**Number 1**

One key idea I have learned is that news, like history, is a record of an extremely small number of facts or things that occurred in the past or are occurring in the present.

In other words, there are many many activities ongoing on a daily basis. As there is not enough time to describe or report all activities, only some selected activities or facts are reported. Many facts are left out, some of which could be important.

An analogy or illustration can be described as, when we look out of the window, our eyes are drawn to one or two things, for example typically things we might like or bright or seem out of place or catch our attention. However, we fail to notice a significant amount of things within our field of vision. When asked what we saw, we would only describe what our eyes were drawn to, even though that represents a tiny fraction of our field of view.

**Number 2**

A key idea I have learned is that social media is an unreliable news source.

That is, social media is everywhere, and many adults now say that they get their news from social media websites. There is frequent misleading from social media websites, for example by spreading false information via paid advertisements, sharing of headlines and commentary without the actual story or facts behind the story.

An example of this idea manifesting in the real world is during the Covid-19 pandemic. Social media websites shared many false remedies or cures to the virus without providing any facts or information to back up the claims. Some of these remedies were supposedly shared by “scientists” or “doctors”.

**Number 3**

One idea I have learned is that news comes to us not only from professional journalists but also from unprofessional journalists. and people who spread misinformation.

That is, professional journalists embrace ethical principles, as compared to unprofessional journalists who distort, slant and misrepresent the news.

An example of this idea manifesting in the real world is the appreciable bias between different news outlets, most visible when comparing their reporting of the same story. We can also see misinformation spread by people. As an example consider the reporting of the origins of the Covid-19 pandemic. Few if any news outlets objectively or critically considered the evidence or lack of relating to the source of the outbreak. Some outlets were convinced it escaped from a laboratory, others reported it originated in the animal markets, and social media was ablaze with multiple “theories”.