FIRST: Decide whether the journalist writing the headline used CAUSAL or CORRELATIONAL LANGUAGE. Then, HIGHLIGHT the term that implies CAUSAL LANGUAGE or CORRELATIONAL LANGUAGE

1. Church attendance boosts immunity
2. Deep voiced men have more kids
3. Eat sweets, live longer
4. Credit cards make you fat and dumb
5. Texting improves language skill
6. Facebook users get worse grades in college
7. Chocolate consumption causes Nobel prize winners
8. Want a higher GPA? Go to private college!
9. Recession causes increase in dating violence
10. Kindergarten leads to crime
11. Sugar rush…to prison! Study says lots of candy could lead to violence
12. Harsh verbal discipline increases…risk teens will misbehave,…exhibit symptoms of depression

Pick one study from above. Answer the questions regarding the studies. You may read how the real research (survey/data collection) was completed by clicking the links.

a) What empirical question were researchers trying to answer?

b) What types of survey questions were asked or what type of data used?

c) What type of correlation is implied? Positive or Negative (circle)

d) What is a potential third variable or lurking variable?

e) Rewrite any headline that used causal language, so that it reads as a correlational study.
ACCEPTABLE TERMS for Correlations

Get
Have
Linked
More, more/ less, less
Tied
Connected/Related
Tend

AVOID THESE TERMS WHEN DISCUSSING CORRELATION

Cause
Increase/decrease
Benefits
Impacts
Enhances/undermines
Effect/affect
Improves/Boosts
If > Then type statements (implies one-direction)

Thanks again J. Mueller who even emailed me regarding the differences between causal language and correlational!