



Evaluation of Sources

How do you evaluate sources?

1. Author – Who is the source of the information?
 - Credibility
 - Authority
 - Reliability
 - Validity

2. Content – How is this written?
 - Accuracy
 - Objectivity
 - Currency
 - Vagueness
 - Specificity

3. Basis of Information - What are the sources THEY used?
 - Theory
 - Research
 - Opinion
 - Advice

What is your best source?

List three reasons for why you think this is your best source.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

What is your worst source?

List three reasons for why you think this is your worst source.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Evaluation of Sources Exercise

Directions: For three sources, supply a number from 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest) next to each Criterion and add them to get the Total Score for them.

Criteria	Title	Title	Title
Criterion #1: AUTHORITY Is the author/source qualified to address this topic?			
Criterion #2: ACCURACY Is the information factually correct and reliable?			
Criterion #3: OBJECTIVITY Is the information provided for informational purposes or intended to sell or persuade to a particular viewpoint?			
Criterion #4: CURRENCY Is the information contemporary to the event or recent enough to provide valuable information on the topic?			
Criterion #5: COVERAGE Is the information relevant to the specific topic?			
Criterion #6: APPROPRIATENESS Is the source appropriate for an academic paper on the subject?			
TOTAL SCORE:			

Are you surprised at which article received the most points? Does it align with what you thought was your best article in the earlier exercise?