

6

TRUE OR FALSE?

Never let the truth get in the way of a good story.

MARK TWAIN (1835–1910),
AN AMERICAN WRITER

UNIT LANGUAGE AND SKILLS

Vocabulary:

- Show what you know – adjectives to describe people
- describing truth and falsehood
- phrases with take
- compound adjectives
- word families
- phrasal verbs
- Word in focus – or

Grammar:

- conditional clauses – alternatives to if
- mixed conditionals

Listening:

- a conversation about a street artist
- sentence completion

Reading:

- an article about an imposter
- gapped text

Speaking:

- answering questions, expressing tentative opinions

Writing:

- an opinion essay

FOCUS EXTRA

- Grammar Focus pp. 137–138
- WORD STORE booklet pp. 12–13
- Workbook pp. 78–91 or MyEnglishLab
- MP3s – www.english.com/focus

6.1 Vocabulary

Truth and falsehood • Phrases with take • Compound adjectives

I can describe people and talk about the media.

SHOW WHAT YOU KNOW

- 1 In pairs, make two compound adjectives with each word in the box.

[-haired -eyed -skinned -faced -looking -dressed]

wavy-haired, dark-haired

- 2 In pairs, take turns to describe people you know using your compound adjectives from Exercise 1.

- 3 In pairs, describe the photos of people in the article using the words in the box.

[acne bags under the eyes crow's feet wrinkles
furrowed brow fine lines greying hair]

Why can't you believe everything you see in the media?

Models and celebrities are airbrushed

When celebrities and models appear on posters with smooth skin, the aim is to **create the illusion** that they are perfect. Most celebrities take it for granted that their photos will be digitally improved. But it's **far-fetched** to suggest that anybody over the age of thirty would have **wrinkle-free** skin, and this is why Brad Pitt has refused airbrushing because ¹⁰ he felt it was inauthentic – he prefers his photos to show his **crow's feet** and **furrowed brow**.



Eighteen-year-old singer Lorde tweeted two photos of herself: one ¹⁵ had been airbrushed to remove her acne and the other one was left as she is. She commented that imperfections are fine. Other celebrities such as Keira Knightley ²⁰ take pride in the fact that they reject any digital alteration.

Most people recognise digitally improved images and take them with a pinch of salt, but these images can ²⁵ affect young people's self-image. Photographers, designers and editors should take some responsibility for showing true images that don't **distort the truth**. But it's unlikely ³⁰ to happen, so young people must become more **worldly-wise** and learn to see the difference between **fake** images and **genuine** ones.