four-Question Matrix

Q1: Who says so?

Q2: How do they know?

Note: Applying this framework to one story daily forms the core habit and heart of media literacy.

Q3: What is missing?

Q4: What would I check first?

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