

# Getting to the Source

A news story is only as good as its **sources**. Learn how to **spot common types** and **weigh their reliability**.

## Sources

**Role:** Provide information



**Who**

- Experts
- Officials
- Witnesses
- Participants
- People connected to the story or its subjects

**What**

- Official records
- Letters
- Statements
- Photographs
- Transcripts
- Audio/video records

**Ask:**

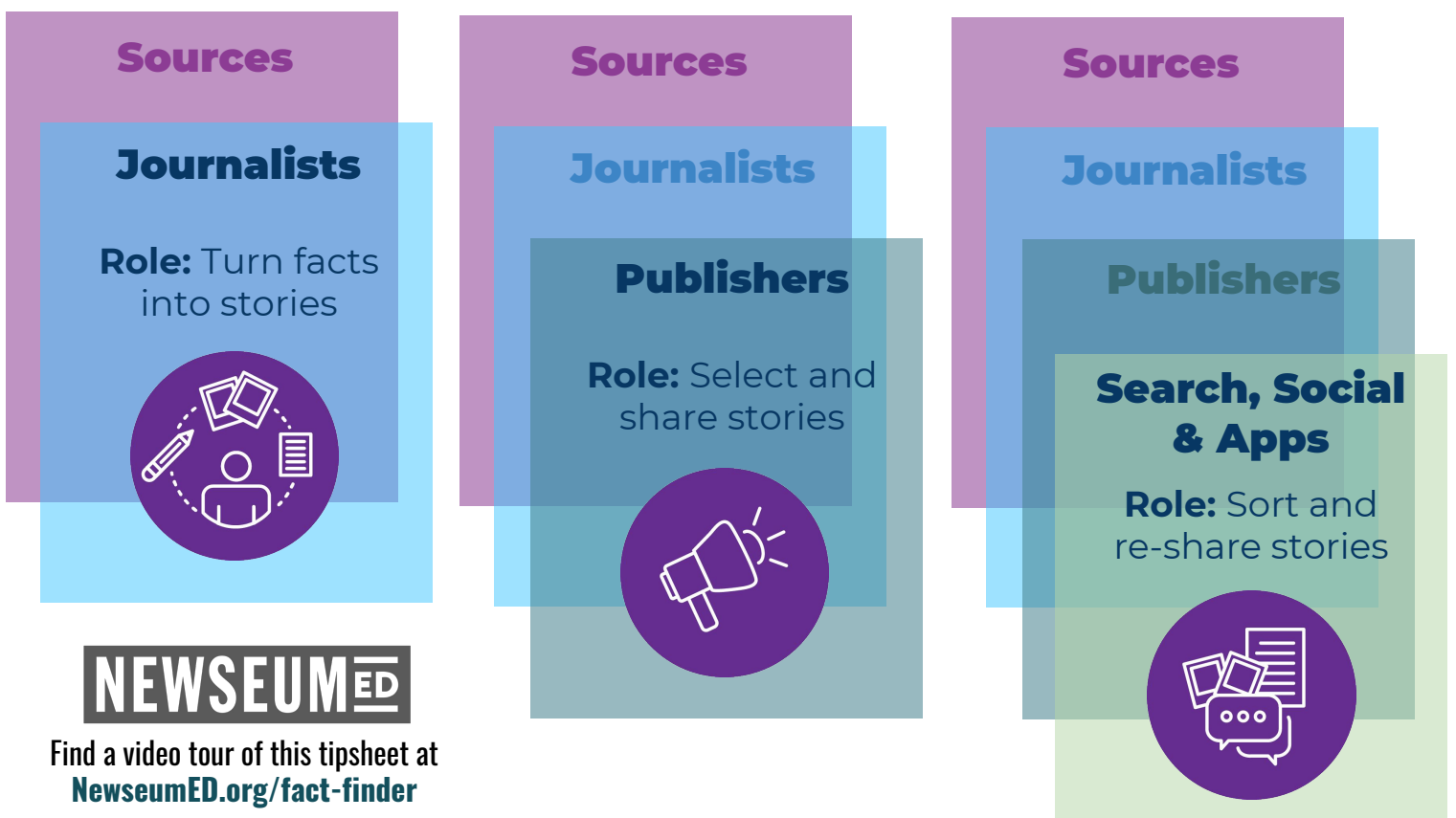
Is the source **named**? If not, is there a good reason?

Is the source **legitimate**? Is it a real document/expert? Are they qualified to know what they're talking about?

What are the source's **limitations**? What information can they reliably provide? Are they influenced by bias or connections?

What are the source's **motivations**? Why are they providing this information?


Sometimes sources get confused with the **journalists, publishers and tech tools** that also have roles in shaping and delivering content. **Peel back the layers** to get to the source of the facts.



**Sources**


**Journalists**

**Role:** Turn facts into stories




**Publishers**

**Role:** Select and share stories



**Search, Social & Apps**

**Role:** Sort and re-share stories



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