

# Website Evaluations

Criteria	Questions to Ask yourself	Tips
AUTHORITY	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Who wrote the webpage? (What person or organization?)</li> <li>2. Can you contact the author?</li> <li>3. What are the author's qualifications to be writing this webpage?</li> </ol>	Determine the URL domain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• .com = commercial site</li> <li>• ~ = personal site</li> <li>* • .net = internet service provider</li> <li>* • .edu = education site</li> <li>* • .mil = military site</li> <li>* • .org = organization (not for profit)</li> <li>* • .gov = government site</li> </ul> *these domains are preferred
CURRENCY	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. When was the webpage written?</li> <li>2. When was the webpage updated last?</li> <li>3. Do the links and/or interactive features (if any) still work?</li> <li>4. Does the website look like it is maintained on an ongoing basis?</li> </ol>	Determine if any of the information is old and no longer relevant or true.
ACCURACY	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Does the information on the website correspond to the information you have learned from other reliable sources (school text books, encyclopedias, museum pamphlets, etc.)</li> <li>2. Is the writing clear, free from typos, well-written, grammatically correct, etc.?</li> </ol>	Are all sources credited on the webpage.
USEFULNESS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Is the webpage easy to navigate (otherwise known as "user-friendly")?</li> <li>2. Is the webpage well organized to make it easy to browse and find the information you are looking for?</li> <li>3. Does the webpage have the information you need to find?</li> </ol>	Do you understand the website--- the words it uses, the way it is written, what it says?
OBJECTIVITY	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What was the author's purpose for writing this webpage: to entertain, to educate, to advertise, to persuade, to share, etc.....?</li> <li>2. Does the author have a bias towards the subject matter presented on the webpage?</li> </ol>	Are there a lot of advertisements on the webpage and could this have influenced what was ultimately written?  Are all sides of the issue presented?