**Answer Key: TEST YOUR NEWS SAVVY***True or False?*

1. Journalists must have a certain college degree to get hired and do their jobs.
*False. There's no standard degree or licensure for journalists, but many tend to major in a writing-intensive field or gain experience first through internships.*

2. Any news stories printed online have been fact-checked just like those printed in newspapers.
*False. Because of the quick turnaround for online media, many stories printed on the web might not be fact-checked before being published.*

3. The ads that appear as sidebars on most websites are always approved by the people who run the websites.
*False. Website ads are often managed by companies who populate or insert the ads based on the publisher's specific contract. The contract often includes information on what size ads are allowed, or for how long they should appear on the website, but they don't always mention the type of ad. Often, a publisher or website will not see an ad before it runs on a site.*

4. Newspapers, magazines and websites will always tell you if something they published was incorrect.
*False. The most reputable news sources will provide corrections when necessary, but there is no law mandating that news sources correct inaccurate information.*

5. Journalists don’t write stories about their friends.
*Partially true. In a perfectly ethical world, journalists would not write about stories they are personally invested in. So, a journalist who happens to be best friends with the city mayor would not write stories about the mayor or his work. This way, readers wouldn't have to question — based on a personal relationship with a source or subject — whether the journalist was being fair or unbiased.*

6. Journalists never write their own opinion.
*Partially true. Journalists who write news analysis or op-ed pieces might write their own opinion. When that happens, it should be clearly labeled. Otherwise, in a standard news story, the reader expects a journalist will leave out his or her opinion.*

7. It’s easy to tell if a story is one-sided or unfair.
*False. It can be really hard to tell if a story is unfair. Little things such as word choice or source choice can slant a story without a reader noticing. That's why it's so important to learn the skills and tricks of the news literacy trade that will help you identify unfair stories.*

8. Whoever wrote a story usually writes the headline that goes with it.
*False. Usually the person designing the page or setting it up for online publishing will write a headline that fits the space or bandwidth allotted.*

9. Journalists let the people who are in their stories read the articles before they are printed.
*False. Journalists will certainly verify information and quotes, but they don't typically hand over entire stories for sources to read.*

10. Good journalists won’t print something if they think it will get someone in trouble.
*False. Sometimes the stories journalists write about are difficult and might negatively affect someone's business or reputation. But if the story is newsworthy, important to the public, and written in a way that is ethically and legally sound, journalists should be proud to publish the story.*