

REHUGO – Puzzles of Truth

“Red Lights” are specific moments with signs of a possible puzzle of truth, signs like sweeping statements, one-sided arguments, obvious self-interest, etc. “Yellow Lights” are milder versions of the same thing.

Red Lights/Yellow lights for problems of truth

Sweeping generalization

One-sided arguments

Bold claim, no argument

Blatant self-interest

Extreme conviction

No obvious expertise

Angry claims

Feelings: seems implausible, uncertain, tentative

Plainly an opinion

In your REHUGO research there will be interesting puzzles of truth: a text with questionable claims, the daily paper, TV news, political speeches, a mystery story, a math proof that might have weaknesses, playground activities and conversations, home life, pop science, potentially risky behaviors, self-critique of something one has written, etc. Examine the material you have collected for **red lights** and **yellow lights**. Typical red zones are the editorial pages of newspapers, political speeches, playground arguments, because so many red lights occur within them.

Examples:

R The only honorable way out is to win on the battlefield (political, extreme statement, no argument)

Y The majority of people agree... (evidence?)

R I'm sick and tired of the way.... (editorial, angry claim)

Y The senator expressed his judgment that... (tentative)

R You can save more now than ever before... (ad, blatant self-interest)

Y Thousands of people flock to these kinds of self-medication (re the medications, lack of expertise)

Y Both teenagers and young adults will like this film (opinion)