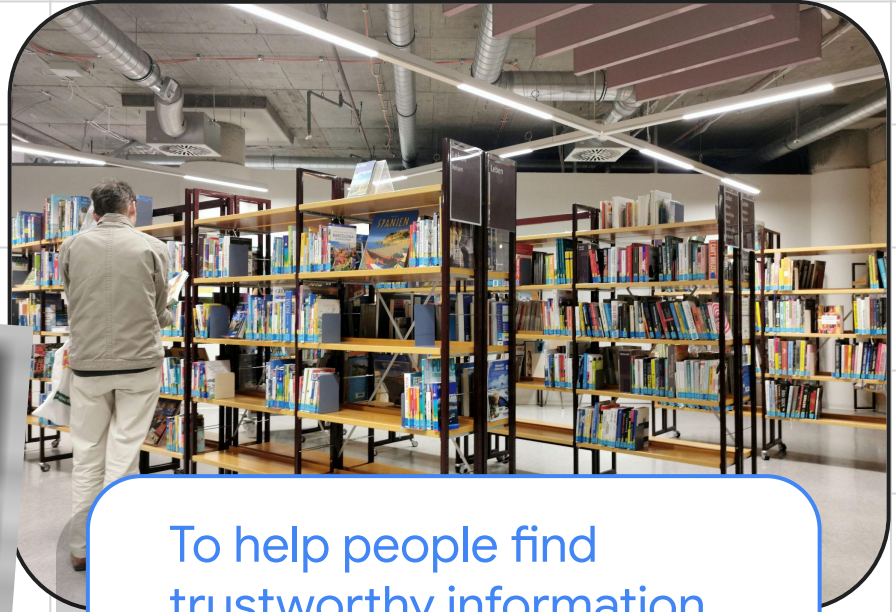


Super

This way to become a Super
Searcher with AI

Searchers

Search is evolving quickly. But our goal remains the same.



To help people find trustworthy information and understand it in context.

1

Getting started

How confident are you evaluating information online?

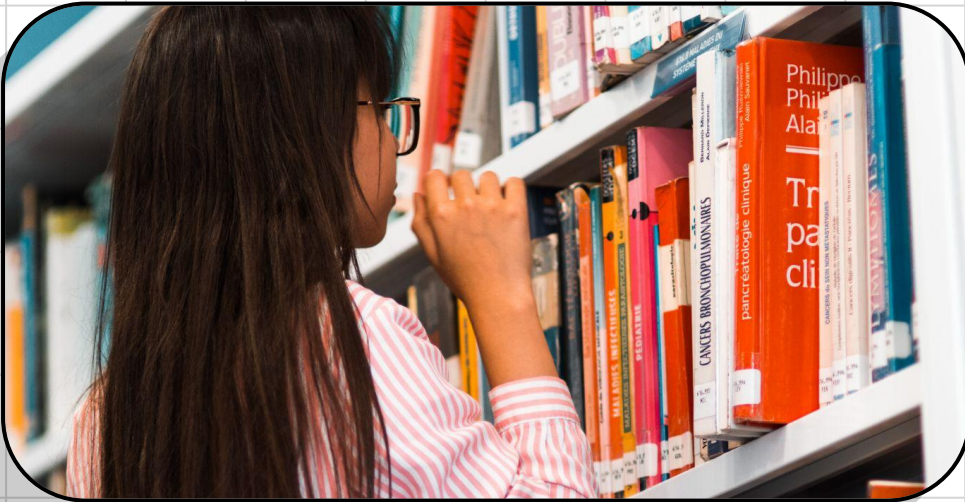
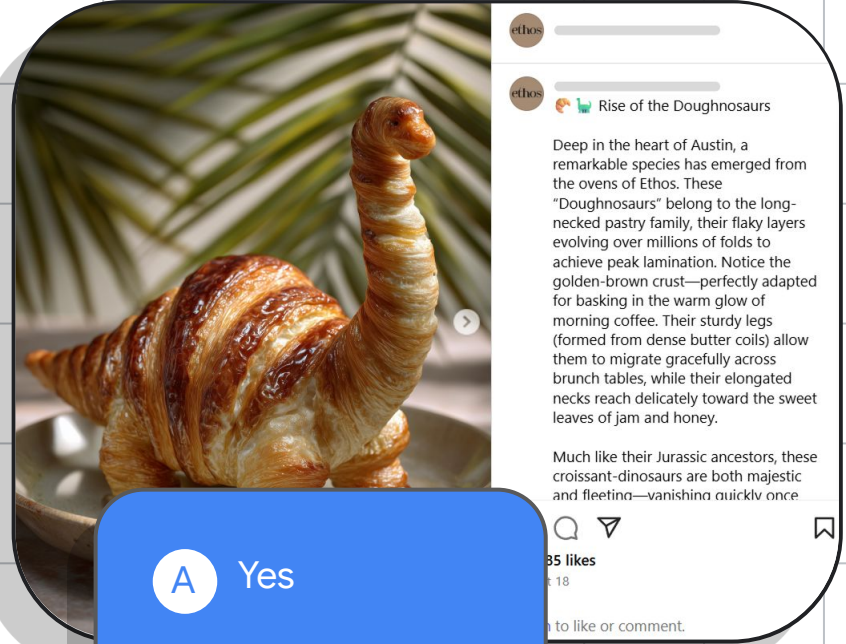
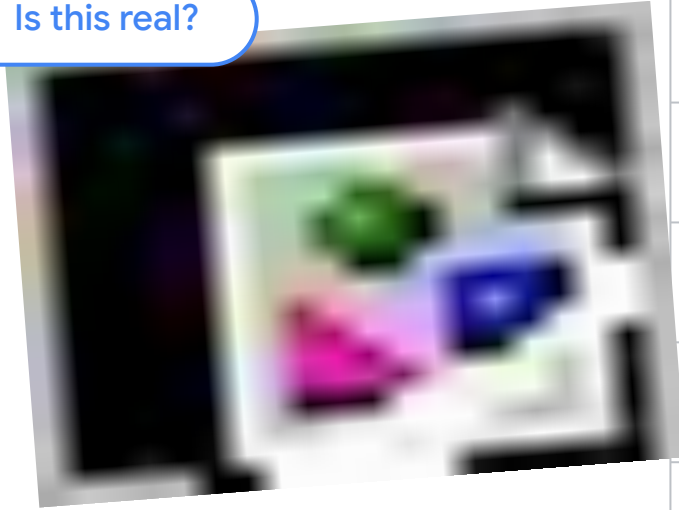


Image source: Location unknown, stock photography. Photo by Rabie Madaci on Unsplash.

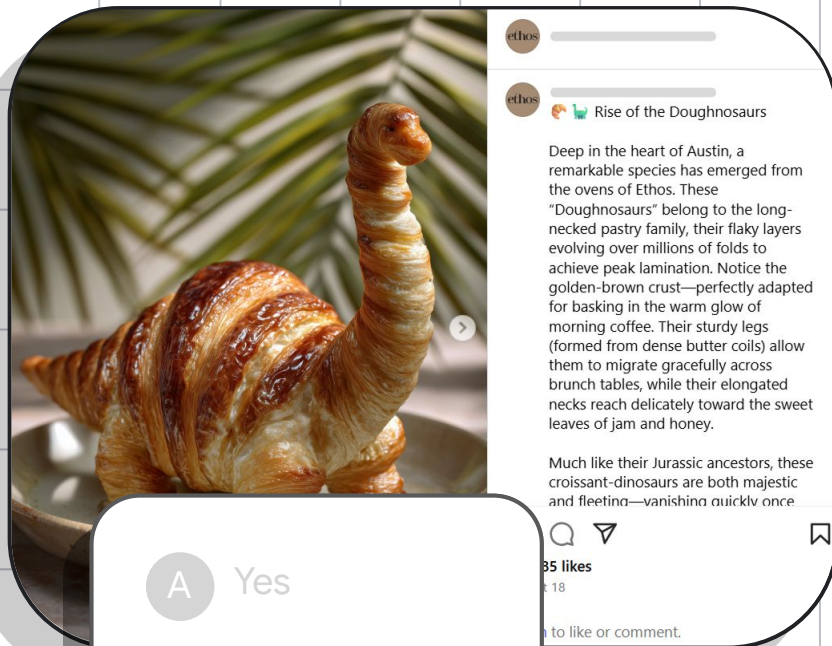
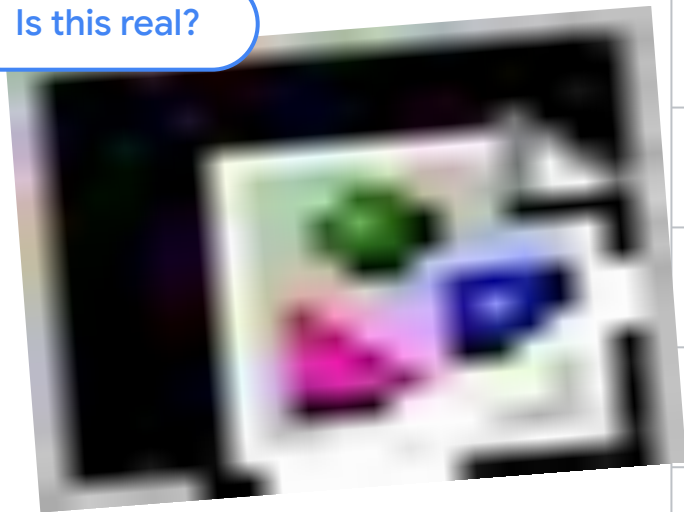
Getting started

Is this real?



Getting started

Is this real?



A Yes

B No

Getting started

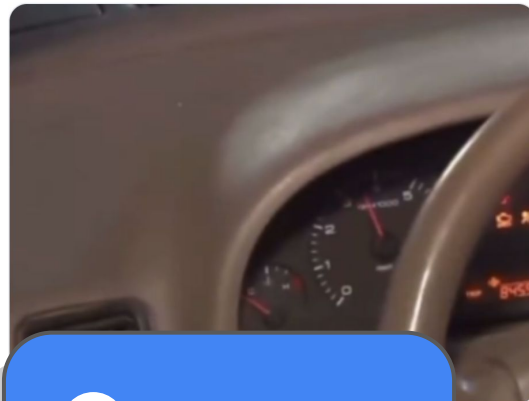
Is this story true?



F

16s

Amazing: Iranian scientist built a car that runs on nothing but water. The vehicle uses a process to split water into hydrogen and oxygen, then burns the hydrogen to power the engine and can travel over 900 km on 60 liters! Sleep with one eye open my friend, the oil companies won't like this.



A Yes

B No

Getting started

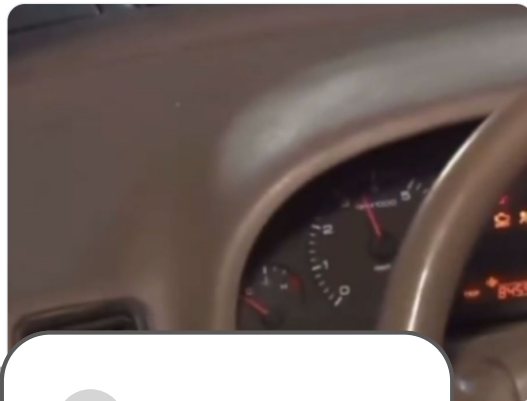
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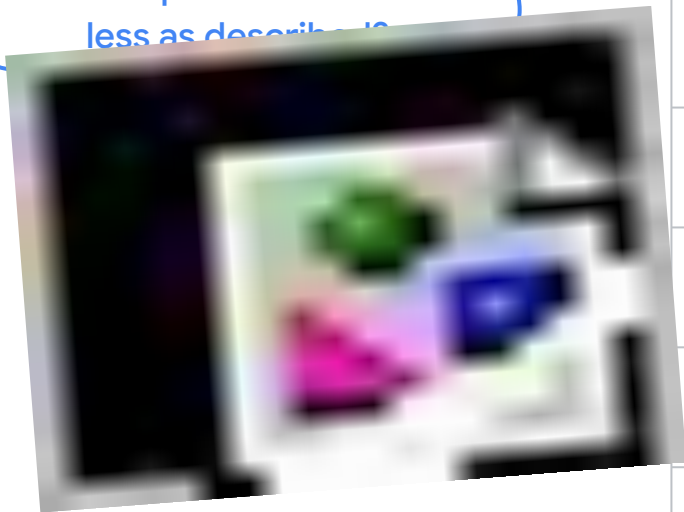


A Yes

B No

Getting started

Is this picture more or
less as described?



· Aug 21 ···

europa water levels are so low that sunk
German warships are popping up in the danube



465 8,129 44.3K

A

Yes

B

No

Getting started

Access AI
Mode anytime
google.com/ai

Ask anything



We can find out
quickly with AI Mode

Getting started

Access AI
Mode anytime
google.com/ai

Ask anything



Evaluate information quickly
with AI Mode

Getting started



Add the claim to AI Mode



· Aug 21 ···

europe water levels are so low that sunk
German warships are popping up in the danube



465

8,129

44.3K

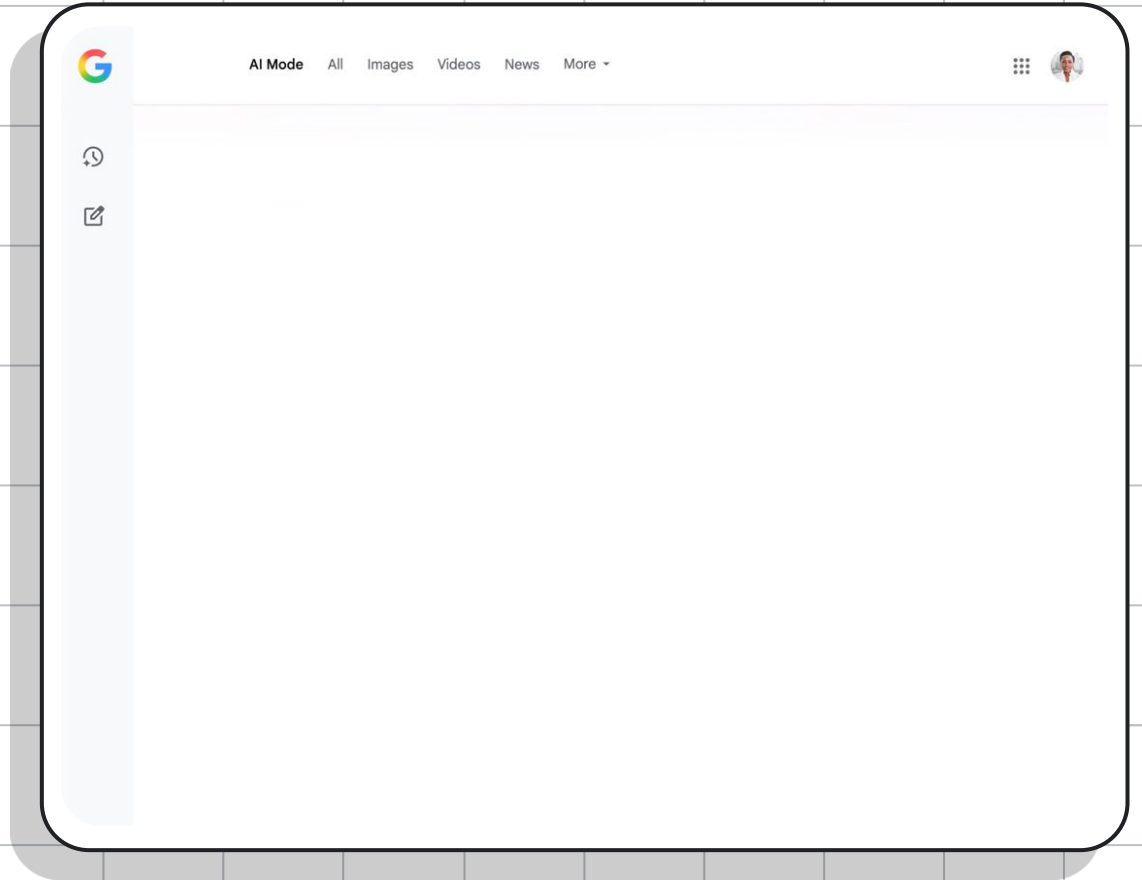


Getting started



Research made easy

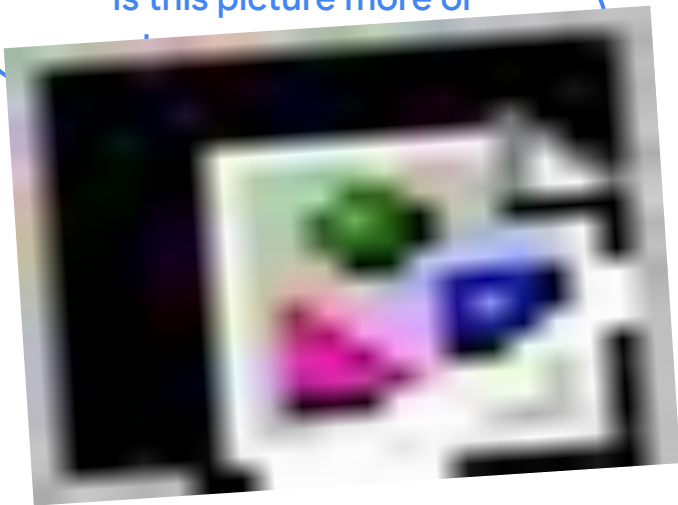
- Intelligently organizes information
- Simple breakdowns
- Helpful links to explore more on the web



Getting started

So...

Is this picture more or



· Aug 21 ···

Europe water levels are so low that sunk
German warships are popping up in the Danube



465 8,129 44.3K

A

Yes

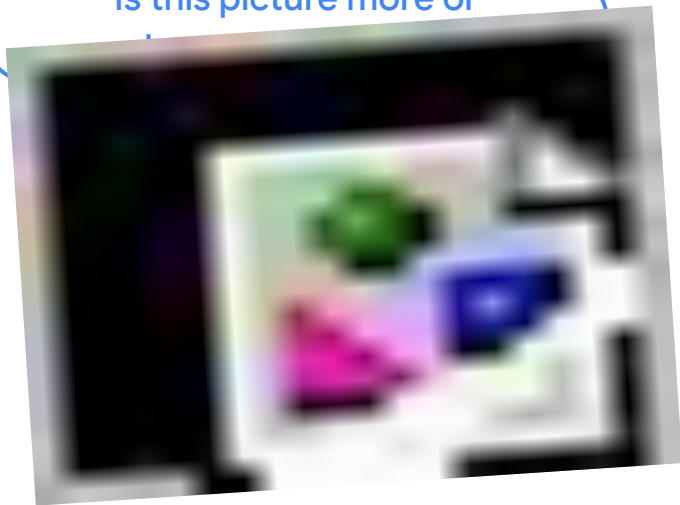
B

No

Getting started

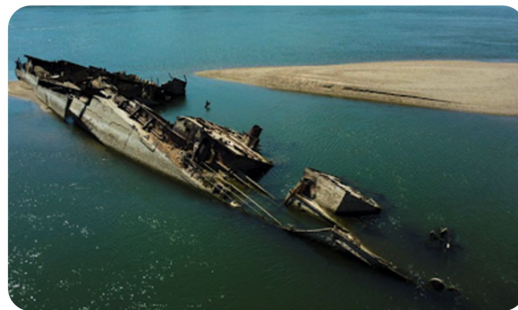
So...

Is this picture more or



· Aug 21 ···

europa water levels are so low that sunk
German warships are popping up in the danube



465 8,129 44.3K

A

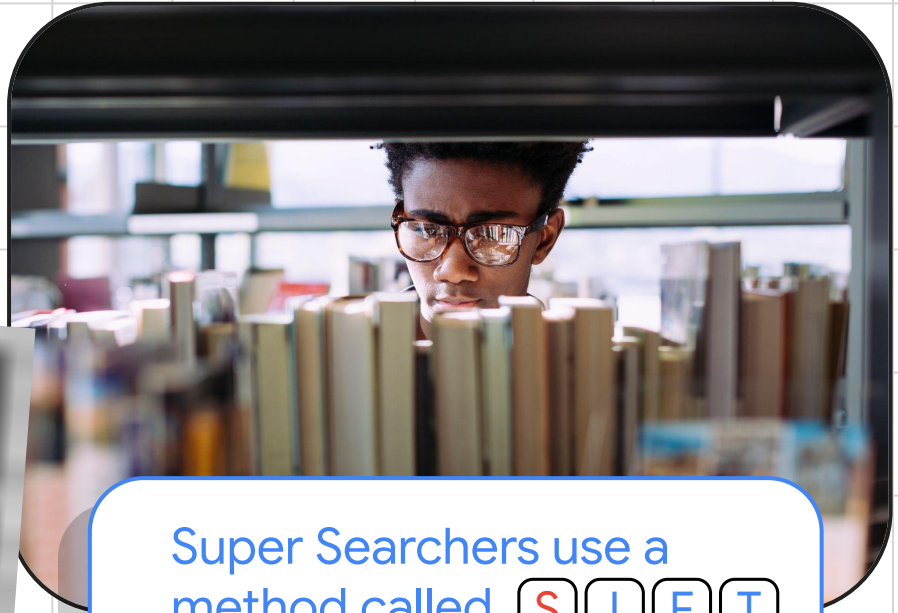
Yes

B

No

Getting started

But what if we want
to dive deeper?



Super Searchers use a
method called **SIFT**
to explore information
in more detail.

The SIFT method



The SIFT method

S

Stop,
check it out

I

Investigate
the source

F

Find better
coverage

T

Trace back to
original context



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SIFT in practice

From method to myth-busting

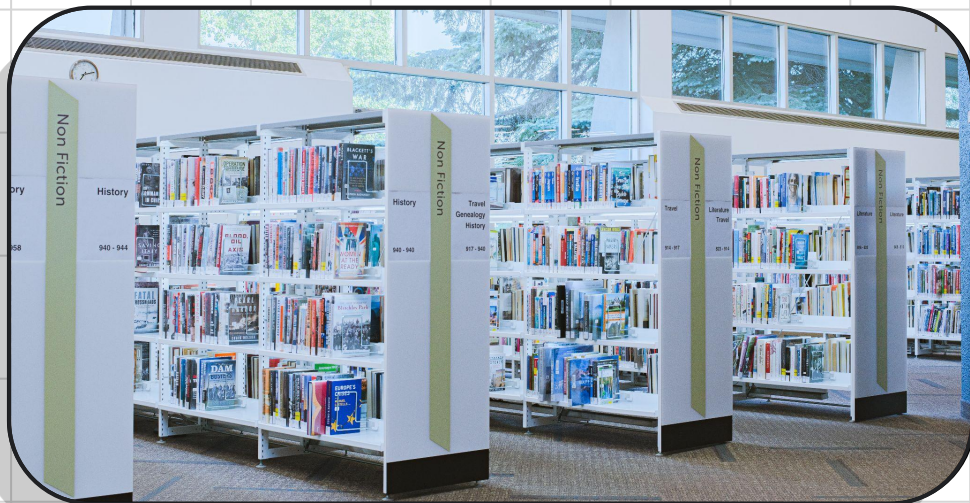


Image source: New York Public Library, New York City. Photo by Patrick Robert Doyle on Unsplash.

SIFT in practice

A viral story claims Winston Churchill buried six men alive in a hidden bunker to spy on Hitler's troops.



· 53m

It was Winston Churchill's deepest secret of WWII.

Deep in this hidden bunker, 6 men were buried alive -- to spy on Hitler's troops! Living in exile from the world with only 7 years of supplies

Their story was classified for decades...but now can be told.



450

1.7K

13.3K



SIFT in practice

Something doesn't feel right

Stop, let's check it out



· 53m

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1.7K

13.3K



SIFT in practice



Add the claim to AI Mode

Access AI
Mode anytime
google.com/ai



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1.7K

13.3K



SIFT in practice

Sounds familiar

Meet AI Mode

Ask detailed questions for better responses

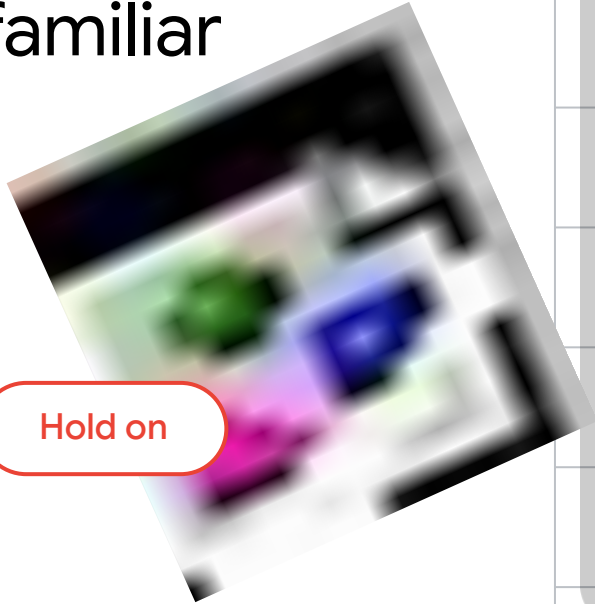
It was Winston Churchill's deepest secret of WWII.
Deep in this hidden bunker, 6 men were buried alive -- to spy on
Hitler's troops! Living in exile from the world with only 7 years of supplies



SIFT in practice

Sounds familiar

Hold on





AI Mode All Images Videos News More ▾



It was Winston Churchill's deepest secret of WWII.
Deep in this hidden bunker, 6 men were buried alive...

The scenario described is a conflation of a real, top-secret World War II mission called Operation Tracer and a fabricated urban legend about German soldiers.

The real mission: Operation Tracer

The reference to a hidden bunker with six men buried alive to spy on Hitler's troops most closely matches Operation Tracer.

- **What it was:** A top-secret British intelligence plan proposed in 1941.
- **The location:** A hidden observation post, now known as "Stay-Behind Cave," was constructed inside the Rock of Gibraltar.
- **The volunteers:** A team of six men, including a doctor and a radio operator, volunteered for a suicide mission to be sealed inside the cave.
- **The mission:** If Gibraltar fell to Axis forces, the men would remain entombed for up to a year, silently monitoring enemy movements through a periscope and relaying intelligence by radio.
- **The supplies:** Provisions for seven years were reportedly stocked, with a year's worth of food and water confirmed.
- **The outcome:** The operation was never activated because Hitler's plans shifted, and Gibraltar was never invaded. The volunteers were never sealed inside, and the cave remained secret until its discovery in 1997.

Auxiliary Units (Britain)

Ask anything 



 7 sites

Operation Tracer, Part 1 - Gibraltar's castle in the sky

1 Apr 2024 — What was Tracer? There are often dramatic words such as...

 Frontline Uster

Operation Tracer - Wikipedia

Table content header: | Operation Tracer | | row: | Operation Tracer: St... |

 Wikipedia

Operation Tracer secret WWII plan in Gibraltar

2 Nov 2025 — Operation Tracer secret WWII plan in Gibraltar: ...

 Timeless Lessons

Show all

SIFT in practice



AI Mode

All

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2 Nov 2025 — Operation Tracer secret WWII plan in Gibraltar: ...

Timeless Lessons

Show all

SIFT in practice

S I F T

Find better



AI Mode All Images Videos News More ▾



What are the facts and misconceptions about this story?

The story as presented is a dramatized combination of facts from two different, but real, British secret operations from WWII: **Operation Tracer** in Gibraltar and the **Auxiliary Units** (or "Churchill's Secret Army") in mainland Britain. 🌐

Here is a breakdown of facts and misconceptions:

Facts

- **A "stay-behind" operation was planned:** The British, fearing a potential Axis invasion of key locations, developed plans for clandestine forces to remain behind enemy lines.
- **Operation Tracer involved six men:** A team of six volunteers (an officer, two doctors, and three wireless operators) were selected for a mission in Gibraltar.
- **They would be sealed in a hidden bunker:** A secret observation post/bunker was constructed deep within the Rock of Gibraltar ("Staybehind Cave") specifically for this purpose.
- **Provisions for a long duration:** The bunker was stocked with enough food, water, medical supplies, and equipment to last the men for at least a year, with plans allowing for a potential stay of up to seven years.
- **Mission was surveillance:** Their task was to use narrow observation slits to monitor and radio back information about enemy ship movements in the Strait of Gibraltar and the Mediterranean Sea.
- **The bunker was built but never used:** The operation was fully prepared, but the

Ask anything



7 sites

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Operation Tracer - Wikipedia

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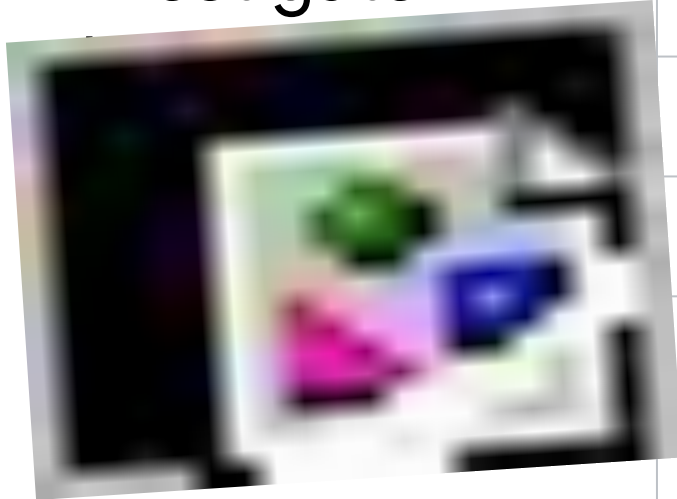
Timeless Lessons

Show all

SIFT in practice

S I F T

Investigate





AI Mode All Images Videos News More ▾



What do WW2 historians say about it?

Historians confirm the core of the story is an extraordinary but true WWII plan called **"Operation Tracer"**. They view it as a striking testament to wartime ingenuity, the strategic importance of Gibraltar, and the extreme courage of the volunteers involved. 🌟

Historians' Consensus

- **A Real, Extreme Plan:** Historians agree that the plan was fully developed in 1941 when a German invasion of Gibraltar seemed possible. The strategic location controlling access to the Mediterranean was critical for Britain.
- **Volunteers Understood the Risks:** The six men selected (an officer, two doctors, and three wireless operators) were volunteers who were fully aware they would likely never leave the cave alive. They were prepared for a one-way, "no return" mission.
- **Ingenious but Grim Design:** The construction of the "Staybehind Cave" is noted for its clever design, including cork-tiled floors to muffle sound, disguised ventilation, and a bicycle-powered radio generator. Most strikingly, the plan included a grim protocol: if a team member died, their body would be embalmed and cemented into the floor of the cave by his comrades to prevent disease.
- **Mission Never Activated:** The most fortunate historical fact is that the operation was never put into action. Allied victories in North Africa by 1943 reduced the threat to Gibraltar, and the plan was shelved.
- **"Myth and Reality":** Historians caution against overly dramatic language like "buried alive" or connecting it directly to mainland British "Auxiliary Units" which had a different, offensive, sabotage-focused mission. Operation Tracer was an unarmed, *passive observation post*.

Ask anything ✕



 7 sites

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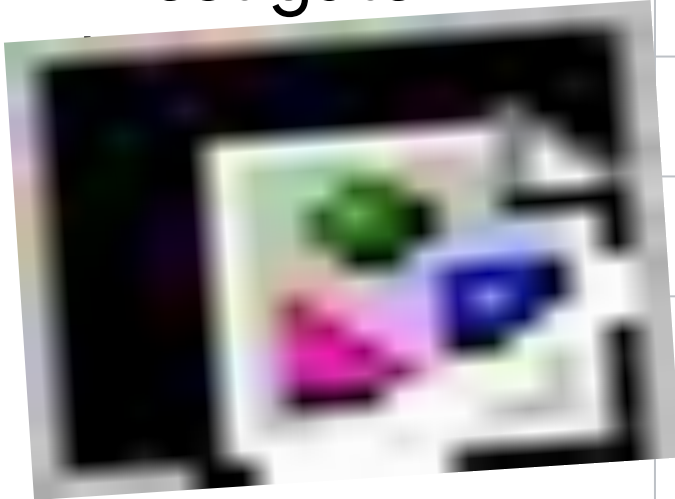
Timeless Lessons

Show all

SIFT in practice



Investigate



https://frontlineulster.co.uk/operation-tracer-part-1/#:~:text=Commander%20Geoffrey%20Birley%2C%20Senior%20Officer,requirements%2C%20stores%20and%20crew%4E2%80%9D

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Home Original Research Research Resources Articles by period Articles by location

2 April 2024 / Original Research: Rest of the World, Second World War

Operation Tracer, Part 1 – Gibraltar's Castle In The Sky

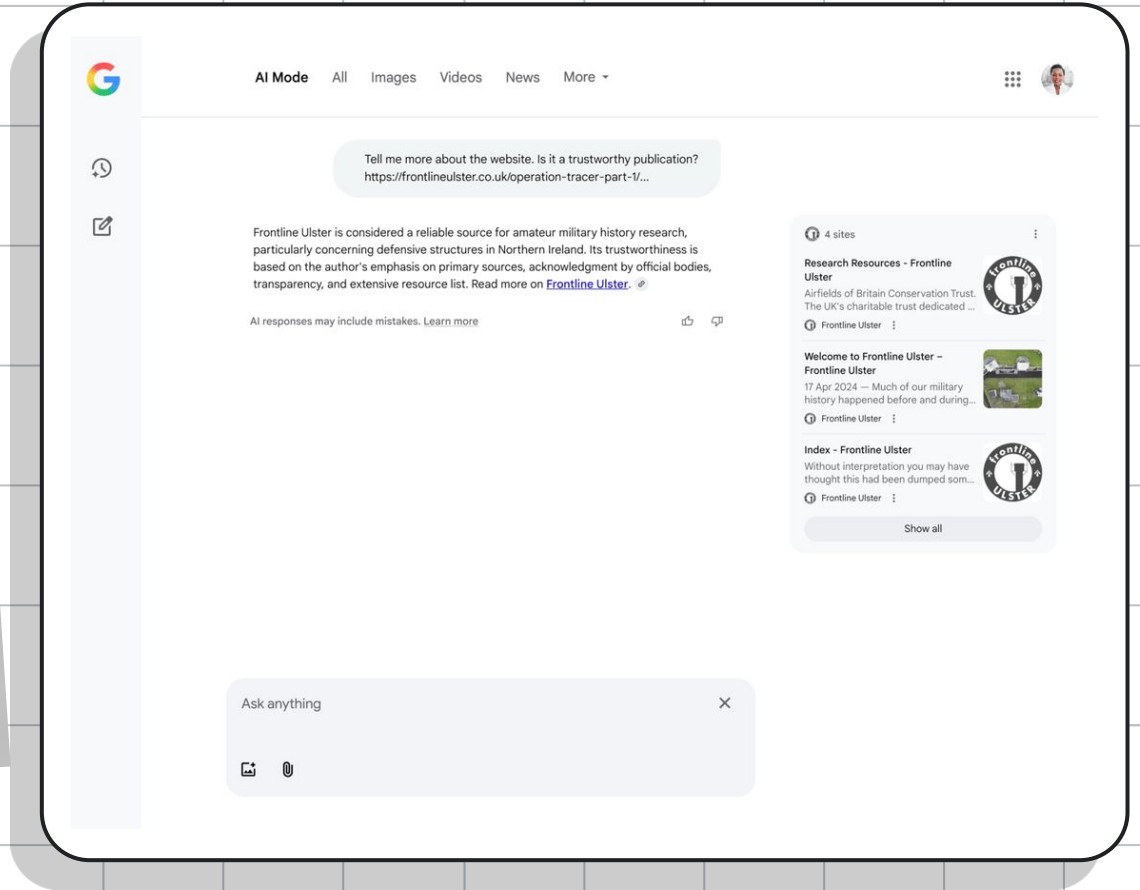
*To date the primary role (...) has been against threatened attack from Spain across North Front. **Owing to changes in the Situation during the past year, a seaborne attack is now considered possible.** The primary role (...) has been changed to an anti-tank and anti-landingcraft one.*

This extract shows a shift in defensive focus as the situation in North Africa deteriorates and perhaps blind faith in the Royal Navy to secure the sea routes weakens. Taken from Gibraltar 18th Defence Regiment War Diaries. Annex D A. 3 July 1942. National Archives WO 176/184

SIFT in practice

S I F T

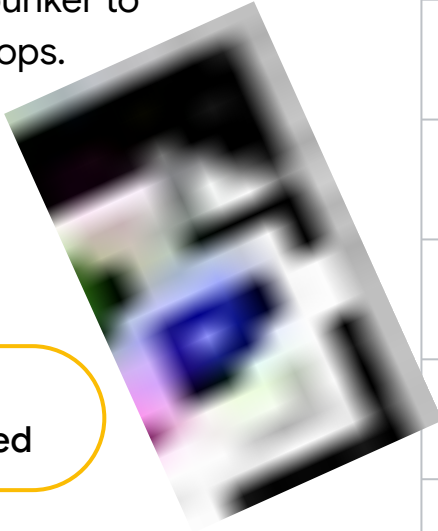
Trace back to



SIFT in practice

A viral story claims Winston Churchill buried six men alive in a hidden bunker to spy on Hitler's troops.

Partly true,
but exaggerated



· 53m

It was Winston Churchill's deepest secret of WWII.

Deep in this hidden bunker, 6 men were buried alive -- to spy on Hitler's troops! Living in exile from the world with only 7 years of supplies

Their story was classified for decades...but now can be told.



450

1.7K

13.3K



SIFT in practice

Take your research even further

You can try



Give me 5 bullet points summarizing Operation Tracer

- **Objective:** Operation Tracer was a top-secret World War II British plan to leave a clandestine observation team inside the Rock of Gibraltar if it fell to an Axis invasion.
- **Team:** The mission involved a six-man team of volunteers, consisting of two doctors and four radio operators, who were to be sealed inside a hidden bunker.
- **The Bunker:** A "stay-behind cave" was constructed within the Rock of Gibraltar with living quarters, a water supply, and a radio to monitor enemy naval movements in the Strait of Gibraltar.
- **Cancellation:** The mission was never carried out because the threat of a German invasion of Gibraltar diminished after the Allies' success in North Africa in 1943. The bunker was sealed, but with the men safely outside.
- **Rediscovery:** The bunker's existence remained a secret until it was rediscovered by the Gibraltar Caving Group in 1997. One of the original team members confirmed its authenticity a decade later.

SIFT in practice

Or even



Create a workshop about Operation Tracer for an after-school club at my library

A spy-themed workshop for a library club

This workshop will use the story of Operation Tracer to engage middle school students with history through interactive, team-based activities. It will turn the real-life historical mission into an exciting, mystery-solving event. The library setting is ideal, offering research resources and space for group work.

Session 1: The sealed room mystery

- **Introduction: What is Operation Tracer?** (15 minutes)
 - Introduce the story of Operation Tracer: the top-secret mission to seal six men inside the Rock of Gibraltar during World War II.
 - Discuss the strategic importance of Gibraltar and why the British would need spies there.
 - Prompt a discussion: "Why was this mission so secret?" and "What do you think was the most difficult part of preparing for it?"
- **Activity: Bunker essentials challenge** (25 minutes)
 - **Objective:** To encourage critical thinking about survival and logistics.

In short: think critically, search confidently

1



AI responses may include mistakes.

2



Always check the links and sources.

3

Search



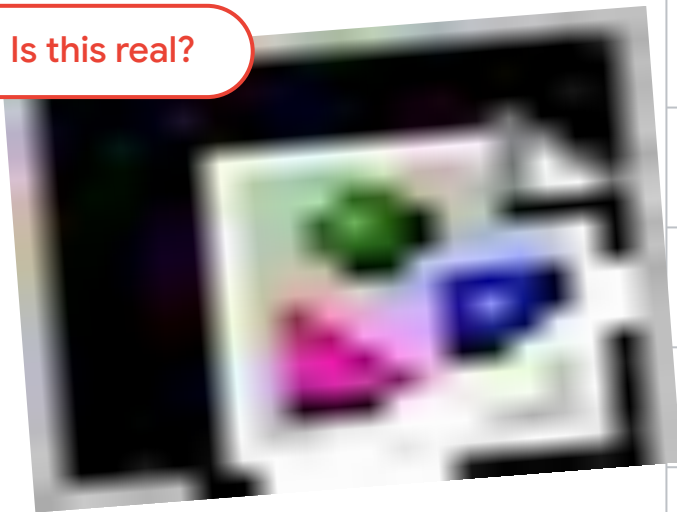
Use Search to double check if you're still unsure.

SIFT in practice

**Put your Super Searcher
skills to the test**

SIFT in practice

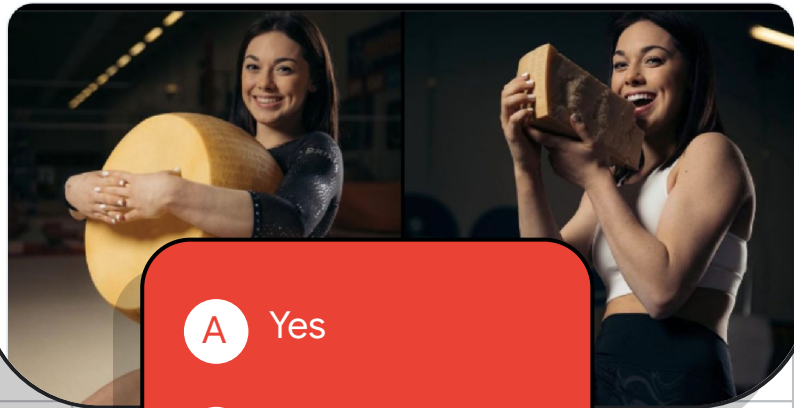
Is this real?



U

· 22h

Little known fact: Olympic silver medalist Giorgia Villa is sponsored by a parmesan cheese company and frequently posts pics of herself holding giant wheels of cheese (and tiktok videos too!)



A Yes

B No

SIFT in practice



1

Open the post and
add the text to AI
Mode

Open the original claim



Get Super
Searching



2

Use the

S **I** **F** **T**

method to ask follow
up questions

- Facts and misconceptions?
- Is anyone else talking about this?
- Is this photo trustworthy?

Get Super
Searching



3

Come to a conclusion

Ask AI Mode to summarise your research in a way that works for you.

Ask anything



Get Super Searching

SIFT in practice

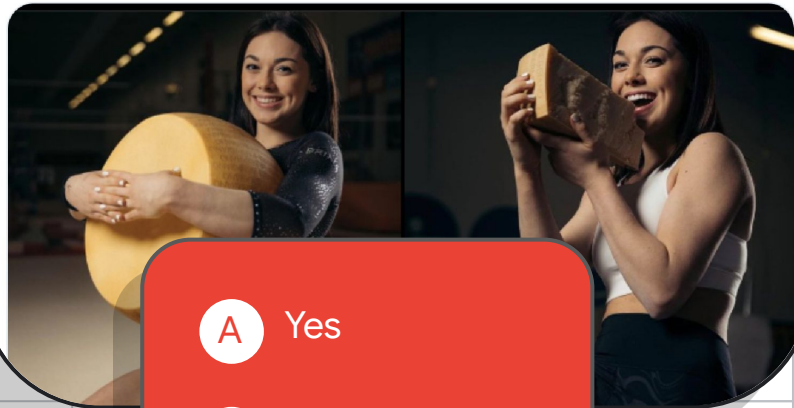
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A

Yes

B

No

SIFT in practice

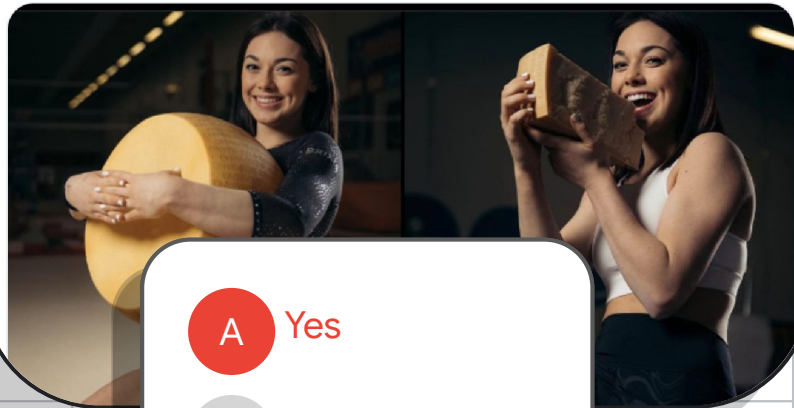
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A

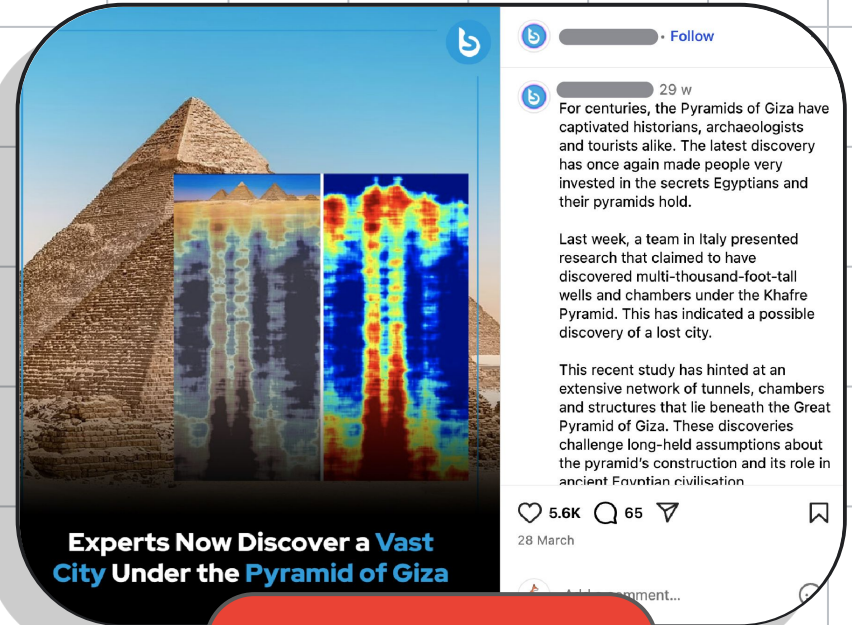
Yes

B

No

SIFT in practice

True or false?



A True

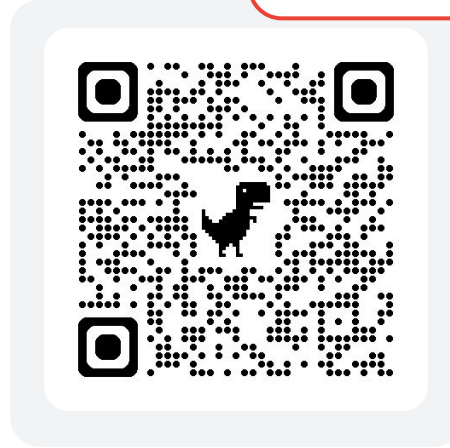
B False



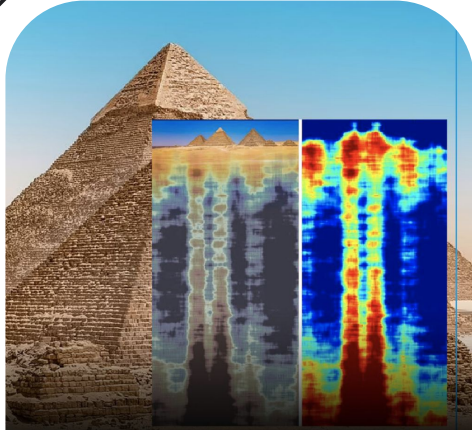
1

Open the post and
add a screengrab
to AI Mode

Open the original image



Get Super
Searching



Experts Now Discover a Vast
City Under the Pyramid of Giza

2

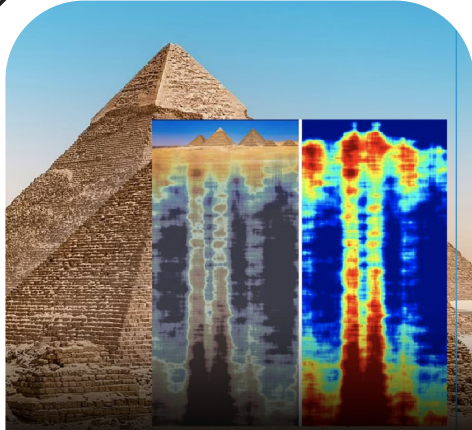
Use the

S I F T

method to ask follow
up questions

- Facts and misconceptions?
- What do experts and historians say about this discovery?
- Is this image trustworthy?

Get Super
Searching



Experts Now Discover a **Vast**
City Under the **Pyramid** of Giza

3

Come to a conclusion

Ask AI Mode to summarise your research in a way that works for you.

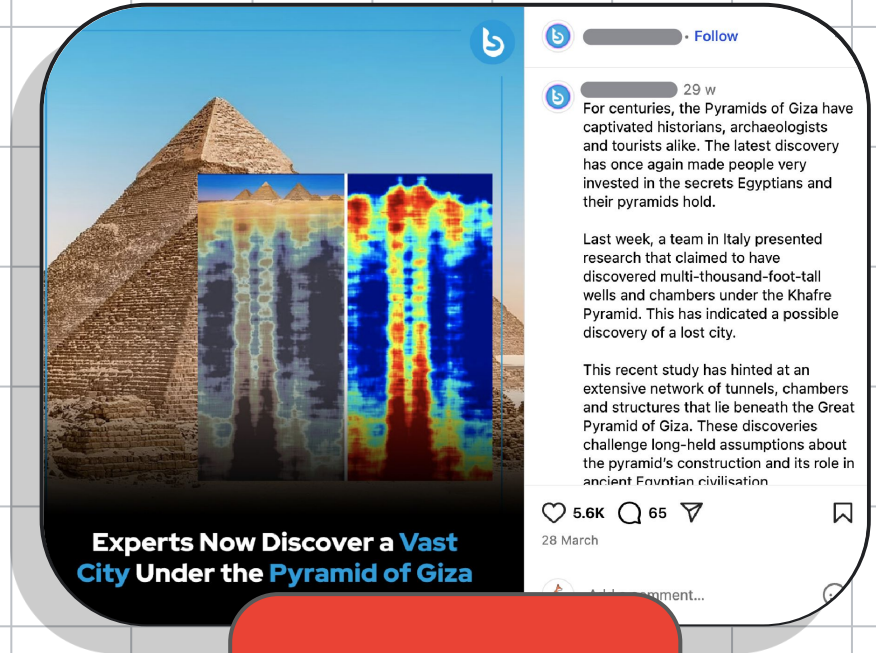
Ask anything



Get Super
Searching

SIFT in practice

True or false?

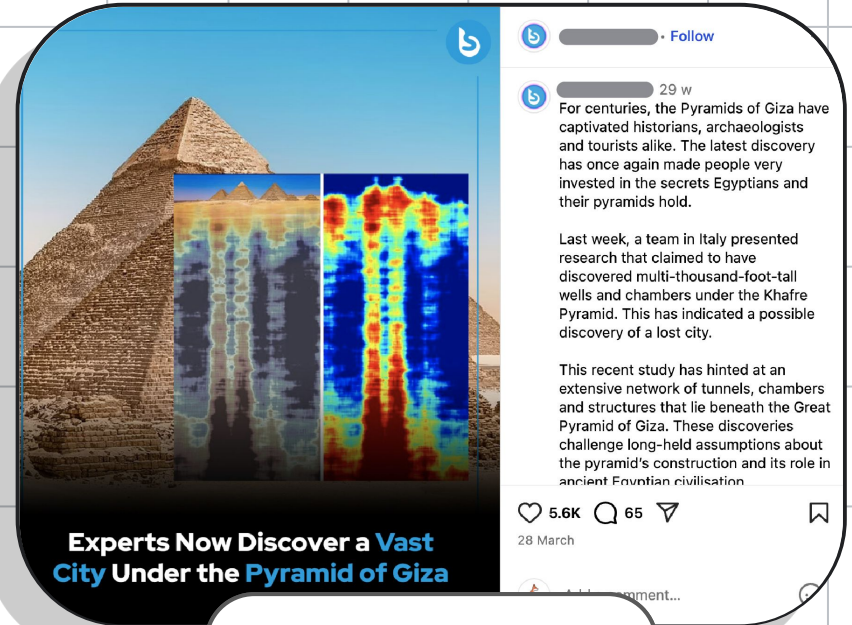


A True

B False

SIFT in practice

True or false?



A True

B False

4

Wrapping up

Venture on, Super Searchers!



Image source: New York Public Library, New York City. Photo by Patrick Robert Doyle on Unsplash.

Wrapping up

Find info quickly
with AI Mode

Ask anything



If in doubt, use

S → F T I

Keep exploring. Stay Super.

Wrapping up

Resources

- Scan the QR code to open the Super Searchers Resource Pack.





Well done!

You are now a ...

Super

Searcher



Thank

you