

Media Masters Rock! - The ASQB Rule Study Guide

Grade Level: 5th Grade

Duration: 20-30 minutes

Objective: Students will learn the importance of critical thinking and emotional awareness when responding to social media content by following the AQBS Rule: Ask Questions, Be Skeptical.

Before Watching the Video

Discussion Starter:

- Ask the students:
 - Have you ever seen something online that made you feel really angry, sad, or excited? What did you do?
 - Do you think everything you see on social media is true? Why or why not?
- Introduce the concept of the ASQB Rule:
 - **Ask Questions, Be Skeptical.** This helps us think carefully before we act on strong emotions.

Key Vocabulary:

- **Media Master:** Someone who uses the internet responsibly and thoughtfully.
- **Skeptical:** Doubting or questioning the truth of something.
- **Emotions:** Strong feelings like happiness, anger, sadness, or excitement.
- **Evidence:** Facts or information that show whether something is true or false.

During the Video

Focus Questions:

1. What does the **ASQB Rule** stand for?
2. Why is it important to ask questions before responding to a post on social media?

3. What kinds of questions should you ask about your emotions?
4. What kinds of questions should you ask about the post itself?

Encourage students to write down examples or key ideas from the video.

After Watching the Video

Class Discussion:

- **Question 1:** Why do Media Masters follow the **AQBS Rule**?
- **Question 2:** What might happen if you act on strong emotions without asking questions or being skeptical?
- **Question 3:** Can you think of a time when asking questions helped you make a better decision?

Group Activity 1:

- **Emotion Detective:**
 1. Write down three strong emotions (e.g., anger, happiness, embarrassment) on the board.
 2. In pairs or small groups, have students brainstorm questions they could ask themselves if they felt that emotion after seeing something online.
 - Example for anger: "Why am I angry? Is this post trying to make me feel this way?"
 3. Share responses as a class.

Group Activity 2:

True or False Investigation:




Activity: AQBS Question Practice

1. **Materials Needed:** Printed screenshots of fictional social media posts with a mix of strong emotional content, true facts, and misleading information.


EXAMPLES -

Viral Outrage Post





 **BREAKING NEWS!** 

A new law just passed that will BAN all video games for kids under 16!   Starting next month, game companies will be required to shut down accounts for anyone underage. Is this fair?!? COMMENT BELOW!  #SaveGaming #UnfairLaws

 **True Fact:** Some countries have introduced gaming restrictions for minors.

 **Misleading:** There is no such law in the U.S. banning all video games for kids under 16.





Celebrity Scam Post

 *OMG! Taylor Swift just announced she's giving away \$10,000 to her first 1,000 followers who comment "SwiftieForLife" on this post!*  Hurry before it's too late! 
 #TaylorSwift #CashGiveaway

 **True Fact:** Celebrities sometimes give money to charity.

 **Misleading:** This is a fake giveaway, likely a scam to collect personal information.

3. Emotional Hoax Post



  This poor puppy was abandoned at a gas station and has been crying for days! If you don't share this post, Facebook will delete it, and no one will help!   **SHARE NOW** to help save this puppy! #SaveThePuppy #Urgent

 **True Fact:** Animal abandonment is a real issue.

 **Misleading:** Facebook doesn't delete posts like this, and the story may not be true.

Fear-Mongering Post

 **DO NOT DRINK TAP WATER!** 

A new study shows that tap water in the U.S. contains dangerous chemicals that can cause memory loss and mood swings! Scientists say we should ONLY drink bottled water from now on! Stay safe!   #HealthWarning

✓ **True Fact:** Some areas have water contamination concerns.

✗ **Misleading:** Most U.S. tap water is heavily regulated and safe to drink.

Conspiracy Theory Post

🚀 *NASA HIDING THE TRUTH?!* 🚀

A leaked document reveals NASA has known about ALIEN CONTACT for years but is keeping it SECRET from the public! 👁️👁️ Why aren't they telling us the truth?! SHARE if you think we deserve answers! #AliensExist

✓ **True Fact:** NASA studies space and the possibility of extraterrestrial life.

✗ **Misleading:** There is no leaked document confirming alien contact.

Fake Health Post

🧪 *Doctors HATE this simple trick!* 🧪

Did you know that eating **one marshmallow before bed** can CURE ANXIETY?! Scientists say this small habit improves sleep and lowers stress instantly! Try it tonight! 😴✨ #HealthHack #LifeChanging

✓ **True Fact:** Some foods may influence sleep and mood.

✗ **Misleading:** There is no scientific evidence that marshmallows cure anxiety.

Discussion Prompts for Students:

- What questions should we ask before believing this post?
- Where could we check to see if this information is true?
- What emotions does this post try to trigger?
- Why might someone create and share this kind of post?

2. **Instructions:**

- Divide the class into small groups and present them with fictional social media posts (printed or written on the board).
- For each post, have the group:
 1. Identify the emotion it might create.

2. Ask questions about the post's truthfulness (e.g., "What's the evidence this is true?").
 3. Decide whether they should believe it or take more time to investigate.
- Discuss findings as a class and highlight the importance of the AQBS Rule.

Extension Activity:

Role-Play Scenarios:

- Create scenarios where a student encounters something online that makes them feel a strong emotion. Examples:
 - "You see a post that says a famous celebrity did something shocking."
 - "A friend shares a post about a new rule at school that seems unfair."
- Have students act out how they would apply the AQBS Rule in the situation.
 - What questions would they ask?
 - How would being skeptical help them?

Reflection:

- **Journal Prompt:** Write about a time you felt a strong emotion because of something you saw online. How could the ASQB Rule have helped you handle it better?

Wrap-Up:

- Recap the key message:
 - **The AQBS Rule:** Ask Questions, Be Skeptical.
 - Think carefully about your emotions and the post before responding.
- Encourage students to practice the ASQB Rule at home and share what they learned with family or friends.

Teacher Tip: Use this guide to help students develop critical thinking skills and emotional awareness while navigating social media.

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