

Name: _____

WEBSITE EVALUATION CHECKLIST

Title of the Overall Website: _____	
Title of the Specific Page: _____	
Authority	
<i>Tips: To help determine the author's expertise, look at the links: "About us," "FAQ," "Background," or "Biography."</i>	
Is it clear who the author of the website is?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
Has the author provided contact information (like name, email, phone number, or address)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
If there is no personal author, is an editor, publisher, or institution provided along with contact information?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
Does the individual or organization list its qualifications or credentials?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
Accuracy	
<i>Tips: Since anyone can publish a website, be sure that the information in the website is accurate and verifiable.</i>	
Based on the reading you have already done on the subject, does the information on the site seem accurate?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
Is factual information referenced in footnotes or a Works Cited?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
Are there few grammar and spelling mistakes?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
If there are links to other pages, are they to reliable sources?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N

Name: _____

Timeliness

Tips: Keep in mind that out-of-date information, even if it was factual, is potentially incorrect. Not knowing the date of publication can call into question its accuracy. Check the top or bottom of a web page to look for the creation date or revision date.

Is there a date that shows when the site was created or last updated?

Y
 N

Does the site contain “broken” links?

Y
 N

Objectivity

Tips: Look for objective sites that present information with a minimum of bias and without the intention to persuade. Determine the aim of the author or organization publishing the site.

Does the website avoid advertising that may hold a conflict of interest with the content?

Y
 N

If a debatable issue is covered, are both sides presented?

Y
 N

Do you trust the author or organization that has created the website?

Y
 N

Purpose

Tips: Looking at the URL of the site can help you determine its purpose. Judge whether the website is geared to a scholarly or non-professional audience.

Does the website have an .edu or .gov ending in its URL?

Y
 N

Does the website avoid trying to persuade or sell something?

Y
 N

Is the information on the site relevant to your needs?

Y
 N