

Investigating a false statement

Year 9 and 10, English

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False statement

Wind mills cause cancer.

Who said it?

In a speech on April 2, 2019 (in his previous term), President Donald Trump said, *“If you have a windmill anywhere near your house, congratulations, your house just went down 75 per cent in value. And they say the noise causes cancer, you tell me that one, okay?”*.

Learning extension: Watch a [video](#) of Donald Trump’s speech.

Examine the statement

What language and features of this statement might make someone believe it is true?

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This instills fear especially for homeowners who could be tricked into believing that wind farms cause their homes to lose most of their value.

People who are interested in Donald Trump and his political views are more likely to believe this disinformation.

This vague sentence implies that there are experts who have confirmed this, but there is no evidence. Ask yourself: Who is ‘they’ and is there evidence of their claims?

The ironic use of this word implies that if you don’t know this, you are foolish.