

Name: _____

Date: _____



Evaluating Websites: A Checklist

Use this checklist to help you decide whether or not a website gives you the type of information you need. Remember we're using the criteria of authority, objectivity, currency, accuracy, and usefulness of a website. Don't be afraid to make some notes as well: what you like, don't like, find helpful, or have questions about...

Website Name: _____

Website URL: _____

Authority	yes or no	Notes
Is the author of the site clearly identified?		
Is the author well-respected or an expert?		
Is there contact information for the author?		
Objectivity	yes or no	Notes
Is the purpose of the website clear		
Is the website biased or balanced in the way that it presents information?		
What is the website not telling you?		
Is the website trying to sell you something?		

Currency	yes or no	Notes
When was the site created?		
When was the site last updated?		
Are the links up-to-date or have they expired?		
Accuracy	yes or no	Notes
Is the correct spelling and grammar used?		
Is there a reference list (or links to other websites) to show where the information came from?		
Are you able to verify (confirm) the information in another book/website/magazine?		
Usefulness	yes or no	Notes
Does the website load quickly?		
Is it easy to read and navigate?		
Has it been designed clearly and logically?		
Is this the right website for you: are you the intended audience?		

Compare the number of “yes” to “no” answers and give the website a rating.

Would you give this website: (circle one)

- ★★★★★ —This is a great site: don’t pass it up!
- ★★★★ —This is a good site: definitely worth using.
- ★★★ —This is an OK site: make sure to double-check information in another resource.
- ★★ —This is a so-so site: best to try and find something better.
- ★ —Yikes: stay away!