Red Flag Radar Answer Key

Possible Red Flags & Explanations:

- 1. Overgeneralized claim: "Cure every disease known to humanity" \rightarrow Unrealistic and impossible, a classic sign of exaggeration.
- Conspiracy theory language: "Doctors secretly know this but won't admit it" → Suggests hidden knowledge without evidence, a red flag for manipulation.
- Unrealistic promise: "Lose 20 pounds in just two weeks without exercise" →
 Too good to be true, signals misinformation.
- Lack of evidence: No researchers, studies, or credible organizations cited
 → Weakens reliability.
- 5. **Financial motive**: Promoting a \$49 "miracle detox kit" → Suggests the purpose of the article is profit, not truth.

Teacher Notes:

- Encourage students to notice **tone** (dramatic, emotional, "miracle" language).
- Point out that credible sources use evidence, citations, and realistic claims.
- Discuss how advertising motives can lead to biased or manipulative content.

