

AI Verification Lab for Journalists: Verification Workflows

Trainer Review Reading Edition

LANGUAGE

English

VERSION

1.0

AUDIENCE

Journalists with beginner-to-mixed AI experience

PURPOSE

Provide short, practical, beginner-friendly workflows for common verification tasks in a live session.

Verification Workflows

How to Use These Workflows

These workflows are designed for live demonstration, not as rigid formulas.

They show where AI can help structure the work and where the journalist still needs to verify evidence manually.

Workflow 1: Checking a Textual Claim

Example situation

A post says: "A major company has announced that all remote work will end worldwide next month."

Goal

Find out what exactly is being claimed, what can be checked, and what evidence is needed.

Steps

1. Copy the claim exactly as it appears.
2. Ask an LLM to break the claim into checkable parts.
3. Identify the key variables: who, what, where, when, and source.

4. Ask the LLM to suggest what primary sources should exist if the claim is true.
5. Search for direct evidence such as official statements, company pages, filings, or interviews.
6. Use Fact Check Explorer or normal search to see whether the claim has already been examined.
7. Write a simple conclusion: verified, false, misleading, or still unconfirmed.

What AI helps with

- turning a broad claim into smaller questions
- suggesting likely evidence types
- summarizing what different sources are saying

What humans must still verify

- whether the source is genuine
- whether the evidence is current
- whether the wording of the claim matches the evidence

Workflow 2: Handling a Suspicious Image

Example situation

An image is shared as proof of a breaking event.

Goal

Check whether the image is authentic, current, and correctly described.

Steps

1. Save the image and note the claim attached to it.
2. Ask an LLM what details in the image should be checked first.
3. List visible clues such as signs, landmarks, weather, clothing, vehicles, or language.
4. Use reverse-image workflows and image-search tools.
5. Use InVID or frame-based methods if the image came from video.
6. Compare the image with older posts or archived versions if needed.
7. Record whether the issue is reuse, wrong location, wrong date, or unresolved authenticity.

What AI helps with

- generating a clue checklist
- suggesting likely miscaption or reuse scenarios

- organizing findings into a short assessment

What humans must still verify

- whether the visual clues really match the proposed location or date
- whether a reverse-image match is relevant or misleading
- whether the surrounding context changes the meaning

Workflow 3: Reviewing a Video or Context Claim

Example situation

A short video clip is shared with a dramatic claim about what happened before or after the clip.

Goal

Check whether the clip is being described accurately and whether important context is missing.

Steps

1. Separate the video itself from the caption and narrative around it.
2. Ask an LLM to list what is directly visible and what is only being claimed.
3. Extract key frames and inspect them separately.
4. Search for earlier uploads, longer versions, or related posts.
5. Check place, date, weather, signage, language, and sequence clues.
6. Look for whether the clip is cropped, re-captioned, or detached from the original event.
7. Write a clear note about what the clip shows, what remains uncertain, and what the caption adds without proof.

What AI helps with

- separating observation from interpretation
- creating a structured context-check list
- drafting a clean comparison between the clip and the claim

What humans must still verify

- original upload source
- timeline details
- whether missing footage changes the conclusion

Workflow 4: Analyzing a Set of Documents

Example situation

A journalist receives several PDFs, screenshots, and notes linked to one claim.

Goal

Understand what the document set contains and what should be checked first.

Steps

1. Organize the documents by type, source, and date.
2. Use an LLM or NotebookLM to summarize each item briefly.
3. Ask for a list of repeated claims, contradictions, and missing evidence.
4. Identify which documents appear primary and which appear secondary.
5. Check signatures, dates, logos, formatting, and source trail.
6. Compare the document claims against public records or original institutions.
7. Create a short evidence map: confirmed, uncertain, unsupported.

What AI helps with

- summarizing long files
- surfacing patterns across multiple documents
- identifying contradictions or missing pieces

What humans must still verify

- whether the files are authentic
- whether the chain of custody makes sense
- whether the most important claims can be confirmed outside the document set

A Simple Rule Across All Workflows

Use AI early to structure the task.

Use human verification before making the final judgment.

Suggested Demo Sequence for a 2-Hour Session

- start with a textual claim
- move to an image example

- show a short video context example
- end with a document-pack workflow

This creates a clear progression from simple to more complex material.

Suggested NotebookLM Use

Use this source inside NotebookLM to:

- generate step-by-step summary cards
- create trainer speaker notes for each workflow
- produce a workflow comparison table
- support simple web app pages such as "How to check a claim"

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