

**MAKING CLAIMS**

- Look at each of the five pre-prepared examples in the Evidence Toolkit. In each case try to identify the main point – the central claim of the article. Click to see if you were right. Where in the article are the main claims usually expressed? At the beginning? The end? Or in the middle? What role does the headline play?
- After having identified the main claim, click to the next step in the Evidence Toolkit. Now see if you can identify the evidence that's being put forward. Where are the reasons that are being provided for the main claim? How are they distributed through the article? Use the Reason Checker in the Evidence Toolkit to see how you did.
- In pairs, select a recent news article – preferably one with a contentious topic. One of you takes on the role of Claim-Out-Loud; the other is Claim-Hidden-Away. Flip a coin to see who's who:
  - Claim-Out-Loud: summarise the news article and makes the main claim very clear. Include three or four of the main reasons.
  - Claim-Hidden-Away: summarise the news article – again pick a handful of reasons. But don't mention the main claim at all.

Is it still clear what the article is about? How does having the claim hidden away affect your feeling towards it?